

### **Museum Park Super Neighborhood Council Meeting Minutes**

- Council Member Attendees: Ernesto Maldonado, Paul Wilson, Sean Murphy, Kathleen O'Reilly, Louis Camper III, Sandy Stevens, Greg Quintero, Susan Young, Laurette Canizares,
- Other Attendees: Carl Davis, Mayor's Citizen's Assistance Office, Michelle Caruso, City of Houston Health Department; Natalia Beard, SWA; Kynetta Moore, Mayor's Office of Special Events; Thuy La, Mayor's Office of Special Events.

Date: May 13, 2015

Location: Farish Media Center, MFAH

**Time:** 5:35 pm

# **Sunday Streets:**

Michelle Caruso, City of Houston Health Department, along with Kynetta Moore and Thuy La, Mayor's Office of Special Events, presented the opportunity for MP to serve as a site for Cigna *Sunday Streets* in fall, 2015. *Sunday Streets* is an opportunity to showcase neighborhoods and local businesses by opening a street to walkers and bikers only on a Sunday afternoon. The Houston program began in spring, 2014 with a grant from the CDC. Cigna has signed on to sponsor *Sunday Streets* six times/year over the next three years, rotating through different neighborhoods. Through conversations MP was identified as a great location.

- Sunday Streets vary in length, .7—1.5 miles. Neighborhoods have input regarding location and date of event. After discussion, MP Council suggested Caroline Street, from Buffalo Soldiers Museum to Hermann Park on November 1, 12:00-4:00 p.m. These preferences must be vetted by the city, including HPD and public works to determine if they will work in the greater context. The process may take up to two months. An August press conference will announce the fall *Sunday Streets* locations.
- Once city departments approve the route, date, and time, Sunday Streets will canvass the route and invite business owners, residents, etc. to a stakeholder meeting prior to the event.
- The city arranges for street closures, security, traffic control, and porta-potties.
- The city does not invite vendors. Vendors can set up on private property only with the approval of the property owners. They may set up on the esplanades.
- MPSN may participate in the process of contacting stakeholders and inviting vendors.
- Natalia Beard, SWA, indicated that an information station regarding the Livable Center Study might be an effective public outreach. By November 1, SWA will be able to show a draft concept for the study, including a map and visual of the streets.
- Sunday Streets has a media person to promote the event on face book and other social media.

## **Livable Center Study**

#### Natalia Beard:

- A scope meeting will be held at H-GAC, June 2 or 3. The review panel, including MPSN and GSEMD, TxDOT,
  METRO and several city departments (PWE, Planning, HPRD, Parking Management, etc.) will be part of that
  meeting. MPSN Council members need to give Kathleen their comments on scope, with special attention to
  deliverables, in advance of this meeting.
- A July 8 visioning meeting, possibly held at Cherie Flores Garden Pavilion, with 20 or so invited stakeholders including:
  - o MPSN Council, residential reps, and business reps.
  - o H-GAC, CoH, METRO
  - Museum District, plus Health, Children's, and Holocaust Museums; MFAH, African American, Buffalo Soldiers, Asia Society
  - Hermann Park
  - Churches
  - o Adjacent or overlapping management districts GSMD, Midtown, Montrose
  - Scenic Houston

# President's Report:

- No idling ordinance is being led by Councilmember Boykins.
- The issue of annexing a portion of MP by the Midtown TIRZ continues in discussion. At recent meeting of MPSN executive committee members with Andy Icken, we learned that the proposed annexation is slated to go to council in July. The governance issues are profound: How do we maintain the identity of MP once becoming a part of Midtown TIRZ? Will the Midtown TIRZ service plan include the LCS. MFA and Menil can be annexed independently. We don't have tax base information to understand how the TIRZ increment will be re-invested in MP. And at this point, we have no voice in governing body.
- Read about urban planning. Repository on our website for urban planning articles.

Carl Davis, MCAO, announced Neighborhood USA conference will convene next week. Museum Park is on the tour.

Adjourn, 7:15 p.m.