SPNA Meeting Minutes 9/12/2022

The SPNA monthly meeting was held at the McCabe Community Center. The meeting was called to order and a quorum was recognized. Vice President, Sarah Mansouri, presided.

Guest Speaker: John Cooper, Mayor

- Introduced Brad, in a newly appointed position in 2022, as a traffic engineer in the Department of Transportation.
- Increased the number of schools performing better on the achievement scale and lowered the number of "priority schools" (poorly performing schools). We currently have less than 1 teacher vacancy per school. Teacher pay was increased and paid family leave was added.
- In early October, Kathleen Murphy will have the ability to vote for bill giving fifty million dollars to the homeless, Federal money. This is a "housing first" bill, not just shelter, and it also provides for counseling. Currently we have 1,950 homeless people in Nashville and five hundred are chronically homeless. Two hundred homeless people were lost to fatalities last year.
- There is a plan for $150 million for affordable housing utilizing a pilot on tax abatement.
- Nashville is the #1 city in America that college graduates come to and #1 in content creation.
- East bank: the city does not have a great deal with Nissan Stadium. If it moves, it frees up a N-S Blvd and will connect to Charlotte for the E-W and tie into Jefferson Street for an accessible grid. We have a rare opportunity to plan four hundred acres on the East bank. Oracle is putting in infrastructure and then will get a pay back in tax breaks. A greenway and a large park is in the planning for along the river.
- Kathleen's legislation is filed; provides a list of properties where SPNA has concerns that they are not following codes. The staff in the codes department has been increased to help.
- Developers and sports places will pay their own bills in the future.
- Overlays are most helpful in defending neighborhoods.
- There is bike project in the works for 51st Ave and 42nd Ave.
- Question about sidewalks: Answer: Sylvan Park can be looked up on HUB Nashville, neighborhood investment tracker, to see what is happening.

Guest Speaker: Councilwoman, Kathleen Murphy

- Sponsoring bill #1426: single family zoned, no DADU's, stormwater cannot handle it. This reinforces a law that is not defined clearly. Garages are permitted. Note: Builders in Sylvan Park can build to forty-five feet.
- Sponsoring another bill on tree legislation, in conjunction with the Conservation Corp. If the sidewalk law is triggered by construction, trees need to be planted or the builder/owner needs to pay into the tree fund. This effort will help save our heritage trees.
- **Motion** made to approve the 2 bills mentioned above: #1426 and the tree legislation; **Motion seconded and passed.**
- Kathleen will be heading up "Boards and Commissions" for the next 11 months.
- Kathleen will support conservation overlay requests if the majority of the homeowners on the street, or in the sponsoring blocks, approve.

REPORTS OF PROGRAMS AND COMMITTEES:

Membership: No report

Treasurer: SPNA has $18 ,438.59 in accounts.

Advocacy and Zoning:

- The owners of the property that was the old stained-glass building have filed another appeal. Kathleen will request a copy of the file.

Communications: no report

Welcoming Committee: Sarah Mansouri reported that 70 welcome bags were assembled and in the process of delivery. A few new businesses in the neighborhood are donating gift cards for the bags.

Traffic Calming: see agenda; no other report

Beautification:

- **Trees:** See agenda. Please sign up for planning during the first week of November. Sylvan Park is working in partnership with the Nashville Tree Foundation**.**
- **Richland Creek Clean-up:** Please sign up to help with this on October 22nd.

Sylvan Park Parent's Group: no report

Events: Please sign up to work at the SPNA table at the Richland Park Farmer's Market on 10/8.

Motion made to approve the minutes from the August and September SPNA meetings, **Motion seconded and passed.**

New Business: None

Meeting Adjourned

Next Meeting: October 10th at 7:00 p.m.