

## FOUNTAIN CITY CONNECTIONS

Minutes: Wednesday, January 18th, 2008, meeting 8am-9:20am, Panera, Fountain City

**Present:** Bob Becker, Carol Bell, Donna Bueckman, Carol Evans, David McGinley, Stephen Millsaps, Barbara Nicodemus, Thea Yoder and Ellen Zavisca

**Donna Bueckman**, President of Fountain City Connections, called the meeting to order. The minutes from our last meeting (December 12th, 2007) were reviewed. Two word changes were suggested. Ellen made a motion and Donna seconded that we should change the name *conference* to *meeting* (pg.2 second paragraph) and the official name of the winter carnival held at FCE (seen under New Action Items, the first paragraph) was “The Fountain City Elementary Winterfest”. The minutes with revisions passed unanimously.

It was also noted that this meeting had been rescheduled over one week ago via email. Everyone on the Fountain City Connections emailing list were notified that the change in date was from Wednesday January 16<sup>th</sup>, to Friday January the 18<sup>th</sup>.

### **Update on Old Action Items:**

Donna has not heard yet from Amy Broyles with the Old North Knox neighborhood requesting our help in putting in the *Gravelpave* walkway.

The most exciting news is that we have heard from the Attorney General on our proposed sidewalk ordinance, and his comments were favorable. It was mentioned that the impact fee legislation passed this summer was not written for cities, and that even so, he didn't see this ordinance as one that could be considered as mandating an impact fee. \*Donna B. will have the Attorney General's complete letter of response posted on our website.

Bob reported last month that City Council now has a new Transportation and Mobility Committee. The committee includes Council members Joe Hultquist and Joe Bailey. \*\*Bob will invite them to our next meeting. We would like to assist the city as best we can, without duplication of efforts.

\*\*Ellen will call Garry Menendez to ask what considerations have been made for pedestrians in the Gresham Middle School landscape plans, and if he had considered having a back access for students coming to school. We had thought the plan could be more pedestrian friendly; Ellen will speak with him concerning specific ideas that we thought might assist students (and teachers) walking to school.

It was mentioned that we should come up with a plan that might aid Knoxville in prioritizing the need for sidewalks in PRZs. \*Stephen was asked if he might be able to locate the prioritization document that the city of Knoxville is currently using. We talked about ways we could assist the city in assessing high need areas. One idea mentioned was to help form a volunteer task force.

## **New Action Items:**

Ellen said she would like to do a “safe routes to school” forum in Fountain City to get parents informed and involved. Barbara suggested she contact Ruthie McCloud for the elementary school, and Thea suggested another call to Julie Settle for middle school help.

Bob was asked where to go from here. What should our timeline be? He said he would need a copy of the ordinance with final changes. \*Donna will send Bob a copy of the ordinance and the letter from the Attorney General. Bob will then ask Charles (City Law Department) what else may need to be changed; proper legal language, etc. Bob will hope to pass out copies of the proposed ordinance at the April 8<sup>th</sup> City Council meeting, then we should be ready to present on the 22<sup>nd</sup>.

We discussed ideas for places to hold forums or to send information:

1. Bob suggested more involvement with the City Council, especially coming to meetings
2. Contact neighborhood associations, which could include
  - West Hills
  - Oakwood/Lincoln Park-Paul Kelly
  - FCTH
  - Norwood
  - Bearden - \*Thea
  - COIN - \*Thea
3. Police Dept.-Steve Bobo
4. Health Dept - \*Ellen
5. Hallerin Hilton Hill Show - \*Thea
6. George Corda Radio Show
7. Greenway Groups
8. Developers
9. Mayor’s Advisory Board on Neighborhoods
10. Attend Neighborhood Conference March 8

Barbara asked if we had done polling to get support for sidewalks. Donna mentioned the pages of names of citizens that have signed our petition. Ellen mentioned the poll that was carried out by MPC for the parks and greenways plan, where the most requested improvement for the city was for

connectivity (more parks and greenways with pathways or sidewalks to connect them). \*Ellen said she'd talk to Anne about putting together a powerpoint presentation.

\*Ellen will make "Sidewalks for Knoxville" buttons

\*Donna to send Barbara a copy of the letter from the Attorney General.

**The meeting was adjourned at 9:15am**

**Note: \* denotes Action Item.**

**\*\*denotes Old Action Item.**

**Next meeting: Wednesday, February 20<sup>th</sup>, 8:00am at Panera in Fountain City.**

**If you would like to have a copy of these minutes available at the next meeting, please print a copy to bring along.**

Thanks,  
Thea Yoder

Please contact me for additions and/or corrections (by e-mail or 688-8286).