

**SAMARKAND NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION  
BOARD AND ASSOCIATION MEETING  
January 18, 2007, 5:30 p.m.  
Location: Mountain Room, Samarkand Retirement Community**

**MINUTES**

1. **CALL TO ORDER & WELCOME:** Meeting called to order at 5:32 p.m.
2. **ROLL CALL OF BOARD MEMBERS:** Peter Basch, Joyce Duncan Falk , Judy Freeman, Darwin Holter, Jack Meyer, Jim Smith, and Charlie Stapleton. (Absent: Wayne Beckman, Anna DeVore, Terry Johnson, and Fred Marsic.)
3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Minutes approved unanimously. (M/S/C Smith/Holter)
4. **TREASURER'S REPORT:** Since our last meeting, our balance has changed to \$1180.55.
5. **COMMITTEE UPDATES:**
  - A. **ZONING:** Joyce reported that we have a final copy of the zoning procedures, specifically clarifying that no prior steps by a complainant are required, and that the complainant may retain anonymity. It was suggested that the procedure be posted to the Web site. The procedure was approved at the last meeting with the included changes.
  - B. **ALLIED NEIGHBORHOODS:** John reported that Allied had their January meeting, electing Judy Orias as president. She is very aware of legal issues. Joe Guzzardi, from our own neighborhood, was elected vice president. The major issue for the group is the General Plan Update. A subgroup is working on a questionnaire to give to the community to identify a vision for the future.

Charlie shared that the process for updating the General Plan has not been clearly identified. We do know that they are very interested in public input.

John felt optimistic about new leadership in the Allied Neighborhood organization. The Web site for Allied is: <http://www.allied-sb.org/>
6. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**
  - A. **MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL, FINAL NOTICE:** Peter presented a reminder and renewal form for expired memberships. There were no Board objections to the form. It will be attached to the February SNApshot with a self-addressed envelope. Discussion then focused on ways to increase attendance at SNA meetings. It was suggested that we may need to advertise our meetings more aggressively (turn-out was minimal tonight). Peter expressed concerned about placing signs in the neighborhood. Bulletin boards notices were also suggested as a possibility. The Newspress also has a place to post local events. John DeVore suggested that more speakers would be a good way to bring in more attendees.
  - B. **OAK PARK RULES:** January 9, , the Santa Barbara City Council heard public comment and approved final rules on alcohol use in Oak Park. Most people spoke to the issue of restricting alcohol in the park. A compromise in use was reached. For the ethnic events, alcohol would be permitted throughout the event area (Category 1 event). For other events (such as Fiesta and Summer Solstice, a Category 2 event), alcohol would be restricted to a "beer garden" area. Finally, private groups may acquire a permit for alcohol use within limited areas. The hope is to improve safety and law enforcement at the park.

7. **NEW BUSINESS:**

- A. GRAFFITI REMOVAL AND REPORTING:** Peter suggested that we might not want to be directly involved in graffiti removal and reporting. We do not have the resources to be able to take this on. John reminded the group that the City has a “warm” line for reporting graffiti. Peter would still like to see neighbors be aware of the issue and to be proactive in taking responsibility in cleaning it up. Information related to this will be included in the newsletter and online. Darwin will prepare information for the newsletter.
- B. SNAPshot LETTERS TO THE EDITOR:** John Calder has suggested that we include a “Letters to the Editor” section in the newsletter. It is another way to include the voice of all members in Association business. The Board felt this was reasonable to include in the newsletter. The group also discussed other ways to get folks involved and interested in neighborhood issues. The group reviewed an idea (that had been previously discussed) for local awards for attractive homes.
8. **OTHER BUSINESS:** Peter suggested again that we need to reach out and find ways to include more neighbors in Association activities. Discussion of guest speakers and topics followed.

Jack commented on a recent article in the L.A. Times, noting that over half of California hospitals will not meet the 2013 retrofit requirement.

John DeVore noted that a member tripped recently on a local city sidewalk and was hurt. Discussion focussed upon responsibility for sidewalk maintenance. It is not the only sidewalk issue in the area. Contact numbers for sidewalks and Public Works will be noted in a future newsletter.

9. **COMMUNICATION**

Confirmation of meetings:

- i. February meeting: Thursday, February 15, 5:30 p.m. at Mountain Room of Samarkand
- ii. Guest/ and location: TBA

10. **ADJOURNMENT:** Meeting adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

**\* Minutes and other organization information may be found at:**

<http://samarkandneighborhoodassociation.org>