

# Meeting Minutes

March 16, 2017

Shakti Rising

## PUBLIC ITEMS

**Call to Order:** 6:36pm

Present: Jon Hall, Cristiane Asiano, Rebeca Elliott, Christie Kong, Allison Hjelle, Donald Ingrassi, Brian Beevers (6:45)

Absent: Rob Yackely

Guests: 20 participants

**Agenda Modifications:** none

**Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes:** Jon made a motion to approve the minutes. Abstained: Cristiane. The rest present approved.

**Public Comments** (please limit to 3 min each)

*Jon Hall* gave a background on the CDC and the purpose of the strategic envisioning exercise. The CDC is currently actively involved in being part owner of the 32-unit low income housing. Part of our goal has been to get our finances in a state of health and understanding. We've hosted and curated events in the past. Tonight and moving forward, we're trying to define who we are and what we are about.

*Sue Zinda* (community garden liaison) shared about the community garden and a possible donation they have applied for. Also, the community garden is putting together letters to send to gardeners who are not using their plots. Some questions: Need to pay for garden insurance? Have children who have to do community service work and want to know the legality of children without their parents working in the garden - are they covered? If they get a grant, are the finances handled through the CDC? (Cristiane answered that yes, the MOU says it does). Do they have to use licensed contractors only?

*Victoria* shared that she is a community gardener, former CDC member, on the community planning board, part of the Balboa Park committee, and helped plan the 2013 CDC event.

**Treasurer's Report** (Jon read Rob's email in Rob's absence):

- As of today our bank balances are:
  - Operations fund: \$31,723
  - Gregory Replacement Reserve: \$14,286
  - Felton Replacement Reserve: \$10,731
- All our federal and state tax returns for 2014, 2015, 2016 have been filed
- All our state registration forms (RRF-!) for 2013-2016 have been filed
- The IRS has acknowledged the receipt of our appeal on the \$9K in penalties for late/incorrect tax filings and is reviewing it
- Our next order of business is to meet with the San Diego Housing Commission to determine how much we need to pay down on our mortgage and how much money we need to transfer from our Operations fund into the respective duplex reserve funds. We were not able to make these calculations until our books were cleaned up and our tax returns

completed, but now we are able to take this step. Knowing those amounts and what the resolution will be with the IRS will determine the amount of our Operations Fund that is actually available to use on neighborhood initiatives like the ones being discussed tonight.

*Jon:* The majority of the income from the properties goes back into the properties. A small portion goes to the CDC and another small portion goes to the SDHC. We haven't been taking that portion up until now. We can't apply for a grant until we do an audit and we haven't been able to do an audit until the books are cleaned up.

*Brian:* We need to hold the \$31K lightly until we get the books cleaned up.

*Tyler Renner:* Representative for council member for Chris Ward. Shared about 2 events coming up: 1) 20th: City Council Meeting on Homelessness. 2) 21st: Craft Beer Meet & Greet.

### **Strategic Envisioning Exercise**

Shakti Rising offered to do this at no cost to us.

*Janice & Christina* introduced themselves. The home is open to the community (eg garden work days). Invitation to participate tonight in whatever way is natural and authentic.

*In pairs:* Share one thing you love about this neighborhood

*Group share:*

- Feeling safe and secure
- Knowing so many neighbors - warm feeling
- The park
- The views
- Diversity
- Walkable
- The potential
- So much recovery / people healing their lives

*Janice* shared about Shakti and thanked the CDC for showing up. Using the "Sky to Dirt" model.

We're not making any decisions or problem solving tonight. We're gathering information.

*Agreements:*

- Wisdom community - if you've showed up, you have something to contribute (nobody has more or less to offer)
- Listening & open conversation
- Come from a lens of possibility (vs problem solving) - what we believe is possible together

*Format:* moving in to small and larger group conversations

*Small groups of 4:*

- conversation on belonging
- what compelled you to be here?

*Group share:*

- Who is Golden Hill?
  - We live in old homes
  - The businesses and the people
  - Great sense of community / sense of place

- Sense of pride
- Sense of history
- Income diversity and everyone mingles well (important to protect it)
- Need for affordable housing
- Golden Hill doesn't have a "gathering place"/heart
- Close to a lot of cool and fun things and accessible to other parts of San Diego
- Strategically located in the region in between eclectic groups of people
- Most neighborly neighborhood
- Non-homogeneous / housing for different mixed groups of people
- Immigrants
- Immigrant visitors
- What possibilities exist?
  - Endless
  - Creating dog park
  - A place where everybody could potentially belong
  - A whole foods market ( / expansion of Farmers Market)
  - The park becoming a "central park" where people go to hang
  - Children's playground
  - Fewer cars
  - More bike lanes
  - Bigger sidewalks
  - More businesses / mobility
  - More street art

*Small groups of 4 to group share:*

- If you could wave a magic wand and make something happen overnight, what would it be?
  - Park over the 94
  - 25th & F vacant building
  - More walkable business
  - Larger regular standing events
  - Trolley line
- One thing about this neighborhood that nobody else knows?
  - South Park used to be Golden Hill
  - Shakti building was first domestic aide building
  - Restaurant that used to be at 28th & A

*Group share:*

- If the CDC could do one thing this year:
  - Maintenance assessment district
  - Street Fair - in partnership with the neighborhood school
  - Early evening/nighttime street fair
  - CDC promote Easter Egg hunt
  - Affordable housing
  - Legal clinic to help with immigration

- Shade covers over the playground at the rec center
- Audited financial statements
- How do you want to be when the CDC or when the neighborhood gathers together?
  - Orderly and civil
  - Cooperative
  - Open mind
  - Inclusive
  - Mindful
  - Positive
  - Everyone has a voice and an influence
  - Constructive
  - Productive
  - Value add
  - Efficient
  - Fun
  - Who's not here that should be part of it?
  - Equal
  - More people involved
  - Affirming
  - Invested
  - Passionate about what's going on, so much so that they get involved and make time
  - Finding other people who are equally passionate
- What is the story that you keep telling about the problems of this community?
- What doubts or reservations do you have about the neighborhood or the CDC?
  - How is "improvement" happening and who's getting pushed out?
  - Losing the historical part of the neighborhood
  - Fear of the CDC board taking a dip before we restore the reputation
  - Fear of the CDC board being a missed opportunity
  - Low attendance
  - A lot of start & stops - what's going to stick?
  - Are we "Greater Golden Hill" ie is South Park part of us?
  - Having finances
  - Difficult to develop businesses along 25th Street
  - Help people in Golden Hill become "members" of Golden Hill
  - How do folks from the recovery homes "belong"

*In pairs:*

- Gratitude for participation and grateful for yourself
- What small action are you committed to doing?

*Group share:*

- How will this neighborhood be different tomorrow than it is today?
  - Knowing more people
  - Better understanding

- Can better talk about Golden Hill - there's a little more energy
- Feeling the community of caring
- Understanding the community's priorities
- A network of people who care
- Encouragement

Read the mission statement.

*Jon* reflected on what the board has done to re-right the ship.

*Janice*: What is one thing we could do to support the board?

*Cristiane*: Go to the meetings. Become a member.

*Jon*: Come to the next meeting. Chris Ward will be there. And talk to other people.

*Brian*: We will be building committees up. You don't have to be a board to join them. Talk positively about the CDC.

*Valentina*: Suggested creating a transportation committee.

*Jon*: What we need are people who are interested in that who would jump in and be involved.

*Donald*: If you have a specific way of meeting the concerns brought up tonight, go for it, even if you can't make it to the meetings.

ADJOURNMENT: 8:30pm

#### **Future meetings**

GGHCDC Board Meeting, April 20, 2017 @ 6:30pm, [Golden Hill Recreation Center](#). 2600 Golf Course Dr, San Diego, CA 92102