

BLUE RIBBON COMMITTEE ON
Citywide Neighborhood Committee
Minutes of the November 10, 2015

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by the chairperson at 7:05

II. Cristy announced that an attendance sheet was going around.

III. Cliff Lazenby motioned to accept minutes of September meeting, Paul seconded the motion, all in favor.

IV. New Business –

Click N Fix

Cristy Cardoso introduced Peter Rice Director of Public Works and Jamie McCarty, GIS coordinator. Peter introduced a new service being rolled out, being called Click n Fix, which is an online platform enabling citizens to report issues in our community. Examples include potholes, litter, clogged storm drains. An app can be downloaded allowing citizens to notify public works about an issue and then allows the person to track the progress, such as when it will be resolved.

Peter Rice stressed this is for non-emergency issues only and the police should be called for safety issues such as downed power lines or missing stop signs.

Questions were asked about responses to complaints. Jamie explained that an email would be sent out confirming receipt of the issue and a number would be assigned to the case. The case can be tracked and a user can also see if the issue had been brought to the city's attention already.

The App is available immediately.

Cristy thanked them for coming in.

CIP

Cliff Lazenby explained the history of issues with CIP, and what happened at the well attended CIP 101 meeting held in September. The next step should be to set priorities.

Next week is a chance for public input into the CIP, November 19, at 6:30 is a public input session in Council Chambers with members of the Planning Board. They will also talk about where projects already in the CIP are. Cristy Cardoso encouraged everyone to attend this meeting and to let neighbors know that it is happening as it is the citizen's chance to have input.

Cliff Lazenby commented that he would like the board to look at geographic distribution.

Cristy commented that there have been a lot of resolutions over the past few years including the Master Plan, Bike Ped Plan and Safe Routes, and would like to see how these resolutions are prioritized.

Next Meeting – Tuesday , January 12 at 7PM, Conference Room A, with a new committee chair.

Cristy Cardoso talked about Cliff taking over as chair

Marie Kelleher nominated Cliff Lazenby for Chair.

Cliff said he feels that the Citywide Neighborhood Committee is building momentum. We can bridge the divide. Neighborhoods have changed over the years, and our committee can help engage with council and with the neighborhoods. Cliff is optimistic that that we can have more engagement. Possibly assigning councilors to wards, as has been discussed in the past.

Kathy Bergeron seconded the nomination, all in favor. Cliff is elected as new chair of the Citywide Neighborhood committee.

Cliff will invite both the new councilors and unsuccessful candidates to the next meeting in January. He will push for a formal relationship with the council.

Nextdoor.com

Some discussion regarding Next Door.

Sara McLaughlin (?) noted that Christian Shore is doing well with next door.

(?) Banfield Road got kicked off because not enough members.

Neighborhood Reports

Cristy Cardoso, Atlantic Heights – Have had a lot of problems with dumping of Televisions. They have also had great contact with Portsmouth Housing Authority regarding refurbishing of parking lot and the need for residents to park elsewhere.

Sara McLaughlin – Christian Shore Creek – Went to Traffic & Safety about a 4 way stop sign at Thornton and Bartlett. Got the ball rolling, waiting for answers.

Kathy Bergeron – WAHOO, nothing to report.

?? Banfield Road – Working on traffic from Water Country. 20,000 vehicles per day in the summer and they are not getting a police presence. Talked a bit about the history of problems, history of contact with the city. The neighborhood is not getting satisfactory answers. Need to put more signage.

Rick Becksted noted that more speed limit signs are needed.

Kathy (?) South End. – Fairy House Tour was once again a huge success. South End is doing a neighborhood Clean Up the weekend of November 15. Still waiting for repairs on the School Street Playground. Neighbors have been complaining about the poor condition of Pleasant Street.

Marie Kelleher – Peeverly Hill Road – Also experiencing problems with Water Country traffic. Also had a hard time getting a bus for kid going to the high school, although there are no sidewalks.

Paul Mandle- Upper Islington – I concerned with the 42 acres of land located between Islington and Borthwick Avenue. Just found out there will be a public road accessing the land that he didn't know about.

Cliff Lazenby – Elwyn Park – Not much to report, has some thoughts on voter registration for the next election.

Cristy – Motion to Adjourn

Marie Kelleher – Seconded the Motion, all in favor

Meeting Adjourned 8:45PM