

Colonial Height Neighborhood Association Monthly Meeting Agenda and Minutes

Colonial Heights Neighborhood Association (CHNA)

July 14th, 2021 6:30-8pm at Colonial Park

Please follow COVID-19 protocols!

Be Safe, Use a Mask and Social Distancing

CHNA Agenda:

- Welcome/Introductions/Leader Introductions (5 mins)
- Police Update (5 mins)
- Library Update (5 mins)
- District 5-Jay Schenirer Update (5 mins)
- Mercy Housing Project Update (10 mins)- We will be discussing the progress in dealing with the Affordable Housing Project going in on the south end of Colonial Heights, and the southern neighbors will be seeking the help of CHNA.
- Park Committee Update on Art in the Park, Ed Fletcher (10 mins)- We will be discussing how the park committee will pursue a more formal public art plan.
- National Night Out Update (10 mins)- *National Night Out* is an annual community-building campaign that promotes police-community partnerships and neighborhood camaraderie.
- Other Committee Updates (5 mins)
 - Finance, Communications, T-Shirt, Safety and Security, Welcome
- CHNA (10 mins)- Participation and Position discussion
- General Discussion (10 mins) – Bring your topics of discussion

Upcoming Events:

May thru August- Thursday Nights 6PM and 7PM - Colonial Heights Adult Kickball League

July 31st, Saturday- Colonial Park Clean-Up-9AM-11AM

August 3rd, Tuesday- National Night Out- 6PM -9PM Colonial Park

August 21st, Saturday - Colonial Park Mulch Party 2.0- 8AM-11AM, Colonial Park

September 18th, Saturday- Annual Yard and Craft Sale -8 AM to 3 PM Neighborhood Wide

December TBD - Colonial Heights Holiday Party

Meeting Minutes

Police update –

- **Speeding and running stop signs remains a significant issue**
 - The city has added 4 officers to the team
 - They are in radar training at the moment but will see them out there.
 - Notified all the sergeants about the speeding issues
 - ***Asking for community to share what specific areas are having problems***
- **Uptick in road rage incidents**
 - Two females got into a fight over a parking space - avoid the crazy drivers that are out there
- **Violent crime is on the rise**
 - The chief put out an update on the city – falling in line with national level
 - 32nd homicide in the city this year
 - 127 shooting victims to date, last year there was a total of 81
 - 808 firearms seized this year, last year was about 500
 - Seeing less violence against police
 - Combination of COVID and people aren't as patient as they were
 - Gang unit is out in full force
- **Incident last Wednesday**
 - Our police observation device caught a stolen vehicle at Fruitridge and 65th – Conducted a felony car stop (4 police vehicles get behind the car before you conduct the stop)
 - The individual took off and fired a round out of sunroof, Vehicle pursuit behind Hiram Johnson school. He fired 12 rounds at officers
 - He eventually got out of vehicle and runs into open field. He tried to get into resident at Wallace avenue.
 - He broke window and shot through sliding glass door. Barricaded subject. Elk grove brought their armored vehicle
 - Throughout the whole incident we were not able to identify who he was – probably an hour into the incident his gf called in and identified him then he started shooting again another 12 rounds and then ran out of ammunition.
 - Shooting out of the vents in the attic. He fell through the attic and Police deployed emergency gas
 - 16 officer victims that were shot at during this incident, no deaths.
- **National night out**
 - August 3rd, we have an online application for k-9.
- **Questions**
 - Is prostitution down on Stockton Blvd?
 - Stockton and Fowler – go between county and city. We have a new human trafficking unit.
 - Questions about homeless site on Stockton Blvd- concerned we will hit people who come into the street.
 - Our hands are tied so we unfortunately cannot do anything but we are shifting efforts to a new homeless team.

- A neighbor was walking dog and found a loaded syringe – called 311. He picked it up so that kids would not get it but was informed that they can't do anything about it because you picked it up. Called a nurse friend – what should I do with it -what should I do?
 - Police – we should come out for that – call non emergency line.
- **Contact info:**
 - 916-813-0954 Lt Brent Kaneyuki
 - Non emergency number 916-808 -5471

Library Update:

- **Offering free meal program**
 - Summer Meals at the Library through Aug 6th
 - youth 18 years and younger can pick up between 11am and 12 pm – there is enough food for multiple meals
- **Summer reading program**
 - If you read 5 books you can get prizes.
 - For kids it is swim passes, free books. Adults is chip clips, totes – they have a signup sheet in the library

Councilmember Jay Schenirer:

Unable to attend/ no updates

Mercy Housing Project:

Neighbors on 21st and 22nd have been meeting and working together for the last few months
 Intent of this meeting is to reintroduce the project to those neighbors that might not know what's going on and review the mercy housing project as we know it
 The group would like to get CHNA assistance in some of the things we want.
 Group is thinking about forming a committee under the neighborhood assoc.

Aaron Cheeseman provided a brief presentation:

- This is the biggest thing that is going to happen in our neighborhood
- No one is against low income housing in our neighborhood
- Homelessness is a problem but main focus is how much it affects us.
- If it were just a low income housing unit that entered to and from Stockton Blvd not as big of a deal, but it empties into our neighborhood .
- The way it has been planned there is no left turns in or out of the property on Stockton Blvd.
- Anybody who wants to travel north from that property or enter from the north will have to do something different.
- There needs to be a means by which residents can enter and exit with a left/right turn near Lawrence.
- Unclear whether they will reopen the pathway from 54th street having that as a main entrance will increase the traffic.
- Request of city/Mercy Housing Builders - residents should be able to enter onto Stockton blvd freely which would minimize traffic

- Group is planning a block party a week after national night out
- This will also affect parking –
- We are working with the city and open to hearing our modifications

Discussion:

- Goals/Question – Does the group want to join the association at a committee level – and should we form a committee that is the mercy housing committee.
- Timeline – finance phase –planning is complete
- Can we get an actual count for occupancy?
 - They do not know how many people – there will be 200 units, they are 2-3 bedrooms and they are allowed up to 7 people.
- Comments about the project and the neighborhood being between district 5 and district 6, so may be good to engage both councilmembers
- Neighbors are looking for support from Neighborhood Association and eventually put together a letter to be sent to the city/builders.
- This is happening quickly, hoping the city/Mercy housing will attend the block party to see how narrow the streets are.
- Block party may occur August 7th or 21st at 10 AM.

Contact: Aaron managing communications – aaroncheesman@gmail.com

Action: No action taken, group will put together a scope and formal presentation for August meeting of CHNA

Park Update:

- Ed fletcher working with Mark and Greg on Art In the park.
- Shared initial ideas on Facebook, and got some good feedback. – Goal to make Colonial Heights an art neighborhood
- Initial ideas include: art hanging from trees, art at the basketball court, art on the bathrooms as a mural or on the backstop, or sculptures, neighborhood adult art contest, decorated paper lanterns.
- Each project would take several months
- The city has a model that they are using for this program, the neighborhood provides words/concepts for the art and then artists would present a proposal for art.
- Art during national night out- this would be participatory art – children and adults would take a piece of cardboard and design. Post those to a wall in the form of wings and take picture with masks. Would stay about a month or so.
- Seeking CHNA approval to develop plan with city on how to select and fund art and approve art exhibit for national night out.
- This would require some fundraising/use of seed grants as available.
- Timeline: about a year out to secure funds. would likely need between \$6,000-\$10,000

Action: Approved by unanimous vote of neighbors to approve developing a plan for art in the park as well as art on national night out.

National Night Out

- Aug 3rd is national night out.
- Will have hotdogs and condiments.
- We will have live bands: “Abandon Theory” and “Ill Effect (Cam Villa).
- There will be a raffle – trying to secure some prizes.
- Brings out all the neighbors –
- We need volunteers to help participate. BBQ the hot dogs and food trucks. If you know food trucks – it would be 2-300 people. The band will draw more.
- Participatory art – will need folding tables.
- Delivering fliers in the neighborhood – two weeks before.

Contact Kathy and Steve

Action: Neighborhood unanimously approved using funds from last year to purchase hot dogs and other supplies.

Treasurer Update

Currently have \$1350 in account

Communications Committee

website is up and running

We have a facebook page - Friends and neighbors of Colonial Heights

Need help posting to social media and reviewing gmail account

T shirt Committee

We have 10 existing t shirts.

We will want to purchase more t shirts to be sold at national night out.

Discussion about creating new designs for the shirts – potentially a design contest

Action: Neighborhood approved using funds to purchase neighborhood t shirts for sale at National Night Out

Safety and Security Committee

None

Welcome Committee

None

CHNA Participation and Position Discussion

- Question about future opportunities before the neighborhood to take a policy position or endorse a candidate – Does the neighborhood want to do this?

- In the past this has not been something the neighborhood has engaged on.
- There is a greater desire by some neighbors to be involved in the politics citywide, or beyond Colonial Heights Neighborhood boundaries.
- In the past we were approached about participating in Sacramento investment without displacement. We had a zoom meeting before, we could join which requires dues, this would need to be voted on.

Does anyone feel that we should be joining or taking policy positions? (Discussion points below)

- There has been desire to expand our scope in how the city allocates resources so we get fair share of city pie
- We need to think about how we are organized – what our mission statement looks like- looking at our guidelines and by laws.
- Recommendation that we form an organizing committee and come up with a proposal for a structure and framework to maximize our effectiveness and taking in the concerns of all of our neighbors.
- Some neighbors expressed concerns about participating or forming positions on items outside of the neighborhood
- Sounds like a consensus in general that policy items are okay, but no endorsement of candidates
- **Action:** None at this time

Announcements:

July 31st – Park clean up for National Night Out

August 21st Mulching trees at the park 8 am – 11