

Minutes

Built Environment Committee Meeting

May 30, 2012

Attendance: Isabel, Delfina, Yaya Chacon, Teresa Flores, Gabriela, Reyna, Norma Brambila, Mandy Medrono, Mike Green, Jose Esparza, Anne Lane, Michelle Schoen.

Each committee member introduced their self and a favorite neighborhood or place and gave a reason why.

Isabel: Really likes South Padre Island because it is easy to walk around and relaxing. The experience is an enjoyable one for the entire family.

Delfina: Works at school CSC and is a leader at her church, she enjoys being in the mountains and walking around.

Yara Chacon: Loves to be in the mountains

Teresa Flores: Loves to be in the mountains

Gabriela:

Norma: Loves to be in the mountains but also really likes the South Broadway area in Denver

Mandy: Really likes the La Alma area since that is where she grew up

Mike: Really enjoys spending time in parks and likes walking/biking paths

Michelle:

Anne:

Jose: Likes Pearl Street in Boulder because it entices social gathering with walkability, shading from trees, retail and outdoor performers.

What is the Built Environment?

This committee will be working towards a guide for developers to use as they come into the area.

Make a list for other and for ourselves to accomplish (action items)

Work towards building a collective voice

looked through slides and images of areas around Westwood

List of action items:

1. Art
2. Sidewalks
3. Activity Center
4. Lights
5. Opportunities for development
6. Clean Streets
7. Landscaping
8. Signs
9. Plazas
10. Paths

Mike commented that the “Built Environment” committee needs to have more organizations at the table and more diversity. The group noted that youth, the Indian Center, and the Vietnamese were not being represented within the committee.

Alleys came up as an issue people would like to know more about.

Marijuana Dispensaries are a concern to the majority of the committee as they increase their presents in the neighborhood and decrease their proximity to schools and youth.

SWIC came up as a community center that is too small and underutilized as a place to increase connection with the community. The committee members commented that they would like to have more input on the activities and programs provided by SWIC. On the issue of SWIC Mandy Madrano mentioned that other community centers in different neighborhoods (citing College View’s “Teen Night”) provide innovative and engaging activities that are desperately needed in Westwood.

The meeting adjourned with the members taking home an assignment to be completed for the next meeting that asks them to go to certain places within Westwood and describe their experience and the built environment aspects that contribute to their reaction.