

Inman Square Neighborhood Association

May 30, 2017 Meeting Notes

Meeting held at First United Presbyterian Church

The Meeting started off with a welcome to everyone and a thank you to ISNA member Alex Wei and the First Presbyterian Church for hosting us. We followed up with our usual “speed-dating” meet your neighbor time before moving on to announcements:

1. Members were introduced to Debbie Musnikow, formerly the manager of Stellabella, who has contracted to open a kids’ play space in the former Boutique Fabulous space. The Play Center will be Inman Play and is targeted to children 7 and under with activities and the sale of selected items. However, Debbie also plans to make the space available for classes and community space rental during off hours.
2. Commonwealth Wellness has filed to open a medical marijuana dispensary in Inman Square. Public hearings are coming up. We have invited them to present at our next meeting, so that we can hear more and ask questions.
3. Inman Eats was a tremendous success. John Pitkin manned a table to introduce people to the Neighborhood Association and more importantly, the Climate Action initiatives. Our Climate Action team is beginning its outreach to get more households and businesses to sign on to large or small steps that will help reduce Inman Square’s ecological footprint. John showed us a new medallion design that adopters can put in their windows. More information is available on the <http://inmanneighbors.com> website. It was also noted that Department of Public Works has a free tree planting program for households that would like a new tree.

Following announcements, informal committees met to discuss a handout provided by the leadership team. The handout listed the ideas for Inman Square we developed at the last meeting. Groups were asked to identify the ideas they found most important and then identify ideas that were appropriate for their committee focus. Here were their conclusions:

Intersection Committee. Wants to have a separate discussion of parking issues at the next meeting. And felt that they might follow through on requests for better seating for seniors, pop up libraries, art installations and the closing of traffic in the Square on designated days.

Climate Action Committee. They want to look further into issues surrounding installing solar panels on historic buildings and the possibility of pop up farmers markets.

Economic Development Committee. They also want to explore closing Cambridge Street for a farmers’ market, increasing gathering spaces and activities for kids, and yoga, fitness and dance activities.

Social Committee. They could focus on walking and biking tours, the fact that Inman has no community center or games and rec center, and on the establishment of a dog park.

Beautification Committee. They would like to follow through on murals, art and plantings. **They need help with planting. Contact Kelli, Susan or write in on the website to help!**

With the committee work done our organization took its first step toward formal recognition from the City. By a unanimous vote, Matt Cloyd was confirmed as Chair of ISNA and Jessie Saacke was confirmed as Treasurer. We will be in touch with the City to continue the formalization process.

On this celebratory note, the May meeting of ISNA concluded.