

Notes from NWQ Study Committee July 09, 2009

Attending: Palmer, Smalley, Gadson, Bellew, Keyserling, Naomi Lewis, Garrett Budds, Jay Weidner, Bruce Bonge, Brenda Dooley, Mayor Keyserling, Donna Alley

Smalley: Lots of people may be missed in our process.

Keyserling: Case studies would be helpful. Don't dwell on individual cases. Let's come up with representative case studies based upon the interviews.

Palmer: I am encouraged by last night's turnout.

Keyserling: The second meeting will be harder. We need an even bigger group at the Council meeting.

A discussion of possible future meeting places. Dwayne Smalley will contact Rev. Byrd of Central Baptist Church.

Bellew: I want to put together specific examples from Dwayne's interviews.

Palmer: 4 block area is just meant to be representative.

Gadson: Many who were at the meeting were quiet. We disarmed folks a bit.

Weidner: Some people you can't please. Reality is there are rules, codes.

Bonge: I counted 57 attending.

Keyserling: The City should design a brochure and require architects to distribute. A design center would serve as an ombudsmen.

Budds: Josh Martin and I along with 4 interns have been in the neighborhood this week taking measurements, photos. We have some excellent base data. Josh will put together a set of code recommendations.

Keyserling: Strong well thought out recommendations better than a code at this point. Evan and Al have identified contributing and non-contributing that can come down. Naomi has been focusing on the design. Can we do visuals to present this to Council? We may want to use Block-By-Block, Habitat as examples as well.

Gadson: I am assuming that Garrett and Josh have taken into consideration Beaufort and the Northwest Quadrant Design Principles.

Budds: Yes, that is why we did the metric cataloging of what exists. We are also looking at streetscape issues, parking, sidewalks, etc.

Gadson: New must respect the existing. We (HRB) can support this if principles of preservation are respected. We can support intensification of commercial areas. Bladen might be able to be a bit more intense, for example.

Keyserling: The question remains, will this code help me as an owner to know what I can build?

Budds: The final code is not clearly understood at this point. Some flexibility will exist.

The meeting adjourned for a discussion with Brenda Dooley, Bruce Bonge regarding the new housing grant.

Submitted by Donna Alley