



March 19, 2019 – Venue: Hawthorne’s NY Pizza

**Board Members, Committee Members, and Advisors in attendance:** Dean Brodhag, Matt Chambers, Richard Darlington, Roy Goode, Rex Jones, Kathy Hill, Ben Hutchins, John Lincoln, Sherrie McLamb, Ari Rodriguez, James Scanlon,

**Guests:** David Molinaro and Steve Martin, discussion of Mason Wallace Park project; Reverend Bernard and Angela Neal; Marcus Nance; Janet Goretti, acting manager of Independence Library; Jenny Briggs; Faron Franks

**Excused absences:** Jack Miller

<b>Welcome, Introductions</b>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Kathy Hill brought the meeting to order at 6:05 and attendees Introduced themselves</li> </ul>
<b>Government Committee</b>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Presentation by Dave Molinaro relating to Mason Wallace Park. They need assistance promoting volunteer opportunities and events, communicating with Parks and Rec officials, approaching major potential donors like Hendrick. If Dave writes a blogpost we can post on the website, share it in our newsletter telling what’s happening at Mason Wallace.</li> <li>• MoRA Point developers have scheduled a community information meeting on April 2 where they’ll give information on the site plan amendment as well as an update as to the rest of the development. Can we find out what’s happening with the pocket park/public art before we officially support their amendment?</li> <li>• See attached Government committee report for other updates.</li> </ul>
<b>Arts, Culture &amp; Education Committee</b>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mural – no update information available, but it’s expected that the mural will be completed before the June 30 fiscal year end.</li> <li>• Thursdays Live <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ When you come to volunteer, bring a friend!</li> <li>○ Uneek Flavor is the first band</li> <li>○ Ari doing video blogpost</li> <li>○ Idea – reach out to a group to volunteer at a particular event date, offer them a t-shirt or some MoRA swag in return?</li> <li>○ Perhaps Rama Swim can donate free passes for volunteers? Marcus Nance is checking on this.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• EMHS senior class is doing a car wash to benefit MoRA on March 30 from 9am-12pm, we’ll promote it on social media. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Idea – putting those proceeds toward a plaque at Embrace, acknowledging the EMHS senior class’s contribution</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

<b>Communications Committee</b>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Matt Chambers reported that Facebook has passed 2000 likes, an impressive milestone.</li> <li>• Kathy Hill updated the group regarding meeting with the Communications consultant, Colleen Brannan, whose time was paid for by Daniel Levine. As a result of our initial meeting, Colleen is taking a deep dive and hopes to present some options to consider as we grow and increase our influence in this area.</li> </ul>
<b>Business Outreach, Sponsorships &amp; Advertising Committee</b>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ari Rodriguez, with assistance from Brian Norris, has been doing video blogposts of MoRA businesses, posting on Facebook</li> <li>• Kathy Hill reports that we have 10 paid sponsors for our 2019 Thursdays Live music series.</li> </ul>
<b>Other items</b>	5-15 minutes Discussion and/or action items
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rev. Neal told us about their community ministry which focuses on the Meadow Oaks (right behind Hendrick) and Wallace Woods developments.</li> <li>• Kathy Hill brought up discussion of obtaining a summer intern who might begin employment in April and end in August or September. Paul DiPirro cautioned that our organization could not have an employee without tax/financial consequences, and the proposed job description did not lend itself to this intern being an independent contractor. Can we go through Burt Philips business? Richard Darlington proposed a motion that we hire an intern as proposed to help cover the gap which will result from Kathy's medical absence. The motion was seconded and approved, with one board member, Paul DiPirro, not in favor.</li> <li>• Motion to approve February 26, 2019 minutes was seconded and approved unanimously.</li> </ul>
<b>Next meeting(s)</b>	
	Tuesday, March 19, Hawthorne's NY Pizza, 6pm

**Minutes by:** Dean Brodhag

## MoRA Government Committee Report March 19, 2019

### [new information highlighted]

- I. Engagement with City Council/Commissioners
    - a. Will seek engagement with City and County governments MoRA related programs and initiatives, esp. those addressed by 2019 budget items.
      - i. 2019 City Budget
        1. Bike & Pedestrian
          - a. Vision Zero: \$2 million
          - b. Sidewalk and Pedestrian Safety: \$30 million
            - i. Jack had reaching to Angela Barry to get help with installing a traffic light or pedestrian beacon where Knickerbocker and Monroe intersect. After no progress, Jack and Ben have been working with Roy Goode and Matt Newton to push this.
          - c. Bicycle Travel: \$4 million
        2. Neighborhood Investments
          - a. Comprehensive Neighborhood Improvement Prog: \$40 million
          - b. Placemaking: \$250,000
            - i. Mural project in progress
          - c. Neighborhood Matching Grants: \$400,000
            - i. Need to apply
          - d. TreesCharlotte: \$100,000, in addition to the programmed FY19-20 endowment support of \$500,000 for an updated total of \$600,000
          - e. Neighborhood Reinvestment Program: \$5 million
      - ii. 2019 County Budget
        1. Parks and Rec - \$41 million budget, nearby Greenways on McAlpine, Irvins and Briar Creeks funded
          - a. Working Greenways for Meck, Park and Rec Commission and Town of Matthews in promoting this.
          - b. Dave Molinaro is heading up a citizen led-effort to partner with Park and Rec to improve Mason Wallace Park
            - i. Model for developing plans for improvements to McAlpine Creek Regional Park and at 5715 Monroe Road property.
        2. CMS – Further East Meck improvements
    - b. Engagement status with local officials
      - i. City Council (District)
        1. Engagement – Newton (5); Bokhari (6); Egleston (1); Eiselt, Ajmera (AL)
          - a. Pushing for Knickerbocker intersection light with Matt Newton, as noted above.
        2. No engagement – Mitchell, Winston (AL)
      - ii. County Commissioners (District)
        1. Engagement – Jarrell (4); Harden (5)
        2. No engagement - Rodriguez-McDowell (6), Cotham, Fuller, Scarborough (AL); Dunlap (Chair, 3); Powell (Vice-chair, 1)
      - iii. Town of Matthews
        1. Met with Mayor Paul Bailey, Town Manager Hazen Blodgett, and Senior Planner Jay Camp to introduce ourselves, offer MoRA's advocacy for Monroe Rd in Town of Matthews north of 51 and find common ground with pursuits (greenways).
          - a. Catherine Hall will be joining our board and has extensive expertise working with Matthews officials on Rezoning.
- II. Independence Trail/ Vision Workshop – no update

### III. Rezoning

#### a. MoRA Point Site plan Amendment \*2019-041\*

- i. Public presentation scheduled for April 2<sup>nd</sup> at Independence Library, hosted by Petitioner's Agent on behalf of Selwyn/ Suncap.
- ii. Amendment requests increase in building space to accommodate a potential tenant. Full details not available yet - Jack is corresponding with Bridget Grant to obtain submission.
- iii. Also will be opportunity for updates on progress on site development, including elements associated with opening of Aldi, buildout of road and path network, pending opening Starbucks and Verizon, and more.

### IV. Silver Line - <https://charlottenc.gov/cats/transit-planning/Pages/silver-line.aspx>

#### a. In February, MTC amended plan.

- i. Silver Line to the West corridor to go to the airport and Belmont.
- ii. A route through Uptown was chosen
- iii. Feasibility of extending West route to Gastonia and Southeast route to Union County (Stallings).

### V. UDO Advisory Committee

#### a. Many upcoming engagement events – see <https://charlotteudo.org/get-involved/whats-new/> for details.

### VI. 2040 Comprehensive Plan

#### a. 3 Public meetings held. More opportunities to engage and give input: <https://charlottenc.gov/charlottefuture/2040Plan/Pages/default.aspx>

### VII. 2019 Civic Open House

#### a. In early planning stages, potential focus is on housing related issues:

- i. Revaluation
- ii. Affordable Housing (NOAH)
- iii. Market trends
- iv. Residential safety
- v. Potential impacts of future transportation projects (US 74 FWY extension and connector roads, Streetscape, Silver Line, etc).