

South End NRZ Zoom Minutes  
March 12, 2024

Draft

Present: **9 Participants**

The meeting began at 6:30 pm

**Hattie Firlik-BLT** stated they are working to put together a South End clean-up day but currently don't have a date or any details but will keep us posted.

**Sue Halpern** mentioned she didn't realize that Sound Waters had a clean-up day at Kosciuszko Park. Apparently, the Sound Waters clean-up wasn't widely known by many in the South End Community. **Lynn Brooks** mentioned that Pollinator Pathways does a clean-up every year at Kosciuszko Park.

**Monika Twal asked**, how is the BLT apartment complex transformation going with the previously Pitney Bowes Headquarters?

**Hattie Firlik answered** she didn't know but will pass on the question and get back with an update.

**Sue Halpern** inquired about the little park on Pulaski Street asking is there a way to get a name for the park or will it remain city property?

**Terry Adams answered** that he had put in a request to Matthew Quinones, but he will follow up with Matt again and get back.

**Terry** suggested having NRZ meetings every other month since the South End has calmed down on having community issues. **Monika Twal** objected and was not in favor as she felt that the city was in chaos, and it affects the citizens and the South End so the meetings should continue every month. **Sue** mentioned there are current issues that have not been resolved:

- The Atlantic Street eminent domain we haven't heard anything about that.
- The Lathan Wider Meetings with Thomas Madden

**Terry Adams** responded to the eminent domain concern about the Atlantic Street project advising that transportation is currently meeting with the property owners who would be impacted by the project.

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**Elise Coleman** responded to the concern about the Lathan Wider meeting held by Thomas Madden advising:

- Only four people were present.
- The entire presentation was for Spanish speaking only.
- There were no English translators.
- The PowerPoint presentations were all in Spanish.
- Thomas Madden stated the city approved the Spanish speaking meeting.

Elise mentioned this was very disturbing about the way the meeting was conducted since the South End community is interracial and the center impacts the lives of everyone in the South End community. Elise suggested keeping the monthly NRZ meetings so the idea of having meetings every other month was taken off the table; **The meetings will continue every second Tuesday.**

**Al Koproski** asked has anyone heard what BLT is going to do with the property between the Holy Name Athletic Club and Pawlick's property?

**Terry Adams** answered there has not been no discussion of any plans for that property between Holy Name Athletic Club and the Pawlick's property. **Hattie Firlik** was asked to pass this information forward to get an update on the BLT plans for the B&S carting site which has already been approved by zoning.

**Sheila Barney asked** Sue Halpern when is the public hearing for the South End Local Historic District?

**Sue Halpern answered:**  
Oh! that's done already.

**Sheila Barney asked:**  
When did you have the public hearing?

**Sue Halpern answered:**  
They did already as they sent out post cards and there was a meeting at the government center (November 29, 2023).

**Sheila Barney stated:** That was not a public hearing that was an information meeting with only three people.

**Sue Halpern stated:** They are in the process of doing their final report since the neighborhood lost interest.

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**Sheila Barney asked:**

When were you going to let us know that the study was done?

**Sue Halpern answered:**

When no one showed up for the information meeting (November 29, 2023) the committee kind of made their decision. The committee is in the process of doing their final report to the Board of Representatives.

**Sheila Barney asked:**

The report is going to state no public hearing, resolved?

**Sue Halpern answered:**

Right, the community lost interest so they are not going to spend money to have a public hearing.

**Sue** mentioned the Blick Building that it has been 4 years since BLT tore down the Schick portion of the building which has been rotting and a pond is sitting in the area where the Schick portion was torn down. Sue mentioned she reported it to Todd Levine. Hattie was asked to go back to BLT to get an update on the Blick Building.

General discussions continued about Historical Preservation, Historical Trust Funds, Holy Name Athletic Club, traffic and transportation and grant funding.

Meeting adjourned at 7:30 pm