North Shoal Creek Neighborhood Association Meeting of the Board of Directors December 13, 2012 Village Christian Apartments

Board members in attendance: Kenneth Webb, Donna Eagar, Jeri Wines, Juliette Kernion, Ernie Garcia, Alice Kubacak, Sherran Williams

Absent: Claudia Perez Guest: Amelia Cobb

Item 1: Call to order, adoption of agenda

President Kenneth Webb called the meeting to order at 6:33 pm.

Board members suggested adding "and Pillow/AISD" to Item 6, Liability Insurance; "print ballots" to Item 7, January 8 General Membership Meeting, and sub-items to Item 9, New Business: NSCNA tax-exempt status, sidewalk repair and replacement, and the SNA tree-planting project.

Motion by Donna Eagar to adopt the revised agenda. Seconded, adopted without dissent.

Item 2: Approval of minutes of board meetings

Motion by Juliette Kernion to approve minutes from Nov. 8 meeting that did not have quorum. Seconded, approved without dissent.

Item 3: Committee chair appointments

Kenneth said Roger Wines agreed to serve as chair of the Safety Committee, starting now and running through 2013. Roger is planning a member/neighborhood survey to see what everyone's essential safety concerns are.

Motion by Donna Eagar to approve Roger Wines as Safety Committee Chair. Seconded. Approved without dissent.

Item 4: Schedule of future board meetings

The Board considered whether it was necessary to meet in January before the general membership meeting on Jan. 8. Donna suggested that instead, Kenneth schedule a meeting within two weeks of the election. He said he'd have to survey the new board.

Item 5: Committee reports

Item 5a: Treasurer's report – Jeri said the NSCNA savings account currently had \$1383.63, the money market account had \$31,570.87, and the checking account had \$7908.13, although there were some bills Jeri still needed to pay.

Kenneth brought up the matter of NSCNA and whether it should have tax-exempt status. He said NSCNA did not pay tax on the Republic Printing bills in 2012 and needed to pay it, for three newsletters.

Sherran said she spoke with former NSCNA Treasurer Lois McAvoy, who told her we don't need to pay tax, we are exempt. Kenneth said the IRS states that we are not exempt and need to pay state sales tax. IRS stated we have never requested tax-exempt status but we are a 501(c)(4) org.

Donna suggested postponing the tax payments one more month until Lois is elected Treasurer, then ask her to research it. Kenneth said he felt the sales tax needed to be paid now, and that any decision from the IRS would not be retroactive. He noted that NSCNA paid sales tax in 2011 for the newsletter.

Motion by Juliette Kernion that sales tax for 2012, not to exceed \$150, be paid to Republic Printing by the end of 2012. Seconded. Approved without dissent.

Jeri continued the Treasurer's report. NSCNA already has 46 members who paid dues for 2013, 16 of whom were not members in 2011 or 2012. We had 112 members total in 2012.

Donna says she thought the Membership Committee's idea to put the forms in the most recent newsletter had a lot to do with the increase in 2013 memberships.

Item 5b: Media – Kenneth said the winter edition of the newsletter was being working on and would be distributed early in February. He hoped advertising would continue at the same pace as 2012. Regarding the website, he renewed the Dreamhost contract for one year as the board voted to approve in the November meeting.

Item 5c: Bylaws – No report.

Item 5d: Membership – Sherran said she contacted all the 2013 Board of Directors nominees to ensure they would pay their dues before they run for election in January.

Item 5e. Traffic – Kenneth spoke about neighborhood traffic calming efforts. Neighbors submitted five requests to the city for traffic calming improvements under the city's LATM program. The Steck request was not approved because it did not meet the criteria, but the other four were approved. The city has funded the first 13 approved requests on the list for 2012. The southern portion of Rockwood was #2 on the list and the northern portion #8. Kenneth attended a meeting with the two Rockwood applicants and the city Traffic and Transportation Office, and the planning and coordination are underway. So far, no speed bumps, humps or pillows are planned. The construction is all horizontal – little islands off the curb line that will slow the traffic down, and a roundabout or island in the middle of the intersection at Stillwood and Rockwood.

Juliette asked how bike lanes would be improved or affected on Rockwood. Kenneth said the bicycle lanes on Rockwood did not meet the city criteria for bicycle lanes because no parking is permitted in a bicycle lane. So they will likely eliminate the bicycle lanes the next time they repave the street.

Donna asked what would happen with the other two projects that were not funded this year. Kenneth said Ashdale was #20 and Primrose was #30 on the list, and no one knows if more funds will be available in 2013 for these projects. There's a cost sharing program where the city will pay half if the neighborhood pays the other half. Ashdale would cost \$17K total, Primrose was \$15K. Kenneth notes the money NSCNA has in its money-market account was for traffic calming purposes, after all.

Kenneth said he will talk to the city people to find out what was initially planned for Ashdale and Primrose and find out more about the fund sharing.

Item 5f: Social – Deferred to wait for Amelia Cobb.

Item 5g: Other – Regarding Beautification, Kenneth noted that SNA planted over 300 trees this year, on Burnet, near McCallum.

Item 6: Liability insurance and Pillow/AISD

Kenneth said he has a confirmation for \$300 for a year from Philadelphia Life for liability insurance, which would be required for the luminaria walk this month, Pillow Elementary confirmed. Kenneth worked with Natter on insurance, and he confirmed yesterday that we now have the policy in effect.

Sherran asked to go on record to say that PARD has told her that Pillow/AISD does not own that part of the property (the track) and that PARD does not require liability insurance. Alice said the Pillow principal told her that the water fountain and picnic tables belong to PARD, not to AISD.

Kenneth said that Pillow Elementary representatives have told him Pillow Park is controlled by PARD but the rest is AISD. The soccer teams go through AISD and pay them a fee to use the field.

Kenneth said Natter paid for the insurance and we have to reimburse him. AISD will approve our application to use the grounds as soon as we send them the actual policy; they reviewed the initial document and said it would meet their requirements.

Return to Item 5f: Social Committee – Amelia thanked Kenneth for putting out signs for the luminaria walk. She will talk to the city Fire Prevention department tomorrow to get final approval for the event. She said she will need 10-15 volunteers to show up by 4 pm on the day of the event, and is asking the Pillow after-care program about whether the kids in the program might want to help.

Amelia wanted to see if money might be available for refreshments during the event – cookies and cocoa. She said a tray of 85 cookies would be \$20-25, and she'd try to get a big pack of Swiss Miss cocoa at Sam's. Sherran asked if there were refreshments left over from 2011 that could be used; Amelia said no. Donna offered to lend a thermal carafe for coffee, and Amelia has cups and napkins from 2011.

Motion by Juliette that the Board approve no more than \$75 for luminaria walk refreshments and other expenses. Seconded. Motion approved without dissent.

Item 7: January 8 general membership meeting/printed ballots

Kenneth said several groups have asked to speak at the meeting. Partners in Education wants to speak for 10 minutes looking for mentors. Also, an organization that works on the foot races that go through our neighborhood wants to speak. Kenneth said he will see about getting Partners in Ed on the agenda.

Jeri asked what level of detail would be needed for the Treasurer's annual report. Kenneth said a summary would probably be fine, and he'd work with her to find the best level of detail.

Kenneth said it's been suggested that there be an installation of the new officers and directors at the meeting, we have not ever done that. General agreement that an installation/ceremony of officers/directors would be a nice idea.

Item 8: Membership in ANC for 2013

Kenneth said he thought the ANC dues should be paid after January 1. It's \$35 for the year. Jeri said for the past two years it was paid in January of that year. Donna said we could still approve it now and pay it after January 1. The dues must be paid before the ANC January meeting, which is close to the end of the month.

Motion by Donna to pay the ANC 2013 dues of \$35 after the first of January, 2013. Seconded. Motion approved without dissent.

Item 9: New Business

Alice asked about the March general meeting location, which was tentatively set for St. Louis Catholic Church on Burnet. She said the church needs a \$300 deposit to hold the room.

Motion by Alice that the Board approve a deposit of \$300 to be paid to St. Louis Catholic Church in January, to hold the room for our March 5, 2013 meeting. Seconded. Approved without dissent.

Donna asked Alice to find out what the rates are exactly and what the cancellation fees might be. Alice said the rates are \$38 per hour, a lower rate because Alice is a member of the church.

Sidewalk repair and replacement – Kenneth reported there's been a lot of sidewalk repair going on in the neighborhood, on Rockwood, for example. Curb cuts are also being installed at some intersections.

Item 10: Adjournment

Motion by Jeri Wines to adjourn. Seconded. Approved without dissent.

Meeting adjourned at 8:35 pm.

Minutes submitted by Juliette Kernion, Secretary, North Shoal Creek Neighborhood Association.

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