

**North Shoal Creek Neighborhood Association
General Membership Meeting
September 6, 2011
Pillow Elementary School**

1. Call to Order and Adoption of Agenda

The meeting was called to order at 6:37 pm by President Chip Rosenthal. He announced that the agenda was lengthy, so arrangements had been made to stay until 8:30 pm, if needed. Motion by Jerry Horn to adopt the agenda. It was seconded and adopted by consensus.

2. Approval of Minutes

- a. Minutes of General Membership Meeting of May 3, 2011 were approved with one spelling correction
- b. The previously approved Minutes of the General Membership Meeting of January 4, 2011 were revised to correct several inaccuracies, and approved unanimously.

3. Officer Reports

- a. Treasurer's Report. Jeri Wines reported there are 75 members as of tonight. Dallas Mahan moved to accept the report (attached). Seconded and approved.
- b. President's Report. Chip Rosenthal reviewed recent action approved by the Board in response to a City proposal to develop Anderson Town Center at MoPac and Anderson. The plan had the potential to triple the population of the area and result in severe traffic problems.

As required, a 2/3 approval of the Board is required to make a neighborhood policy; the board vote was unanimous. A letter was drafted in conjunction with the Allandale Neighborhood Association resulting in a meeting with Greg Claxton, Austin Planning & Development Review Department. City planning anticipates commuter rail down MoPac which will require passenger stations. Wherever that is sited will result in population increase. The city agreed to redesignate it as a Neighborhood Center rather than a Town Center which will be much less dense and more in line with the neighborhood.

Time to begin thinking about next year and election of Board members. Two current members will be leaving because of term limits: Chip Rosenthal and Mary Jane Wier. Selection of a nominating committee to prepare a roster of candidates will follow.

4. Committee Reports

- a. Social Committee. Amelia Cobb was unable to attend, so report provided by Chip. The Independence Day event was successful: more neighborhood volunteers and cost within the budget. A major expense was insurance; Chip is talking with other neighborhood associations about options for short-term events coverage. Thanks to all who volunteered.
- b. Development Committee: Kevin Wier reported the comprehensive City plan, Imagine Austin, is entering the final phase. Our neighborhood has not had a neighborhood plan developed in conjunction with the city; that is traditionally the building block from which the

city plan is developed. The city seems to be moving to corridor planning rather than neighborhood planning for the future.

The City's goal is to bring density to the Austin core to preserve the tax base and enhance mass transit. Neighborhoods traditionally have wanted pocket parks, yards and no high-rise buildings towering over back yards.

Discussed advantages and possible downsides of getting three adjacent neighborhood associations to work together in the planning process.

Chip reported that the north Burnet Road Mobile Loaves and Fishes trailer park appears to be off the table now.

Kevin suggested the Board might develop a policy statement that included major concerns such as Rockwood and Primrose Lane cut through traffic.

Notify Kevin or Chip if you're interested in keeping posted and involved in neighborhood development.

- c. Traffic Committee. Chip reported on NPP Grant. Last year NSCNA agreed to contribute up to \$20,000 toward city efforts to repair neighborhood sidewalks. Jon Menegay surveyed all the neighborhood sidewalks, neighbors were asked to notify of known problem areas and a map of problems was developed. Since then, the City has spent \$70,000 doing sidewalk repair outside the NPP, including most of the highest priority problems except for those that are cost prohibitive.

Because circumstances have changed so much since the NPP project was approved, the board wants to assess current neighbor support on the matter. Chip announced that at the next general meeting in November, we will take a vote to rescind the authorization for the NPP project. That is the formal mechanism for us to review a past decision. By that time, Chip expects the city to provide a rough estimate of the cost of making the remaining repairs. Once that is received, the association will be in a position to decide if it wants to proceed.

Jon asked how the temporary asphalt patches are working. Sherran Williams reported that the city said those temporary repairs are now on the list for permanent repairs; perhaps the status of that work could be discovered.

- d. Membership Committee. Kenneth Webb reported that membership is down from 142 members last year to 75 today. With no active committee, Board members have contacted those who didn't renew their membership this year. Chip noted that the budget was projected based on 100 members; hopefully we can make up the short-fall. Jerry Horn suggested having membership forms available at National Night Out.
- e. Safety Committee. National Night Out is set for Tuesday, October 4 at 6:30 PM. Donna Eagar will coordinate information about gatherings for anyone who wants to register. If you register, she will put together information about the location of your party to share with neighbors. Additional information about National Night Out is available in the September 2011 Newsletter.

Chip announced a new district representative, APD liaison, Officer Megliorino, 512-974-5852. Also reported that Roger Wines offers safety preparation classes.

Social Chair Amelia Cobb is interested in member ideas for helping those displaced by fires.

- f. Beautification Committee. Mary Jane Wier reported that the Urban Forest program is ready to move and hopes to plant trees by the end of the year. The purpose of the program is to increase street shade to offset heat island effect. Information packets have been sent to 17 neighbors who were identified as first tier by the arborist. Anyone receiving a tree will participate in an education meeting. Currently the committee is awaiting feedback from the Tier 1 neighbors. Mary Jane asked that any neighbors who believe that the arborist may have missed any potential Tier 1 locations to contact her. Additional information is available in the September 2011 Newsletter.

5. **New Business**

- a. Election of five-member nominating committee. Treasurer Jeri Wines reported that no nominations were submitted in advance. Chip opened the floor for nominations. In order to be included, the person had to be present and agree to serve or have already agreed to serve. Nominees: Mary Jane Wier, Alice Kubacak, Jerry Horn, Tomas Rodriguez and Chip Rosenthal. Motion by Dallas Mahan that nominations be closed. Seconded and approved unanimously. All nominees were elected by acclamation.
- b. Discussion and possible action on association policy re: commercial short-term rental (STR) properties. The issues were discussed by two members of a city working group preparing recommendations about STRs, Maurice Anderson and Bob Easter. Mr. Anderson is an opponent of STRs. Mr. Easter is a rental property owner, with an STR property in North Shoal Creek. Members had an opportunity to express their positions and ask questions of our guests.

Motion by Kevin Wier to adopt a policy statement against STR's, defined as rentals for less than 30 days, and opposing the City going against current neighborhood zoning rules and regulations. Seconded. The motion was debated.

At 8:25pm, Chip called the question, per our adopted agenda. Motion by Jerry Horn to postpone the item to a future meeting. Seconded. Postponement approved by consent. In the interim, the Board will offer some suggestions to help the process.

6. **Adjournment**

Meeting was adjourned at 8:26 pm.

Minutes submitted by Donna Eagar, Secretary.

Approved by the NSCNA Membership on November 1, 2011.