

**North Shoal Creek Neighborhood Association  
Meeting of the Board of Directors  
Town North Nissan  
Thursday, February 9, 2012**

In attendance: Kenneth Webb, Juliette Kernion, Jeri Wines, Marlene Bartlett, Amelia Cobb, Sal Espinosa (at 6:55 pm), Ernie Garcia  
Absent: Donna Eagar, Alice Kubacak, Robert Seidel, Scott Smith  
Also present: Kevin Wier, Development Committee chair

**Item 1: Call to order, adoption of agenda**

Meeting was called to order at 6:36 pm by President Kenneth Webb.

Kenneth requested to add an agenda item: 5.5, Committee Activity and Reports, Part II: Beautification Committee. He also asked to swap order on items 3.1 and 3.2, Committee Activity and Reports: Social and Development, to address Development first while Kevin was present. Kevin requested the Board add an agenda item 3.2, consideration to help fund an effort to oppose short-term rentals, moving Social to item 3.3.

Motion by Juliette to accept revised agenda; seconded, adopted unanimously.

**Item 2: Approval of minutes, Jan. 19 Board of Directors meeting**

Kenneth had some minor edits: item 8.2, change “coordinators” to “applicants” in two spots, and change “take applications” to “act on applications.”

Motion by Marlene to approve minutes with Kenneth's revisions, seconded, adopted unanimously.

**Item 3: Committee Activity and Reports, Part I**

**Item 3.1: Development** – Kevin reported that Development Committee members and Wooten NA representatives met Feb. 8 with the developer working on the 8100 Burnet Road project. Summit Condo was invited but did not attend. The developer is asking to bring the zoning change for the development (from CF to MF-6) before the City Zoning and Platting Commission on Feb. 21.

The Development Committee is working on a covenant agreement with the developer. The agreement contains conditions the developer would have to meet before NSCNA would support the zoning change. Kevin recommended the Board agree with three versions of an agreement, then if Kevin received more info from the developer the following day, he could present it to the Board.

Kevin passed out a draft of the agreement, which the Board discussed. Kenneth pointed out that the Board could approve the agreement as written; if the developer made some changes, we could bring those to the membership at the special called meeting on Feb. 16.

Kevin explained that NSCNA had worked with the developer to invite Wooten NA and the condo organizations in North Shoal Creek as guests to the Feb. 16 meeting, to participate in a Q&A session with the developer. A North Shoal Creek resident circulated the information publicly and said the public was invited to the meeting, so there might be more guests than planned. Kenneth said this would

not be a problem, as long as the meeting included agenda items on which only NSCNA members would be voting, and that he would ask non-members who remained in the room after the Q&A session to abide by Robert's Rules. Kenneth said he arranged to have the Pillow Elementary space for an hour longer than usual at the Feb. 16 meeting.

Motion by Juliette to approve the agreement Kevin distributed with the potential change, pending Kevin's negotiations, that the area of green space could be a minimum of 2,000 square feet. Seconded. Kevin said if the agreement was approved, he would send it to the developer with the original 3,000 square feet stipulation and negotiate from there.

Kenneth called the question on the motion. Motion approved unanimously.

**Item 3.2: Funding to oppose short-term rentals** – Kevin said he's working with a group called PAN (Protect Austin Neighborhoods) to ban Austin short-term rentals in accordance with the resolution NSCNA members approved in November 2011. PAN wants to hire a lawyer to help with City Council communication and lobbying endeavors, and is trying to raise money to meet the lawyer's fees.

Kenneth said he would need to consult the NSCNA bylaws to determine whether NSCNA helping to fund the lawyer would count as a political issue. Sal and Jeri looked through the bylaws and read several relevant sections about political contributions and nonprofits. Kevin withdrew the suggestion.

**Item 3.3: Social Committee** – Amelia announced she is stepping down as Social Committee Chair and resigning from the Board. Kenneth said he would accept her resignation at the end of the meeting. Kenneth commended Amelia on the work she's done with the July 4 parade and other events.

#### **Item 4: Committee Chairs**

Kenneth said NSCNA needs a new Social Committee Chair, as well as a Safety Committee chair. In addition, Kenneth reported that Donna Eagar is concerned she will not have enough time to perform the Vice President duties, and will step down if a replacement can be found. Kenneth will continue to work with Donna on this issue.

Kenneth recommended the Board ratify his choice for Marlene Bartlett as Media Committee Chair. Confirmed by consent.

#### **Item 5: Committee Activity and Reports, Part II**

**Item 5.1: Media Committee** – Marlene said she's waiting to hear from print vendors about newsletter pricing before she can submit final budget numbers for the Media Committee in 2012. So far, the March 2012 newsletter has 1.25 pages of ads sold, including Randolph Brooks, which paid in 2011. Marlene and Chip Rosenthal are still working to sell ads.

Marlene passed around a job description for a new NSCNA newsletter editor; she asked Board members to send her edits/suggestions before the description is published in the next newsletter issue. If a neighbor does not volunteer, she will approach Anderson High or elsewhere. Sal said he could try to find someone from Westwood High School.

**Item 5.2: Membership Committee** – Robert was absent so the Membership Committee did not report.

**Item 5.3: Traffic Committee** – Kenneth said he and Chip Rosenthal, Traffic Committee chair, met with the LATM project manager about neighborhood traffic mitigation, and that applicants from the neighborhood will be notified in writing when their requests are being handled. Chip will work with applicants to ensure they can meet any responsibilities the City might require. Traffic calming construction in the neighborhood is unlikely before September.

**Item 5.4: Bylaws Committee** – Sal said he's been reviewing the bylaws; in many categories, he felt NSCNA is aligned with most NA bylaws he has read. He noted that Article 4 states that dues are set by the Board. Many NA bylaws have several categories for dues: e.g., individuals, households and businesses. He plans to work with the Treasurer to determine the financial impact of changing dues categories.

**Item 5.5: Beautification Committee** – Kenneth talked to Mary Jane Wier, who said the trees from the City grant will be planted on Feb. 23 and 24. The Beautification Committee will hold a closed meeting next week with the neighbors getting the trees and the contractor who will plant them.

**Item 6: Treasurer's Report**

Jeri said she did not have a full report, as her computer wasn't working. NSCNA started 2012 with \$4296.86, and received \$480 in dues, but Jeri wasn't able to see the PayPal statement. She hoped to meet with Kenneth and Chip Rosenthal soon to figure out the best way to deal with PayPal.

NSCNA spent \$35 so far in 2012 on ANC dues, and \$21 to remake post-office box keys. Flyers cost \$77.99 for the special called meeting. The checkbook balance as of the Board meeting was \$4522.87. Jeri passed out an updated membership list, and a spreadsheet with tentative budget items for 2012 based on the 2011 budget numbers.

Treasurer's report approved by consent.

**Item 7: Membership Eligibility**

Kenneth reported that two individuals/households residing outside the NSCNA area have applied/paid for 2012 NSCNA membership: Mr. and Mrs. Flood, and Robert Easter. Kenneth communicated to the Floods that they are eligible only for associate membership, and will communicate the same to Mr. Easter. He stated that the Board must approve associate memberships, which are non-voting memberships.

Juliette suggested postponing approval of the Floods' membership until they indicate their interest in an associate membership.

Motion by Sal to extend associate membership to Robert Easter. Seconded, approved by consent.

**Item 8: 2012 Calendar**

Kenneth confirmed the NSCNA 2012 general membership meeting schedule with Pillow. He felt the next NSCNA Board meeting should be rescheduled since March 8 is only two days after a general membership meeting. After discussion, Kenneth said he would ask absent Board members whether

March 20 or March 21 would work best for them, then schedule the meeting for one of those dates.

**Item 9: Unfavorable Communication**

Kenneth said he and the Board received many inflammatory, accusatory, and/or inappropriate email messages in the last year – it's been a big problem, but he wasn't sure the Board would be able to arrive at a definite solution at this time. He reported that one of the senders of these messages, Vicki McFadden, told him she would stop sending emails to the Board, which he felt would solve part of the problem. In addition, emails have been sent about NSCNA and its members to the City, probably inappropriately.

Kenneth's first objective is to stop this kind of communication. He noted that many of these messages come from non-members, so he doesn't know whether anyone can restrain them. He said the email attacks to Board members and volunteers were bad last year and the then-President even offered to resign; the attacks died down, but have increased again this year. The emails are upsetting to people and distracting from the work NSCNA volunteers are trying to do.

Kenneth said he emailed the Yahoo Group listmaster recently about what he thought was an inappropriate posting to the NSCNA Email List. Juliette, who is copied on listmaster email messages, said she gave the listmaster (Ben Brumfield) Marlene's contact info so the Media Committee could handle it. Kenneth asked Marlene to report back to him about what happens.

Kenneth said he would like to try positive comments in response to these emails. He favors the idea of “making our story known” in a positive statement on the website or elsewhere when negative, harassing messages occur. He said NSCNA should work with the condo HOAs so they don't get misinformation about our association, and he gave them flyers about the upcoming special called meeting.

Kenneth suggested the Board give this issue some thought and revisit it in a later meeting.

**Item 10: New Business**

No new business.

**Item 11: Adjourn**

Meeting adjourned at 8:50 pm.

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

Minutes approved at NSCNA Board of Directors Meeting, April 3, 2012