

**North Shoal Creek Neighborhood Association
General Membership Meeting
November 13, 2012
First Texas Honda dealership meeting room**

Item 1: Call to order

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm by President Kenneth Webb.

Will Hardeman from First Texas Honda greeted the members and introduced the new dealership.

Item 2: Adoption of agenda

Motion from Dallas Maham to adopt the agenda. Seconded, approved without dissent.

Item 3: Location of this meeting

Kenneth explained that AISD has new requirements for organizations using school facilities – NSCNA would need to have liability insurance that would cover AISD for any damage sustained. He's been working with an insurance agent on options, but nothing has been finalized, so this meeting could not be held at Pillow Elementary. The Board voted to use First Texas Honda's meeting room, which had been offered by Will Hardeman, for the Nov. 13 meeting.

Kenneth stressed that NSCNA has no obligation toward the dealership in return for letting us hold the meeting in their facilities.

Item 4: Approval of minutes of the Sept. 4 general membership meeting

Motion by Marvin Monken to approve the minutes as submitted. Seconded, approved without dissent.

Item 5: Ratification of the appointment of Director

Kenneth said the Board of Directors had some vacancies and in September, the Board appointed newsletter editor Claudia Perez as a Director. The appointment must be ratified by the membership per the bylaws.

Motion by John Migl to ratify the approval of Claudia Perez as Director. Seconded. Approved without dissent.

Item 6: Prioritization of Burnet Road improvements

Kenneth set ground rules for this agenda item and the next one, so issues could be discussed without running out of time. The rules: Each item will have a discussion lasting until a motion is proposed or until 10 minutes have passed. Once a motion has been proposed, discussion on the motion will take place. Speakers are limited to one turn of 2 minutes or less per issue.

Kenneth said that at the September meeting, documents regarding the prioritization of Burnet Road improvements, drafted by Sustainable Neighborhoods of North Central Austin (SNA), were handed out for members to read and consider. SNA President Steve Zettner appeared before several city commissions to get Burnet Road improvements included in the bond issues approved by voters a week before this meeting.

The specific recommendations in the documents will be presented to city officials when it's time to determine which improvements on Burnet and Lamar will be made with the bond funds. Two of the five affected neighborhood associations have approved the specific issues proposed by SNA.

Development Committee Chair Kevin Wier said the improvements in the SNA document are not traffic-calming issues such as speed bumps, but items such as adding a stop sign at the right turn from Burnet to 2222 to ensure the safety of students walking around the nearby school.

Motion from Cheri Hartman to approve the document as proposed. Seconded. Approved without dissent.

Item 7: Location of NSCNA General Membership Meetings

Kenneth said the Board of Directors is looking into purchasing liability insurance, needed not only for possible meetings at Pillow Elementary but for any NSCNA meetings or events. In the past, NSCNA has only purchased special-event insurance to cover the July 4 parade. We will still need to purchase separate insurance policies for special events, which will not be covered under general liability. After general liability insurance is purchased, AISD must approve the NSCNA application for holding meetings at Pillow.

Several meeting possibilities were suggested and discussed: North Village Library (too small, difficult to reserve), Village Christian Apartments activity center (reserved for Jan. 8 meeting if needed, but parking there is difficult/remote), Highland Lanes meeting room (small for 50 people), The Goodnight meeting room (not available until after January), a meeting room at St. Louis Catholic Church (would cost about \$70 per meeting, could hold up to 65 people).

Cheri Hartman pointed out that although Pillow's seating is uncomfortable, it is central and walkable and has more of a community feel than the dealership. In addition, there would be no worry about conflicts/neutrality if an issue like the recent First Texas Honda sign variance arose again.

Betsy Todd noted that the church is outside the North Shoal Creek boundaries. She suggested talking to the Village shopping center developers to find out if there are options there. She thought it might be a good idea to rotate through several meeting-room options before making a permanent decision.

Dallas Maham asked what it would cost to use Pillow this year, including insurance. Kenneth said it would be about \$300-400 per year for the insurance, but any AISD fees would be waived for this school year.

Motion by Betsy Todd that NSCNA try several different locations for the next few general meetings, and postpone the decision for a permanent location until then. Seconded.

John Migl asked what it cost to use the First Texas Honda meeting room, and if it might be a possibility for future meetings. Kenneth said he has not discussed additional meetings with the dealership.

Levi Bullock asked what the criteria should be for a suitable meeting location. Kenneth said that at most general meetings, about 35-50 people attend, although nearly 100 people were present at a meeting earlier in the year.

Donna Eager noted that the dealership would let NSCNA meet until 9 pm, so there would be no worries about having to pack up at 7:50 pm as there are at Pillow. Jeri Wines added that it is difficult to get into Pillow before the meeting time to set up the membership sign-up table.

Kenneth asked members to decide whether to call for the question or continue the discussion. Members voted to call for the question, without dissent.

Motion by Betsy Todd approved without dissent.

Donna Eager asked members to please contact the Board of Directors with any other meeting location possibilities.

Item 8: Committee reports and activities.

Item 8a: Treasurer – Treasurer Jeri Wines referred everyone to the report she handed out, which detailed January through the end of October.

Betsy Todd noted that the balance had increased since the beginning of the year, and wondered if any discussions had taken place about how to spend the money. Jeri said the Board is open to suggestions.

Juliette Kernion asked if the \$200 the Board approved to donate to SNA for tree planting efforts had been sent yet. Jeri said she just received information about where to send the check, and would send it later that week.

Jeri noted that NSCNA currently had 111 members, which was more than in 2011. The most recent newsletter included a membership form and envelope, and out of that mailing, NSCNA received 2013 dues for 25 memberships.

Item 8b: Development – Kevin Wier wanted to invite any interested members to join the Development Committee, which has had a couple of meetings in the previous few months, as well as some email discussions.

First Texas Honda sign variance – Kevin said the consensus at the recent Development Committee meeting was that there was no reason to make an exception for a sign at the dealership, since no other variances were granted for other businesses on/near Mopac. They informed Will Hardeman at First Texas Honda, who said without NSCNA support, they would not reopen the sign variance issue. Donna said the issue ended very amiably.

8100 Burnet development – Kevin received an email from the developer saying they no longer have any interest in the property.

Betsy Todd asked if committee and Board meetings could be announced a few days in advance through the NSCNA Email List on Yahoo. Doing so would let members and neighborhoods know what NSCNA is doing, and it might encourage more neighbors to become members. Kevin agreed.

Kenneth said he's been concerned by the low activity of many NSCNA committees this year, and he hoped we could get more committee activities going in 2013.

Item 8c: Beautification – Chair was not present, so no update. Tomas Rodriguez asked if the Yard of the Month program was still going on; Kenneth said it hasn't been held for the past couple of years.

Item 8d: Traffic Committee – Traffic Committee Chair Tomas Rodriguez gave an update on the LATM projects in the neighborhood. The City approved the petition for traffic mitigation on Rockwood, both north and south of Steck. Scott Smith and Tomas will meet with the City later in the week to review the city's proposed design for the traffic calming measures. Tomas handed out a map showing some possible traffic-calming measures on Rockwood. He encouraged members to contact him after the meeting with further suggestions.

Ken Moyer asked if anyone had considered striping Rockwood in a way that would slow down traffic, like the "road diet" on Steck. Tomas said he would bring it up on Thursday.

Neighbors expressed concern about speed bumps. Tomas said that speed bumps cannot be put on Rockwood because it would hinder fire/emergency vehicles.

Item 8e: Nominating Committee – Chair John Anderson passed out a list of the nominees for the 2013 Board of Directors, including statements from the candidates. The committee is still seeking a nominee for Vice President, and John asked that anyone interested contact him.

Kenneth reminded the members that although the Nominating Committee has recommended a list of candidates, any qualified member can be nominated from the floor at the January 8 meeting.

Item 8f: Social Committee – Kenneth said a luminaria walk is planned for the athletic track at Pillow, if the liability insurance issue is settled in time. He asked Amelia Cobb if she'd be willing to host the activity. Amelia agreed to help coordinate it.

Item 8g: Other committees – Betsy Todd noted that it would be a great idea for 2013 to consider a kind of “welcome-wagon” committee for new neighbors.

Item 7: Announcements

Kenneth said that starting the next morning, there would be flyovers around the city and Formula One racetrack for the EPA doing surveys.

Item 8: New business

Kevin Wier noted that he received an email regarding the single-member City Council districts approved by voters. An independent commission is supposed to draw up the districts, and some north Austin groups are hoping to start drawing districts right now. He's wondering if NSCNA can get involved in this. Dallas Maham agreed that this is an issue of representation, not politics, and that the Board should consider getting involved.

Item 9: Adjournment

Motion by Dallas Maham to adjourn. Seconded. Approved without dissent. Meeting adjourned at 7:55 pm.

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

Minutes approved at NSCNA General Meeting, January 8, 2013