

North Shoal Creek Neighborhood **Association**
P.O. Box 66443
Austin, Texas 78766-0443
Board of Directors Meeting
March 24, 2015, 6:30 pm
Town North Nissan Dealership Community Room

I. CALL TO ORDER 6:36 p.m.

Lois McEvoy presided. Barbara Gaston recorded the proceedings.
Those present: President Lois McEvoy, Vice president Julia Menegay, Secretary Barbara Gaston, Treasurer Donna Eagar; Board Members Levi Bullock, Amelia Cobb, Karen Denton, Ernie Garcia, and Sharon Justice.

II. APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY 24, 2015 BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Karen Denton (Julia Menegay) moved that minutes be approved as read. Motion carried.

III. TREASURER REPORT

A. DONNA EAGAR REPORTED THE FOLLOWING

1. Oral BALANCE REPORT

Checking account	9,885.00
CD	31,946.16
Total Assets	\$41,831.16

a. There is a small amount of extra money in the account because several members prepaid their membership dues for future years.

b. Advertising revenue for 2015 totaled \$1388.00.

2. PROFIT AND LOSS STATEMENT (JANUARY 1-March 24, 2015) Printed copy in packet

3. NSCNA BUDGET SUMMARIES FROM THE YEARS 2009-2014 Printed copy in packet
Donna listed the 2014 proposed budget figures; as she read members filled in the blanks under the 2015 Section. The budget committee will refer to these figures as they devise a final 2015 budget which will be based upon 2015 needs.

At the February 24, 2015 meeting the board approved a temporary 2015 budget that would match 2014 expenses so that the treasurer could pay bills.

The budget committee will meet in order to propose a final 2015 budget, which will be brought before the board of directors for final approval.

Julia Menegay and Donna Eagar will research the best prices for printing the newsletter.

The newsletter expense will be adjusted in the 2015 budget.

B. GENERAL DISCUSSION

1. CLARIFYING DEFINITIONS OF BUDGET LINE ITEMS

a. *Publicity flyers* are distributed to inform the public of NSCNA business, such as the date of general meetings.

Media kits are distributed to prospective advertisers.

2. The amounts budgeted (2014) for the July 4th celebration and luminaria walk do not include extra donations which saved NSCNA money:

a. In 2013 one member donated \$300.00 for the July 4th celebration ; \$236.00 has not been spent. Another donor provided \$35.00 for ice cream cups.

b. UFCU donated cookies for the luminaria walk.

3. Newsletter expense will be revised for 2015.

4. Some monies might be well spent if NSCNA were to employ an expert in community planning to tap into zoning concerns and city development regulations. However, the original gift of the \$25,000.00 CD is solely dedicated to traffic calming and safety issues.

*Refer to Old Business B.

Final copy: March 24, 2015 NSCNA Board Meeting Minutes, submitted by secretary BGaston, approved by board on April 24, 2015

IV. GARAGE SALE MAY 2, 2015

A. AMELIA COBB REPORTED THE FOLLOWING

Amelia will meet with her committee to finalize plans.

The main issue is making the public aware of the garage sale. Publicity appeared in the last newsletter. Amelia is working on devising a banner that can be posted somewhere in the neighborhood. This could be used for other events also; it would cost about \$100.00.

Pillow School representatives will collaborate with NSCNA by handing out maps denoting addresses of garage sale participants which would include the Pillow School special event site.

B. GENERAL DISCUSSION

One resident requested that the date of the garage sale be changed because she thought that the neighborhood could not handle the traffic of three events on the same day (garage sale, garden tour, and Pillow event). However, members of the board voted to keep the May 2 date because the three activities may potentially enhance attendance at all three. The garage sale will conclude at 1 pm.

V. RESIDENT LETTER (Hard copy of Ms. McFadden's email is included in packet.)

A. Julia Menegay telephoned this resident and determined that this resident had three major concerns:

1. REQUEST FOR PARTICIPATION IN AUSTIN OAKS PUD SURVEY

The newsletter insert regarding the request for NSCNA participation in an on-line survey concerning the Austin Oaks area, which is not in NSCNA jurisdiction, detracted from the NSCNA zoning case C14-2014-0157.

(Hard copies: 1) newsletter insert requesting survey participation; and 2) Neighborhood Survey about Austin Oaks PUD are included in this packet.)

2. PETITION LETTERS (Hard copies of the two letters are included in packet.)

The petition letters would have served a better purpose if they had been included with the newsletter, enabling those who desired to do so to individually sign and mail to city council members.

3. MEMBERSHIP LIST DISTRIBUTION

The resident said that one of her friends' request for a copy of the membership list from a board member was refused.

The resident thanked Ms. Menegay for her response and explanations.

B. BOARD MEMBER DISCUSSION OF ISSUES REGARDING THE RESIDENT'S THREE CONCERNS

1. REQUEST FOR PARTICIPATION IN AUSTIN OAKS PUD SURVEY

- a. There was a general lack of communication between actors which allowed side issues to mingle with NSCNA's primary focus upon the C14-2014-0157 zoning issue.
- b. The newsletter deadline had passed and it had already gone to press when this request came by email through the development committee. A flyer requesting participation was quickly devised and distributed with the news letter.

- c. The board of directors was never consulted as to whether this survey would be sponsored by NSCNA. A request by the development committee that NSCNA cover the expense of printing the insert to the newsletter was approved by email consensus. However, there was some discussion that the printing of the flyer exceeded the development committee's budget allocation.
- d. NSCNA bylaws were consulted regarding *political support*: No political parties or candidates may be supported.
- e. Requests for NSCNA support would best be decided in the future on a case-by-case basis.
- f. This rule should be firm: If items to be distributed by NSCNA are not presented before the newsletter printing deadline, they will be included in the next newsletter.
- g. NSCNA is an inclusive organization. Dissent will be addressed in a manner that encourages mutual cooperation and respect. The optimal goal is to do what is best for everyone in the neighborhood.
- h. Membership in NSCNA is an important factor in considering differing opinions that may come before the board.
- i. Discussion regarding required NSCNA membership before a person is appointed to a committee resulted in the suggestion that the by-laws be studied in order to reach an opinion.

2. PETITION LETTERS

- a. Distribution of the two petitions did not come before the board of directors.
- b. The development committee distributed copies several interested people in the neighborhood. NSCNA sponsorship of the petitions was assumed without any formal discussion by the board.
- c. The idea of obtaining signatures regarding the C14-2014-0157 zoning issue on a petition would have been an excellent grass roots effort, without NSCNA formal sponsorship, to persuade the council to vote for MF-4 zoning.
- d. At the last two general meetings it was announced that the Austin City Council does not give equal consideration to mass mailings and personalized messages of opinion sent by individuals.
More consideration is given to individual communications.

3. MEMBERSHIP LIST DISTRIBUTION

- a. Concern about privacy of personal information (address, phone, email) has been expressed by several people who have filled out that information on the membership/ dues form.
Privacy is an important issue. It might be good to bring this concern before the next meeting:
 1. Should NSCNA allow public access to membership information?
 2. What information should be released (full name, address email, phone)?
 3. Should membership information be released only to members, or should nonmembers have access to it?
 4. Should distribution of the membership list be permitted for activities other than official business?
 5. New membership forms may have to be devised, based upon the consensus at the May general meeting, which would indicate members' option of keeping their information private; and members who already used the old forms would be contacted by telephone in order to determine their opinions on this issue.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

A. C14-2014-0157 ZONING ISSUE SHARON JUSTICE REPORTED THE FOLLOWING

1. Kevin Wier has met with all the city council members, but not with the mayor. He is optimistic that our request for MF-4 will be honored, but does not have any firm commitment from any city council members changing their support to our request. In the past Steven Zettner (Sustainable Neighborhoods), Laura Pressley, Kenneth Webb, and Sharon Justice have accompanied Kevin during these meetings.
2. When Sharon and Kenneth Webb last met with developer, Mr. Sackman, and his attorney, Mr. Gilmore, she asked why Mr. Sackman agreed to 225 units instead of his original 300. Mr. Sackman replied that he was caught off-guard during the meeting because he did not think city council would approve his zoning request if he did not concede to less density.
3. The second (and third?) reading will be on April 16, since another activity is planned by the city council on April 9.

B. PAID CONSULTANT

Since NSCNA has a balance of over \$41,000.00, it may benefit the organization to hire a consultant to research city code and regulations that apply to our zoning issue. The Rosedale neighborhood association put together a summary of that type which worked successfully in their bid before city council. Melissa Zone might be an appropriate person to research this. Time is running out. Sharon Justice said that she would try to contact a Rosedale neighborhood representative in order to determine if something similar to what they did would benefit NSCNA regarding the zoning issue.

C. ZONING WEBSITE

Lois McEvoy presented zoning maps and an email address that would be useful in tracking Austin zoning issues:
[ftp://ftp.ci.austin.tx.us/GIS-Data/Regional/zoning.maps/zoning maps.html](ftp://ftp.ci.austin.tx.us/GIS-Data/Regional/zoning.maps/zoning%20maps.html)

VII. NEW BUSINESS

Board Member Levi Bullock resigned due to health issues. Everyone expressed disappointment that we will not see him; he had wonderful ideas; and he will be missed.

VIII. MEETING ADJOURNED at 8:10 pm.