

North Shoal Creek Neighborhood Association
P.O. Box 66443
Austin, Texas 78766-0443
General Membership Meeting
May 3, 2016, 6:37 pm
Pillow Elementary School Cafetorium

I. CALL TO ORDER

President Amelia Cobb conducted the meeting. Secretary Barbara Gaston recorded the proceedings.

II. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE LAST GENERAL MEETING

Jeri Wines (Sharon Justice) moved that minutes of the last general meeting be approved with one amendment. Motion carried.

III. GUEST SPEAKERS were introduced by Amelia Cobb:

A. Martha Stuber, Executive Director of Drive-a Senior, West Austin

The main objective of this organization is to keep seniors in their homes as long as they want to be there. Drivers can find an application on *driveasenior.org*. They are subject to background checks, must provide references, and have a thirty minute training session. Drivers are covered under the agency's insurance policy, up to \$1,000,000. Funds for this project are obtained through donations, grants, and Tarrytown United Methodist Church provides free office space. There are only two persons who run the office. Everyone else is a volunteer.

This week seventy-five rides have been scheduled. Drivers only assist clients into and out of cars. No heavy lifting is expected of them. All services are provided free.

Our area has the largest concentration of elderly citizens in Austin. For many the bus is not an option due to their mobility impairments. Many of the clients have no family. They can request services any time at any frequency.

Volunteers choose dates and times they will be willing to provide rides from a list that will be emailed to them weekly. Volunteers can be as active as they desire, and can provide as many, or few, rides as they are able.

B. Virginia Larson, Family Eldercare

Services provided include in-home care; transportation to medical appointments; in-home counselling; money managing services; veterans assistance; and guardianship. Every contact with a client allows staff or volunteers to evaluate individual needs and to offer services. Some volunteers adopt a client. Clients usually are 200% below poverty (\$1,300 a month.)

Case managers always bring a get-well card when they visit clients in a hospital.

Birthday and holiday cards are sent to every client. Volunteers often make the cards.

Heat exhaustion is a great problem during the long summer months. The agency's fan drive distributed 6,313 fans last summer. Each home can receive two fans. Distributing the fans also gives agency representatives opportunities to inform people about Family Eldercare services.

Fan Drives collect the fans. Team Drives to obtain the fans can involve any types of fund raisers.

Final copy of the minutes of the 5/3/16 NSCNA General Meeting submitted by Secretary Barbara Gaston and approved by the General Membership on 9/6/16.

IV. OLD BUSINESS: NEIGHBORHOOD SURVEY RESULTS

Amelia Cobb reported that there was an error in the Post Office Box return information. The post office was notified of the error and was requested to forward the surveys that were involved. NSCNA may have missed several surveys because of this error. Seven paper copies and eighty-three on-line copies were returned. Ms. Cobb offered additional paper copies to be completed by anyone whose survey was returned. These need to be completed before the end of this meeting. The on-line survey is closed. The survey revealed the topics of most neighbors' concern: development, safety and traffic. Survey summaries were forwarded to all committee chairpersons.

V. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. TREASURER

Donna Eagar presented the treasurer's report. Dallas Maham (Kevin Wier) moved that it be accepted. Motion carried.

B. BEAUTIFICATION

Mary Jane Wier reported that the survey showed that respondents were interested in a dog park, a community garden, a neighborhood park, and programs on informational subjects such as composting. Her committee started out to determine "what we have." NSCNA has very limited land mass upon which to put anything. She asked the president/general manager of KVUE-TV, who owns a strip of land behind the TV station, if NSCNA could partner with them to develop a dog park. The manager said "absolutely not," because of the potential liability involved. A city staff person told Ms. Wier that development on private land would be permissible, but NSCNA would not receive financial help from the city.

C. SOCIAL

Amelia Cobb reported for Brian Cobb. Almost thirty homes participated in the garage sale last Saturday. The next social event will be the July 4th celebration, and she passed around a roster for volunteer signatures. She suggested that a fan drive might be included in the festivities. Volunteers are needed and welcome.

D. MEDIA

Sharon Justice announced that plans are to distribute the newsletter on the weekend of June 11 & 12. Deadline for advertisers was to have been May 15, but all advertising slots are already filled. Deadline for articles is May 21.

E. DEVELOPMENT

Kevin Wier reported that recent activities of interest to NSCNA involve Austin Oaks, Code Next, and our Neighborhood Plan.

Brian Brandon spoke about Austin Oaks. The last charrette involved a week long series of meetings regarding planning involving neighborhood representatives and the developer. The three main concerns of NSCNA and other neighborhood organizations involve traffic, trees, and build-height. NSCNA was unhappy with the resulting decisions made at the meetings and our representatives signed a resolution against those decisions. During the next meeting nothing happened in our favor and some of the developer's responses to our issues worsened.

Regarding the issue of building height, the developer will now measure using mean sea level and retains the right to raise building height up to ten stories along MOPAC.

Regarding traffic, currently MOPAC sees 4,500 car trips daily; the projected volume of traffic after this development is completed is 15,000. The developer has stated that there are no plans to mitigate traffic on the southwest corner of Anderson/Spicewood Springs and MOPAC because this development is not impacting that traffic.

Regarding trees, more are to be removed than was originally planned at the beginning of the charrettes. (Protected trees have diameters of 19-23"; heritage trees have diameters of 23" or more. The developer plans to remove some of each size.) The development committee is working with city council members Pool and Gallo in an effort to engage the developer in more dialogue.

Kevin Wier spoke about Code Next. At last night's meeting the focus was on producing Prescription Papers vs Code Speak. The Prescription Papers represent an effort by the city to communicate in language that is easier to understand by the general public than the technical wording that appears in Code Speak documents. The city plans to complete work on the Land Development Code by 12/16/16 and to submit it to city council sometime in January 2017. This is our opportunity to get involved.

He also spoke about our Neighborhood Plan. We are one of the few neighborhoods without such a plan that projects our views as to how we want our neighborhood to look in the future. The city will start planning meetings in June. The neighborhood plans already in place took two years to develop; ours is scheduled to take six months. NSCNA participation in this is vital to assuring that our neighborhood receives a plan and that city staff honor it.

Kenneth Webb announced that in the near future construction will begin at the corner of Rockwood and Steck. City staff will be converting the sewer line from 12" to 15" in order to accommodate the apartment complex on Burnet Road.

VI. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- A. Pillow School principal Brian Hill reported that June 3 is the last day of school. Work on the library should be completed in time for summer vacation. Staff will be moving in next week. Beginning tomorrow side- walks will be leveled. He thanked NSCNA for participating in Pillow's table sales last Saturday. Profits will go toward providing each school child with ten or eleven books. The school is always collecting books, which may be deposited in the front office. The canopy was damaged by wind and will be replaced in about six to eight weeks. It is on order now and he hopes that it will have been installed by July4.
- B. Amelia Cobb announced that she wants to involve volunteers in a "Meeting Sign Squad" who will be sponible for putting out signs that announce NSCNA general meetings. Volunteers would keep the signs at their homes when they are not in use.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Amelia Cobb said that NSCNA will communicate on Facebook, the web site, and Nextdoor time, date, and location of the Neighborhood Plan meetings. She thinks that these meetings will be in the mornings. She spoke with city staff Mark Walters who indicated that the city plans to finish this process by 9/30/16.
- B. Amelia Cobb announced that, since Evelin Nunes resigned, there is a vacant position on the NSCNA board. At this time of year a replacement volunteer would be approved by the board with a vote for approval at the next general meeting. The next board meeting is May 17.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT at 8 pm