

North Shoal Creek Neighborhood Association
Special Board Meeting
March 16, 2010
North Village Branch Library, 2505 Steck Ave.

The meeting was called to order at 6:37 PM.

Attendance: Ken Moyer (Vice President), Kate Brien (Secretary), Lois McEvoy (Treasurer), Andreas Guenin, Vicki McFadden, Sherran Williams, and Mary Arnett (special guest)

Excused Absence: Chip Rosenthal, Alyssa Hedge, Don Jones, and Mary Jane Wier;
Unexcused Absence: Cheri Hartman

Call to Order and Adoption of Agenda

The proposed agenda was modified to allow Mary Arnett to present information regarding neighborhood sidewalks. This item was added as the fifth item on the agenda. After making the modification, Vicki motioned to adopt the agenda, and the agenda was adopted by consent.

Speaker Nathan Lenss from Frost Insurance (Insurer for TX Association of Non-profit Directions and Officers)

Several directors are concerned about liability issues and felt that the board needs to discuss and research the possibility of purchasing liability insurance. The special meeting was triggered by a proposed NSCNA event for March 25th that involved alcohol and at least 4 board members wanted to begin discussions and research now rather than waiting for April. The proposed beer tasting event hosted by a brewery stated that NSCNA was a sponsor. Now, the website states that NSCNA neighbors are invited.

Nathan Lenss presented information on 2 types of insurance: General Liability and Directors and Officers Liability. General Liability includes property damage, personal injury, and defense coverage (covers the cost of defending a law suit). General liability covers third parties; it does not cover personal injury to members and volunteers. General liability applies to events that are similar to the regular participation; events that attract larger populations would not be covered. If the board wants members and volunteers to be covered, we would have to consider another option. Personal liability at events would be covered by the Directors and Officers Liability. This policy would cover directors, board members, and volunteers. We would need to make sure the policy covers employees suing employees (this covers volunteers suing each other). Most homeowners associations have Directors and Officers Liability.

The minimum premium for general liability is \$350 for the year. The price is based on due paying members and will probably be under \$1,000 for the year. Directors were concerned over the higher end of the price estimate. The cost for Directors and Officers Liability is based on the number of officers and directors as well as the NSCNA net

worth. Nathan Lenss estimated that it would cost NSCNA about \$1,000 to purchase General Liability and Directors and Officers Liability insurance. If we wanted to renew next year, it would be a 1 page renewal as long as the membership was similar.

For social events such as the Fourth of July, we need to make sure we are on the insurance policy of the vendors and contractors if we do not have a NSCNA liability policy. We need to check with Pillow Elementary and Parks and Recreation to see if we are required to show proof of insurance to host an event at the park. In past years, we have not had to show insurance.

It was reported that Allendale Neighborhood Association purchases event insurance for their July 4th celebration for \$350. We need to examine what NSCNA used for a special events policy last year.

Since there were not enough board members present at the meeting for a voting quorum,, Lois suggested that “At the next Board of Directors Meeting, we present the Board of Directors with a recommendation to create a committee to explore insurance.” The suggestion was adopted by consent.

Communication Among Directors Between Meetings

There was a complaint about the number of e-mails being sent to the entire board. It was suggested that committee members can work together and then communicate with the board as necessary. To help reduce the number of e-mails, but still maintain a transparent leadership, there was a discussion about asking each committee chair to create a 2010 action plan. The committee chairs could report their plans and progress on their plans at Board of Directors meetings.

There were also concerns about the availability of board members and officers for communication and their responses to issues. Another concern was about e-mails including complaints regarding other people.

Since there were not enough board members present at the meeting for a voting quorum, Kate suggested that “At the next Board of Directors Meeting, we present the Board of Directors with a recommendation to discuss communication and establish a protocol for committees to create action plans.” The suggestion was adopted by consent.

Bylaws: Social Events to be approved by Board

The NCNA bylaws state that all social events need to be approved by the board.

Neighborhood Sidewalks – Mary Arnett

Last year, a NSCNA resident fell and broke her wrist due to the poor condition of the sidewalks. Mary arranged a group of volunteers to survey sidewalks and record the locations of issues. Mary contacted the City of Austin regarding repairs and areas that are missing sidewalks. She is pushing for concrete repairs, not asphalt.

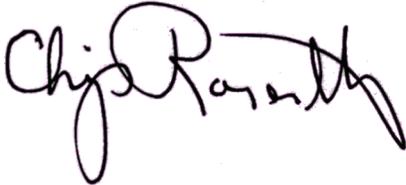
Dr. Mike Curtis met with Mary to survey the neighborhood. He e-mailed Mary with responses for fixing the most severe issues and the missing sections of sidewalks. The fast way to get these repairs done and install sidewalks in the missing sections is to participate in the neighborhood cost sharing program (NSCNA would provide some money to get the repairs started and then the city would pay the remaining cost). The neighborhood cost sharing program should go before the city council soon and will hopefully be approved.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 pm.

Submitted by: Kate Brien, Secretary

Approved:

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Chip Rosenthal". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent initial "C".

Chip Rosenthal
President