

North Shoal Creek Neighborhood Association  
P.O. Box 66443  
Austin, Texas 78766-0443  
General Membership Meeting  
September 6, 2016, 6:30 pm  
Pillow Elementary School Cafetorium

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

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

**II. REVIEW OF MINUTES OF THE 5/3/16 GENERAL MEETING AND CURRENT TREASURER'S REPORT**

Kevin Wier (Tara Bowman) moved that both be approved. Motion carried.

**III. NEIGHBORHOOD SAFETY AND CRIME WATCH**

Officer Daryl Grayson was ill and unable to attend. Roger Wines, Safety Committee Chairman, presented information about Safety in the Neighborhood and Neighborhood Watch. Among the topics discussed were home safety, severe weather response, emergency preparedness, and emergency phone numbers. Volunteers had opportunities to learn and participate more by registering for different related programs.

**IV. NEIGHBORHOOD PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM (NPP)**

Sarah Brandon presented a slide show. The Beautification Committee is working toward projects involving NPP. The NPP involves organized citizen groups partnering with the city for the purpose of improving neighborhoods through various projects. Financing of the projects is shared by the city and the citizen group. There are two ways the citizen group would share payment with the city: actual dollars and "sweat equity" which involves actual physical labor and financial credit for man hours performed. Any application must go through a number of authorizing agencies and offices before it is approved. This is a lengthy process. The Beautification Committee will bundle all proposed projects into one application. The deadline for application to the city for this program is October 1.

Based upon the neighborhood survey, residents expressed primary interest in beautification and safety. In conjunction with this, the committee has focused on creating a community garden and neighborhood sidewalk/safety.

A community garden is planned in partnership with Pillow School. Its location will be at the SW corner of Pillow property and will include 22 plots, limestone benches, and native plants.

Plans are to donate some of the produce to families of Pillow students.

NSCNA's expressed need for additional sidewalks takes low priority on city budgeting and plans. The committee has not finalized ideas pertaining to sidewalks, but is interested in member input as to safety and possible traffic

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calming methods. Beautification of bridges in our neighborhood could potentially assist/address traffic calming through a compatible design. There are many decorated bridges in other areas of Austin, and there are fourteen bridges at 7 sites in our neighborhood. This is another possibility that NSCNA could pursue as part of NPP.

President Amelia Cobb announced that she is calling a special meeting of the general membership of NSCNA on September 21, at Pillow School, 6:30-8:00 pm, for the purpose of discussing these matters further. This will allow time before the October 1 NPP application deadline for the members of the Beautification Committee and the Board of Directors to openly and transparently present their proposals to the general membership. A vote by NSCNA members would involve approval/disapproval of the various proposed projects and the method of payment for those projects.

**V. PILLOW ELEMENTARY REPORT**

Principal Brian Hill said that AISD Superintendent Dr. Paul Cruz visited Pillow and was pleased with all that is taking place. Pillow's special focus this year is on literacy and social emotional learning. A No Place for Hate program is in place. A new Shakespeare program for fourth and fifth graders and a parent support group have been implemented. Recess has returned to Pillow with thirty minutes daily of unstructured play, plus an extra twenty minutes in which children run supervised on the track. STAR scores have improved in math, reading, writing and science without focus on the process of test taking. A recent survey indicated that parents and teachers are happier with things that are happening on campus. The new A/C system is working well and is going through final testing before control is turned over to central AISD.. There were several complaints about the noise from construction. Mr. Hill will listen to complaints, but the person who is ultimately responsible for problem solving can be found at [zackpearce.austin.org](http://zackpearce.austin.org). An invitation was extended to all present to view the new library after the meeting. Principal Hill said that all are welcome to attend any of Pillow's events.

## **VI. DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE REPORT**

- A.** Brian Brandon reported that the Austin Oaks development is going through the city approval process. The developer has not abided by the rules set out by Code Next regarding tree removal, building height, and traffic mitigation, and wants instead to implement a Planned Unit Development (PUD) under different rules. Concerned citizens should email city council members their concerns.
- Kevin Wier reported that there will be a Neighborhood Plan Meeting on October 1, at Pillow School, 9am-12 noon. Breakfast tacos will be served. This is the main building block of future Austin development. The city will then develop a Future Land Use Map (FLUM) which will determine what types of development will be allowed. Everyone's input is important and all in the neighborhood are urged to attend.
- B.** Kevin Wier said that Code Next is Austin's attempt to rewrite the land development code. Small area plans, including neighborhood plans, will be considered. Planning will be context sensitive, which means that one size does not fit all areas, and that the history and context of individual neighborhoods will be taken into consideration. Our neighborhood plan is scheduled to be completed by January 2017.

## **VII. BYLAWS AMENDMENTS**

Kenneth Webb presented six amendments approved by the Bylaws Committee which will be discussed and voted on by the General Membership at the November General Meeting. In addition to the printed copies of the amendments given to meeting participants, these proposed amendments can be found at the NSCNA website ([www.nscna.org](http://www.nscna.org)) under the sections titled ABOUT and COMMITTEES.

## **VIII. NOMINATING COMMITTEE**

Kevin Wier (Sharon Justice) moved that the following volunteers be approved as members of the Nominating Committee: Mike Yetter, Lauren Werchan, Kenneth Webb, Sarah Brandon, and Brian Brandon. Motion carried.

## **IX. NEW BUSINESS**

- A. Allandale Estates Sign**  
Amelia Cobb announced that she and Kenneth Webb met with the new owners of the land on which the sign is placed. The owners appeared to be open to NSCNA's interest in beautification of that area.
- B. Special Meeting** is announced here for a second time to stress the importance of having a good attendance on September 21, 6:30 – 8:00 pm at Pillow School for the purpose of discussing and deciding upon the recommendations of the Beautification Committee.

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**C. Election Committee**

Amelia Cobb announced that four members are needed to serve on the Election Committee. The general membership will elect these four people during the November General Meeting. Volunteers are needed.

**X. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Councilwoman Leslie Pool announced that she is running for re-election and that her campaign kick-off celebration will be on Thursday, September 8 at 6 p m at Casa Chapala Restaurant. She provided yard signs and flyers pertaining to her candidacy.

She reported that the city council has been busy and is looking for a new city manager. City electric rates have been reduced, and the city is investigating terminating their contract with the Fayette Power Plant and possible closure of the plant by 2023. Fayette is a major polluter and does not comply with Austin's Clean Air ideology. "Build A Better Burnet" will occur from on Sunday, Sept 11 am-5 pm. Purpose of this get-together is to obtain citizen input as to how to make the Burnet Road area more livable. The website for further information on events is [d7atx.com](http://d7atx.com).

**XI. ADJOURNMENT** at 8:05 pm