

**OWANA Steering Committee  
Special Meeting  
February 22, 2002**

Members in Attendance: Mike Whisenhunt, Margaret Bruch, Nancy Toelle, Saralyn Stewart, Katy O'Neill, Laura Morrison, Daniel Traverso,

Guests: Marjorie Moore, Hector Uribe, Aimee Giammo

Margaret called the meeting to order at 6:45pm.

General discussion occurred surrounding the interrelated points on the agenda, which included:

1. Response to Toby Futrell/ Meeting Plans and Preferences
2. Position Statement on Neighborhood Plan Implementation
3. Incorporation of clear statement addressing safety concerns and plan to address in implementation of NP
4. Incorporation of clear statement addressing evaluation of success/failure of trial period
5. Decision on Hector Uribe's offer to represent OWANA

The current agenda for the General Membership Meeting on March 5, 2002, calls for Toby Futrell, Acting City Manager, and Jesus Oliveras, Director of PARD, to attend for discussion with OWANA members. Margaret had been contacted by Ms. Futrell, who suggested that additional city representatives appear at the meeting. It was agreed that the invitation to appear before the OWANA General Meeting on March 5, 2002 would be limited to Ms. Futrell and Mr. Oliveras.

The Steering Committee (SC) agreed that its focus at the March General Meeting will be to determine what PARD will do to support and implement the OWANA Neighborhood Plan, (as called for in the Neighborhood Plan), in particular with respect to Action Item #77 (concerning a trial period for a leash-free area in West Austin Park).

It was agreed that the SC will request a meeting with Toby Futrell prior to the March General Meeting. The agenda of this pre-meeting will include the following points: to establish what will happen at the March General Meeting; to state the SC's position on the implementation of the Neighborhood Plan; and to understand Ms. Futrell's position on Action Item #77 in the Neighborhood Plan. Attendees of this meeting will be SC members Margaret Bruch, Mike Whisenhunt, and Nancy Toelle, as well as Marjorie Moore, from the Parks Subcommittee.

It was agreed that Margaret will draft an official statement of purpose for the SC concerning the Neighborhood Plan Implementation vis-a-vis the upcoming general meeting. Other members of the SC will review and provide comments on the draft. This

statement will be taken to the pre-meeting with Toby Futrell and delivered to the OWANA membership at the March Meeting.

A discussion addressed potential positions that Hector Uribe could fill in providing assistance to the SC and OWANA, including attorney for the SC/OWANA, consultant, or member of the Parks Subcommittee. It was agreed that Hector will assist the SC as a consultant.

A detailed implementation and evaluation plan for Action Item #77 from the Neighborhood Plan will be developed. In addition to the efforts already made in this regard by the Canine Social Club, SC will solicit inputs from those who have raised specific concerns about the safety issues involved in the leash-free concept. Margaret Bruch will contact Mike Quirk to request his participation and/or suggestions of other names to provide such input.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00pm.