

February 2011 OWANA STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING

Monday, February 7, 2011 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM

Old West Austin Neighborhood Association

Pauline Brown/Clarksville Neighborhood Center 1807 W. 11TH Street

I. The meeting was called to order by Paul Seals at 7:00pm

Steering Committee (SC) members present: Paul Seals, George Warmingham, Christine Buendel, Larry Halford, Brooke Bailey, John Michael Seeber, Marion Cimbala, Mike Sullivan, John Teinert, Kurt Sauer, Christopher Rankin.

Visitor: Laura Porcaro, OWANA member

Apologies received from: Veryan Thompson and Scott Marks

II. The minutes were approved (9 in favor, 2 abstained-Brooke Bailey and George Warmingham)

III. Discussion of Town Lake Animal Shelter Brooke Bailey asked for resolution of continued support for the Animal Shelter. Paul Seals recommended a meeting between OWANA and new shelter director to discuss the future of the Town Lake Animal Shelter. This will be an agenda item at the General Membership meeting on March 1st as a vote for a resolution for continued support to keep open as an adoption center. Brooke to check minutes from GM meeting from '06 or '07 to get initial results of vote that concluded in support to keep the animal shelter at the lake.

IV. Update on 5th/6th Sts. Corridor

Mike Sullivan reported that sub-committee meetings are taking place this week and will review deliverables at the next 5th/6th meeting Thursday, 2/10/2011. At January's 5th/6th meeting Jennifer Wiebrand, of the Gables, stated her position to not lobby against W. 5th and 6th Streets as a possibility for access to the proposed managed lanes on Mopac. Her position comes from her tenants not wanting a decrease in traffic passing by their store fronts.

V. ANC Report and Discussion of proposed ANC resolutions on local historic districts and permanent supportive housing. Laura Porcaro attended the ANC meeting and suggested sending the minutes to the OWANA yahoo group each month. February's ANC Executive committee meeting agenda will include a discussion of the school's district potential plans to close neighborhood schools. ANC March 23rd meeting will hold a special meeting devoted to a forum with the candidates running for City Council. Meeting minutes attached regarding the two proposed resolutions above.

VI. Treasurer's Report

No report was available. Paul Seals asked for a SC member to be the treasurer, but no one volunteered. Since the Steering Committee meeting, Brooke Bailey volunteered to be Treasurer.

VII. Committee Reports

A. Zoning and Land Use – Larry Halford offered to CHAIR this committee. Since Jean Stevens took over as NPCT city notices get mailed to her instead of Larry. Jean lives across the street from Larry so this city directory mix up is not an issue. Brooke Bailey wants to officially join the ZC, but wants to recuse herself from any waterfront property cases due to her position on the Waterfront Overlay Board. Discussion about opposing variances or design styles on all “contributing homes” was brought up by Brooke. Kurt Sauer disagreed and felt should be handled on a case by case basis. Marion Cimbala wants to be more educated on the National Register Historic District if she's asked to oppose a neighbor's plan. The neighborhood plan addresses Historic Preservation and Brooke will revisit to get verbiage and send to all SC members.

1315 W. 6th Street – Applicant encountered problems with their site development application to City of Austin, primarily with front setback of deck from property line. City recommended Applicant apply for another zoning change that would allow the reduced front setback and remain consistent with the Restrictive Covenant agreed upon with OWANA. Site plan review is in progress. Reported and no action taken

1618 Confederate Avenue NRD-2010-0163 (Contributing, SF3) Proposal: Demolish the back wall of the house and construct a two-story rear addition. The applicant is retaining the Craftsman/Classical Revival style of the front facade. HLC passed this case on consent. Applicant has applied for building permit, no variance was requested, and no further reviews anticipated.

1211 Lorrain St - Proposal: Add a second story and completely reconfigure the existing house and construct a new guest house in the rear. HLC urged the applicants to keep the existing home in its original Cape Cod influence by limiting addition to the rear of the home. Landmark Commission did not take action and their comments were recommendations only. Applicant went before BOA Oct 11th for three variance requests; 1) decrease minimum front street setback from 20 to 15 feet in order to construct a covered porch, 2) decrease minimum side street setback from 15 to 10 feet in order to construct a second story addition to a single family residence, and 3) from 15 to 11'-9 in order to construct an accessory building (carport with guest house deck above). BOA granted variances.

1406 Hartford – The applicant requested a variance to decrease the minimum front street setback requirement of Section 25-2-492 (D) from 25 feet to 0 feet in order to erect a detached carport for a single- family residence in an “SF-3-NP”, Family Residence –

Neighborhood Plan zoning district. Board of Adjustment public hearing was conducted in Dec and variance was denied. Applicant appealed to Board of Adjustment for reconsideration in January and BOA again denied the variance.

Enfield – Pleiades Condo – Partially constructed condominium project is under new ownership. The new owner has indicated they would not be using the variance approved by Board of Adjustment for an additional stair in rear setback. Revised building plans are anticipated to be available in March. Project is still anticipated to be sold as condos. Selective demo has begun and new construction will begin once revised design permits are issued.

B. Parks – Marion Cimbala offered to CHAIR this committee

The Parks Dept. conducted a walk-through on February 3rd with members of the FWAP (Friends of West Austin Park). Jeff Larson, new PARD Grounds District Manager, created an entire list of repairs and upgrades for both WAP and MBP in complete detail with photos and recommendations. FWAP will use this list and incorporate into Master Plan. Jeff also compiled a project list for both parks and the community garden for It's My Parks Day which will be held on March 2nd. Marion has set up entries for all three sites so volunteers can sign up directly online. Marion invited all SC members to join one of four functional committees for FWAP and/or join online group to stay informed on WAP progress.

C. Affordable Housing – Christine Buendel and Scott Marks CO-CHAIR this committee. They are looking at a proposal for funding options through a third party company to lend out the \$300K at a low rate for projects. Stated that CCDC would be exempt from underwriting Kurt Sauer felt all recipients should be underwritten. The contract would spell out that the money must be loaned within OWANA territory and the third party would receive a 10% fee for services. Mike Sullivan brought up just giving the money to CCDC or at least half and not have the \$300K on our books any longer. Christine presented copy of contract to SC members and asked to read it for clarity before rejecting proposal. (see attached)

D. Historic Preservation – no report

E. Traffic and Safety – Mike Sullivan offered to CHAIR this committee. Bike racks that were replaced at Mathews are in a high pedestrian traffic area at West Lynn/W. 9 1/2. After lengthy discussion Mike asked Kurt to put on agenda “consider different location for bike racks” at next Campus Advisory Council (CAC) meeting. Kurt felt the racks could be placed in back fenced in area so bike theft is less of an issue.

F. Membership –

George Warmingham offered to CHAIR this committee. The goals of this committee are to go paperless, increase membership by 50%, and make general meetings more sociable.

The Bylaws do not state that a business member must be inside OWANA boundary therefore opening up to outside companies was discussed. Membership committee will present additional options at GM meeting including a 3rd residential membership option for 5 years at \$80 which equates to one year free. Marion Cimbala made a motion to “approve another level of membership and take recommendation to the GM on March 1st meeting for a vote”. John Teinert second the motion. Marion inquired about electronic voting and online discussion to support parents who would like to be members, vote, but can’t get to evening meetings. Kurt will check Bylaws to see if it’s an option before anymore discussion takes place.

G. Community Events – Christine Buendel offered to CHAIR this committee and will work with the Membership committee to host membership drives. The Good Times Event will not be chaired by OWANA this year. It was suggested by Paul Seals to go to the business owners to see if someone else would like to chair since this event was started by the businesses on West Lynn not OWANA. See schedule of events attached.

H. Bylaws – Kurt Sauer agreed to CHAIR this committee.

I. Newsletter/Website – Chris Rankin and John Michael Seeber CO-CHAIR this committee and are meeting this week to redesign the website. Bi-monthly member email distribution was discussed to inform neighbors of upcoming events, notices, city announcements to better communicate with paid members. There is currently a Facebook page for OWANA that they will work on. Goal is to publish The Owl online only. Deadline for submissions to the newsletter is February 15th.

VIII. Other Business and Announcements - none

IX. The meeting was adjourned at 9:09pm.