**Minutes for…**

**Feb 2019 Steering Committee Meeting
Feb 5, 2019, 7:00pm-9:00pm**
**Cover 3**

Call to Order (7:10pm)

In attendance

* Ted Barnhill: Chair
* Renae Alsobrook: Treasurer
* Orlando Castillo: Events Chair
* Sinikka Green: Membership Chair
* Marissa Latta: Affordable Housing Chair
* Ellu Nasser: Parks Chair
* Erin Thomson: Zoning Chair
* Sean Williams: Secretary
* Denise Younger
* Ellen Justice: Zoning Vice Chair
* Scott Marks
* Mike Sullivan
1. Approval of Minutes
2. Treasurers report
3. Affordable Housing

We have been operating under the assumption that we have $50,000 to spend. Scott and CCDC have reached a rough agreement about this number. Next steps are to do more outreach to get more applications. We will reach out to the Mathews community.

1. Events

Movie night on the second Sat in March! It will probably Lego Batman, and include a Lego related contest before the movie. Grande is sponsoring movie nights, and has donated around $4,000.

We are also working on a charity event for Mathews, perhaps in May.

We will continue to have a tiered sponsorship system.

1. Membership

Planning a membership push with a door to door campaign to help neighbors understand what OWANA does. We may also develop a bumper sticker that will come with a membership.

We discussed what we might post on the OWANA site, and how to ensure we don’t send too many emails to members.

1. Parks

The shade structure is being installed over the pool later this month.

We are now beginning to think about creating an amphitheater in the park.

“It’s my park day” is coming up in March.

Scott discussed the possibility of renaming West Austin Park, perhaps after the Overton family. We also discussed the possibility of putting up a kiosk where we can place historic information about the park and its structures.

(OWANA generally lets CCDC control Mary Baylor Park.)

Things are moving forward with Palma Plaza Park.

Motion to support gathering more information on Richard Overton III and his connection with the park in order to generate a bio and to make a presentation to the general membership meeting in March. We will ask the general membership meeting whether they want to begin the process of renaming the park. Seconded. Passed.

1. Neighborhood Plan

Mike discussed the possibility of revaluating the neighborhood plan, which is the suggested practice. Scott mentioned that the city does not really pay attention to the neighborhood plan, and some city politicians want to eliminate them anyway.

Erin mentioned that updating our neighborhood priorities (even if not the plan) might help us in upcoming zoning battles like those surrounding CodeNEXT. It could have value to also highlight the ways that the city has ignored our neighborhood plan for 20 years.

Denise volunteered to start the process of looking at the current plan and developing some new priorities.

As a housekeeping matter, Scott mentioned that we need to update the names of the people the city should contact on neighborhood matters.

1. Zoning (aka Neighborhood Planning Team)
2. Erin noted that the new name was not popular with the “Neighborhood Planning Team.” The Team will work on a name that they like and get back to the Steering Committee.
3. 1013 Blanco is almost all demolished; only a partial shell is there. He received a partial demo permit, which gave him permission to demo all but the front porch, which he demolished. The Team will propose some guidelines to help with compliance. The HLC seems to have no compliance mechanisms at the moment.
4. A pair of properties on 6th and Theresa have permission to demolish. They are looking for a zoning change to allow mixed use. That property uses an alley, and the rest of the people who use that alley don't want it to become commercial. They want the alley to remain for residential use only. The neighbors are also against the zoning change more generally. This may be a future battle.
5. Cumby’s projects seem to be delayed.
6. 1313 12th wants to update the house and change the front porch. The Team voted to support the project, pending the HLC’s confirmation that changing the porch won’t threaten the status of the house as contributing.
7. Sinikka and Erin talked with some neighbors about historic signage. Hyde Park was able to do it, but only because they were part of an LHD. CCDC is also looking into historic signage as well.

Adjourn: 8:45pm