**Minutes for…**

**December 2019 General Membership Meeting
December 3, 2019, 7:00pm-9:00pm**
**Mathews School Cafeteria (906 West Lynn at West 9th)**

**I. Call to Order 7:05**

**II. Approval of Minutes**

Approved June and September minutes.

**III. Treasurer’s Report**

We will approve a budget at the next membership meeting.

**IV. Announcements/New Business**

1. **OWANA Parks Committee / Friends of West Austin Park - Presentation**

Chris Schorre and Ellu Nasser presented the vision for West Austin Park. It includes a second play area for kids and an adult “conversation corner” with a Petanque court. They are seeking OWANA support for the general idea, and feedback on the specifics.

Motion to write letter in support of the general project. Seconded. Passed unanimously.

1. **Wendy Davis came to talk about her candidacy for Congress**

She lives in the neighborhood. She started a non-profit called Deeds Not Words with chapters all over the state. She came to seek our support for her Congressional run.

1. **2020 OWANA Steering Committee - Nominations/Vote**

Motion to allow Ted to serve another year as Chair. Seconded. Passed unanimously.

Mike discussed the nominees for the new Steering Committee.

1. Marissa Latta
2. Denise Younger
3. Ellen Justice
4. Renae Alsobrook
5. Amy Bodle
6. Linsey Heron
7. Ted Barnhill
8. Christine Buendel
9. Shawn Shillington
10. Sandy Cartwright
11. Kate Ertle
12. Adrienne Goldsberry
13. Andrea March

Seconded. Passed unanimously.

1. **Land Development Code Revision - Discussion**

Fred Lewis from Community Not Commodity came to speak about the LDC. State law gives properties protest rights with regards to rezoning. If a certain number of neighbors object, a ¾ council vote is required instead of a majority vote. The City has decided not to recognize protest rights to comprehensive revisions. Accordingly, it would only take a majority to do a comprehensive rezoning (6 votes). The City’s position is that comprehensive rezoning is akin to new zoning rather than a change in zoning. State law does not have this exception for comprehensive rezoning, at least according to the majority of the relevant court cases. They have raised $35,000 for a litigation fund of the necessary $50,000 to sue the city.

*Go to FileYourProtest.com before they pass the final vote on the rezoning maps in order to preserve your rights by objecting to all rezoning of property within 200 feet of you.*

If you send the protest through the mail, the city will refuse to accept it and it will be returned to you.

Rosemary noted that the LDC’s preservation incentive is far too lenient.

Maureen made a motion that OWANA donate $3000 to the litigation fund that Community Not Commodity has created. Seconded. Passed. (37 for, 3 against, 1 abstain).

**V. Committee Reports**

1. **Affordable Housing – Marissa**

OWANA has about $50,000 for affordable housing for people with some connection to the neighborhood. The organization that has managed these funds indicated that they can no longer do so. OWANA also has loaned money in the past, and this organization used to service those loans but can no longer do so.

Motion to grant the Marissa and Scott the authority to transfer management of those funds and loans. Seconded. Passed.

1. **Events**

Caroling! Activities start at 5pm Saturday Dec. 15th, Haskell House: 1703 Waterston.

1. **Zoning – Erin**

The Graffiti Park developer is planning to present to the Zoning Committee at noon on Thursday Dec 13. The meeting will be held at Austin Fine Properties, 1201 Baylor St.

**VI. Other Business and Announcements**

 **OWANA Volunteer Opportunities**

 **- OWL Editor**

 **- Business Membership Recruiter**

 **- Event Volunteers**

**VII. Adjourn 8:45.**