

Minutes of Meeting
Cherrywood Neighborhood Association Steering Committee

Date: Wednesday, April 10, 2019
Time: 6:30 p.m.
Location: Fannie Mae Stewart Community Conservancy 1902 E. 22nd Street

Present:

- Jim Reed, Chair
- Jeremy Klitzman, Vice Chair
- Allen Hah, Treasurer
- Sharon Lynch, Secretary/Recorder
- Jonathan Schwartz, Member
- Jules Vieau, Member
- Jim Walker, Member
- Girard Kinney, Member
- Stefan Schuster, Member

Absent:

- Matt Harriger, Member
- Evie Kling, Member

Minutes:

1. The meeting was called to order at 6:37 p.m. There is a quorum.
2. The agenda was distributed and adopted.
3. Girard Kinney spoke in the role of a **citizen communicator** and as a governing member of both Scenic Austin and Scenic Texas. The mission of these organizations is to maintain the beauty of both natural and built environment of Texas, including what is seen from the roadway. Billboards, especially digital billboards, are prohibited in Austin. A billboard is defined as any advertisement that promotes a product not sold on the premises. The City of Austin has accepted a request by AISD and Capital Metro to have signage and digital messaging at bus stops. The management of the messaging would be turned over to a company who would profit from the sale of advertising at the bus stops. This is a billboard, by definition. While it unlikely this can request can be stopped, it may be controlled. There will be three public hearings on the issue this month (4/16 9--11, 4/18 2:30--4:30 and 4/22 10:30--12:30) at One Texas Center. Girard urges participation and there will be meetings with Ann Kitchens.
4. Approval of previous Steering Committee meeting minutes is postponed. Jim will consult with Girard on some pending edits.
5. There were no Community Presenters at the meeting.
6. Reports of Officers and Steering Committee Programs.
 - a. Jim Reed gave the **Flea Report**. The Flea is 25 years old this year (and has never missed an issue!) and an article on its history will be presented in an edition later this year. Jim reviewed the contents of the edition that will come out at the end of this month and noted that is still room for more content. Some suggestions included bicycle safety, the CVS proposed at Manor and Airport and a memorial for Jessica Saathoff, Cherrywood resident and victim of a fatal bicycle/auto collision.
 - b. Allen Hah gave the **Treasurer's Report**. Current balance is \$2806.60. Net assets are \$1786.60. Not all ad space for the upcoming Flea edition are yet sold. Members are

reminded to reach out to local business they frequent for support and Jim R. suggested an email be sent to the Manor Business Bureau.

7. Reports of Committees and Neighborhood Projects:

- a. Jules Vieau gave an update on **ANC**. There was a presentation of dockless scooters at the last meeting which was similar to the presentation given at the last general meeting of the CNA and there is pending legislation on the use of these scooters. There was discussion of the City's current efforts on rezoning. Spencer Cronk, City Manager, attended the meeting. A memo was presented; Mr. Cronk requested clarification from Council on certain land use issues. He stated the code needs to be updated and the process needs to be simple and transparent. The Austin Tenants Council presented; a large percentage of Austin residents are renters. A visitor at the meeting requested an opportunity to attend a CNA general meeting to talk about gluten. The request was declined by the SC.
- b. Jim Walker gave an update on **UBC**. The meeting has been rescheduled to April 15. The updating of the UBCNA by-laws to meet current COA requirements has been the focus of many meetings and drafts have been sent to the City. This includes: regular meetings, agendas in advance, term limits, and in addition to voting member, general members who meet certain criteria. Elections of members will occur in the first calendar year after adoption of the by-laws. An affordable housing project is slated for the area facing the IH access road between Delwood II and the Austin Vet Hospital.
- c. Girard gave an update on the LUT Committee.

8. Unfinished Business:

- a. Jim Reed discussed the walk with Kathie Tovo, District 9 City Council Member, which will take place on 4/27/16 from 10:00 a.m. to noon. He presented a map of the route to be walked and the points where the group will stop and discuss pertinent matters. The walk will begin at Vida Pura on Manor Road (formerly iNredients) the proceed to the Cherrywood Green, then to Lafayette to view new sidewalk and will end at the Cherrywood Coffeehouse. These issues to discuss will include:
 - i. The desired pedestrian beacon at Walnut and Manor Road.
 - ii. Pedestrian safety and lighting along Manor Road.
 - iii. The "dumping" of large numbers of dockless scooters on sidewalks in the morning.
 - iv. The reclaimed water project (purple pipe) and how this infrastructure project will coordinate with and take into consideration current and future sidewalk plans.
 - v. Some topics of concern to be raised by Tovo.

9. New Business:

- a. Resubdivision of Manor Road and Airport Blvd. by COA Planning Division.
 - i. Discussion: The large lot at the NE corner of this intersection is slated for development by or for CVS. The ROW, owned by TXDOT, must be offered for sale to COA for first option before sale to any other entity. According to TXDOT a memo was sent to the City Manager's office and the COA declined purchase. This relinquishes the right to build traffic control measures such as traffic circle. This is an important intersection and impacts four neighborhoods and we want to have a voice in how it is developed. It is unlikely that the CVS development will be in keeping with the MLK TOD plan which call for high-density use and that prioritizes public-transportation use. The document from the COA Real Estate Division appears to have procedural errors in that there is no signature, date or header on the document.

- ii. Recommendation: It was recommended by the SC that Jim Reed, Jim Walker and Girard Kinney craft a letter to the Planning Commission outlining our concerns:
 - This is an important intersection.
 - The development of this corner should not be eroded in such a way that precludes mixed use development in the future.
 - There may be a procedural error or improper process that impacts the legality of the sale in the declination of the sale of TXDOT ROW. The procedural process should be reviewed before the issue is ever presented to the Planning Commission for consideration.
 - End goals are to stop it cold and reset and to have CVS or the developer for CVS come to the neighborhood for input.
- iii. Jeremy moved that the letter be written and Jules seconded the motion.
- b. Bicycle Safety:
 - i. Discussion: Recent fatal bicycle accident involving a Cherrywood resident. Members have experience with the dangerous nature of biking on MLK. There are plans that have been submitted to the City related to safety on MLK.
 - ii. Jeremy will solicit more information about plans that have been submitted to COA for safety measures on MLK.
 - iii. UBC may consider drafting a letter about bicycle safety in this corridor as Cherrywood does not extend to this area.
 - iv. Quarter page memorial in the Flea for Jessica Saathoff.

10. Future SC agenda items:

1. Feedback on the Tovo Walking Town Hall Meeting.
2. Update from Girard on signage issue and billboards.
3. Formally endorse our UBC representative to support recommended bicycle safety changes on MLK.
4. Ask representatives from Austin Transportation Department to present the status of plans for bicycle safety and what are barriers to moving them forward. What is the best way to move our project up the chain of priority? Jim W. will bring the issue up at the UBC meeting on 4/15/19.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 p.m.