

CNA General Meeting Minutes

Date: Wednesday, August 21, 2019

Time: 6:30 PM

Place: Asbury/Servant Church, 1605 East 38th 1/2 Street, Austin, TX 78722

Attendees

Trudie Redding	Sharon Lynch
Dave Westenbarger	Cara Fealy-Choate
John Walthom	J. DeWitt
Meghan Bludau	Preeti Mehdi
Colin Harrington	Brita Hansen
Rich Heyman	Jeremy Klitzman
Lindsay Olinde	Schuyler Nelson-Brown
Jim Mackay	Matt Harringer
Jennifer Potter-Miller	Hannah Silk-Kapasi
Girard Kinney	Joseph Kugler
Stefan Schuster	Aaron Choate
Karen Pays	Jim Walker
Guests: Staryn Wagner, Seth Kessler, Tonya Nixon	

Meeting Agenda

1. The meeting was called to order by Jim Walker at 6:38 p.m. Introductions were made all around.
2. There were no previous GM action items to approve.
3. Community Presenter: City of Austin Watershed Protection, Staryn Wagner, gave the history of the Willowbrook Reach. The Willowbrook Reach Project will be ten years old in October of 2020. Willowbrook Reach was the first grow-zone in Austin. It was the result of active neighborhood involvement and coordination with the Watershed Protection Department and was a successful demonstration that allowing vegetation to remain in a waterway slows erosion more effectively and at a lower cost than less sustainable engineered solutions. A community event to celebrate the project is proposed and will be promoted among partners. Community members will consider applying for an Urban Forest Grant to fund the event as well as new signs and benches." Jim W. will reach out to the Scheiffer-Willowbrook NA, Jennifer PM will reach out to FLWR and a story will be written for an edition of the Flea.
4. Steering Committee Reports
 - a. **Chair** Report: unavailable. Jim Reed is stepping down from his position as Chair and Jim Walker will fill this role until the next election cycle.
 - b. **Treasurer** Report: there is a positive balance in the upper 2K range. The Flea is running in the black.
 - c. **Flea** Report: Currently there are 4 people working on the Flea, but they need more help, especially if Jim R has to cut back his hours. No one at the meeting volunteered to assist so requests for help will be made in the next edition.
2. Reports of Committees and Neighborhood Projects
 - a. **LUT** Report: Girard Kinney summarized current issues regarding draft revisions to the master sidewalk plan and the need to revisit land use on the Manor Road Corridor.
 - i. **Action item:** a letter of support for the Hancock Neighborhood Association's approval of the project to restore the property at 3805 Red River has been requested by the Hancock

NA. Preservation Austin has purchased the property and may use it for their headquarters, which would require a zoning change.

1. Jim Walker moved, and Cara Choate seconded the motion to support the project.
2. **The motion passed**; Girard Kinney will draft the letter of support.

b. **Green Spaces:**

i. Jennifer Potter-Miller reviewed the changes that have been made to Patterson Park and future proposed projects. Two projects are proposed, and grants will be pursued to fund them. The proposals have been approved by FoPP. They will be presented to all neighborhood associations that may be affected by the changes.

1. **Action Item:** a vote regarding a letter of support from CNA for the tree planting and signage and basketball court and baseball field upgrade projects so that the LOS may be included in the grant application (see addendum for full list of proposed changes.)

a. Girard Kinney moved, and Matt Harringer seconded the motion to approve.

b. **The motion passed** with 22 yays and one nay.

ii. Girard Kinney discussed that a \$5K grant from Austin Parks Foundation may be pursued to repair erosion at stairs from Cherrywood Green to the creek. A Little Lending Library will be installed at the Green as a Girl Scout project.

iii. Lindsay Olinde gave an update on the revised timeline for construction of Grackle Green. More information will be shared in the Flea.

c. **UBC** Bylaws Update by Jim Walker: A special meeting will be held at 6:30 on 8/26/2019. An action item will be the update of the by-laws.

d. **CherryWoodstock** by Jeremy Klitzman. This one-day art and music festival was a hit last year and made a small profit. Jeremy has moved out of Cherrywood and has several new obligations. He can help but cannot lead the effort to do a festival this year. CherryWoodstock needs a champion. If one does not step forward by 9/9/2019 it is unlikely the festival can be held this year. It was proposed that a call for help be put out on the list serve.

3. New Business: there was no new business.

4. General Announcements: Tonya Nixon who is a sergeant at Precinct 1 introduced herself and stated she is a candidate for Constable of Precinct 1. The primary election will be in March 2020. Jim Walker proposed we plan a "meet the candidates forum" for later in the fall or winter.

5. The meeting was adjourned at 8:02.

Recorded by Sharon Lynch

Addendum: Patterson Park Improvement Projects details

Friends of Patterson Park is ready to move forward on two parts of our Neighborhood Park Plan <<http://friendsofpattersonpark.org/parkplan/>>. These proposals have been approved by our group and are now submitted for consideration by surrounding neighborhoods, including Cherrywood.

PROJECT 1: Tree planting and educational signage

- Add shade trees around the perimeter of Patterson Pool for enjoyment and protection of swimmers.
- Add tree identification signage for the Community Grove, Post Oaks, and other trees found at the park. The priority is interactive signage encouraging park visitors to identify trees during different seasons based on their leaves, flowers, and nuts.

PROJECT 2: Enhancing the safety and functionality of the basketball court and baseball field

- Resurface aging blacktop on basketball court.

- Replace baskets and add 9' baskets on sides of court for youth.
- Install a shade structure over the blacktop for sun protection.
- Replace backstop with a larger and angled style backstop on the baseball field
- Install a 15' - 20' ft. bench for players with shade.
- Install a small, shaded, 4 to 5 rows set of bleachers for spectators.
- Install warning and informational signage around the field.

Health and safety are the cornerstones of this project. Making improvements to the court and adding a shade structure will encourage many more people to use it for physical activity during more hours of the day, especially during the warmer months. Adding baskets at a rim height appropriate for younger players will encourage youth to play basketball using proper technique.

Replacing the backstop with an appropriately angled backstop would prevent baseballs from going into the street and the church parking lot. It would also improve pedestrian safety, as foul balls would not threaten walkers or joggers. The shaded seating structures would give players, their friends and families a place to rest and offer support during hot Texas afternoons. Note that these improvements would make this a better practice field for adults and children, but that it will still not be appropriate for games because there is no netting along the foul lines.