

## Cherrywood Neighborhood Association Steering Committee (CNASC) Agenda

Date: Wednesday, October 9, 2019

Time: 6:30 PM

Location: Fannie Mae Stewart Community Conservatory, 1902 E. 22nd St.

### Attendees:

Jim Walker, Interim Chair	Tom Wald, 4016 Maplewood Ave. Resident
Sharon Lynch, Secretary	Adam Packer, 3205 Merrie Lynn Resident
Allen Hah, Treasurer	Maggie Trinh, 3205 Merrie Lynn Resident
Jules Vieau, Member	John Hryhorchuk, 3306 Merrie Lynn Resident
Girard Kinney, Member	<b>Guests</b> as noted in body of minutes

1. The meeting was called to order 6:35 p.m.
2. Agenda was previously provided via email.
3. Citizen Communication: none.
4. Approval of Previous SC Meeting Minutes: the minutes were submitted for review via email. Girard Kinney suggested some edits and the minutes were presented with his edits. Allen Hah moved to accept the edited minutes, Girard Kinney seconded the motion; the minutes from the 9/11/2019 meeting were approved.
5. Community Presenters
  - a. **Jim Adams, Ken Blaken** and **Brian Dolezal** of the Catellus Development Corporation presented on the proposed Mueller PUD Amendment.
    - i. A substantive change to the PUD is requested:
      1. Increase the caps on dwelling units by 1340 and non-residential use by 550,000 square feet.
      2. Increase the peak vehicular trips cap by 8% or 680 vehicular trips per day.
      3. Make plan encroachments and set-backs clearer and facilitate review of requests to vary.
      4. Align parking standards in the plan to be more compatible with current COA parking standards.
      5. Define new type of buildings (cottage house).
      6. Allow for new land use for microbreweries and distilleries.
    - ii. These changes are touted to increase affordable housing units, make the city review process at Mueller more efficient and increase the tax base. The changes are supported by key Mueller stakeholder and align with COA goals and strategic planning.

- iii. This is a presentation only without action required. The Catellus Group would like a letter of support if we are so inclined. They will go to the Planning Commission on 10/22/2019 and to the City Council in November or December.
    - iv. Jim Walker proposed this be an agenda item for action next month.
  - b. **Martin Luecke** and **Barrett Sundberg** of the Windsor Park Neighborhood Association presented on the Climate Crisis Committee their NA has formed.
    - i. They have passed a Climate Change and Global Warming Resolution (Appendix A) that calls on city officials to recognize, take action and make policy to address the issue of climate change.
    - ii. This may be a good topic for a future general meeting and the committee will discuss this later.
- 6. Reports/Discussion from Officers and Committees
  - a. Treasurer Report: Allen Hah reported that we are positive financial position. Our cash balance is \$4013.04, and the net balance is \$2388.04. Allen downgraded the website which saves \$5 per month. Ad space for the next edition of the Flea is fully sold and we have two new advertisers.
  - b. Flea Report: Jim Walker reported that articles for the next edition are mapped out and will contain a call for candidates for the Steering Committee.
  - c. Land Use/Transportation Committee:
    - i. Girard Kinney reported that Jules Vieau is mapping the neighborhood to include what exists and what is planned in the Master Plan. A map showing current bus stops, existing and planned sidewalks and crosswalks was shared with the committee.
    - ii. There was discussion of the issue involving COA trucks using 38 ½ Street as a through fare despite posted No Truck signs; a letter was drafted and reviewed but has not yet been sent.
      - 1. It was proposed that the letter, previously drafted, be sent to City Council with the APD CC'ed.
      - 2. Jim W. will contact Safe Rides to School coordinator to tell him we will send the letter and ask for his perspective on the matter.
  - d. UBC Update: Jim Walker reports that the UBC bylaw revisions were passed. There is a route for four at large members to UBC NA. There cannot more than one at large resident or business owner from the same neighborhood.
  - e. ANC Update: no specific update.
- 7. Updates on CNA Programs and Projects: none.
- 8. Unfinished Business (Discussion and Possible Action)

- a. Code Next-Next Planning: Jules will dig into the details of what may be proposed by the City and help to interpret it for discussion at the next SC meeting. Mayor Adler reportedly wishes to pass the next iteration of Code Next by the end of this year.
  - b. AISD Proposed School Closures:
    - i. Maplewood Elementary is among 12 schools, all located on the east side of IH-35, that are being considered for closure.
    - ii. The Maplewood PTA is not taking a stand other than to urge parents and interested parties to be informed and involved.
    - iii. Schieffer-Willowbrook NA issued a Resolution in Support of Austin Schools (Appendix B) that does not specifically name Maplewood but, rather, calls for delay in decision-making which gets at the heart of the change process.
    - iv. Discussion followed, and it was stated that the worst-case scenario was that Maplewood would close by 2024. If that were to be happen CNA may wish to lead the change in the following ways:
      - 1. Involve our Community with the Campbell Elementary Community to guide the transition
      - 2. Perhaps delay the closure by two more years.
    - v. Jim W. proposed that we continue to keep the community informed via our list-serve and newsletter. The next edition of the Flea will have an article on the topic.
    - vi. No action is proposed at this meeting. It was felt that a letter from us (CNA) would not sway the AISD Board.
9. New Business: 3201 Merrie Lynn.
- a. On June 12, 2019, the Drenner Group presented their project plan for 3201 Merrie Lynn to the SC. They stated that the plan was to have small business offices on the property that would mimic the property they developed across the street. They stated there would be minimal change to the property, that they had approval from neighbors and were presenting to the SC as a courtesy because they were going out of cycle for a zoning change. Based on the facts as they presented, the SC agreed to provide a letter of support (LOS).
  - b. Recently, members of the LUT Committee learned that the original proposal had changed significantly. This was confirmed by residents of Merrie Lynn who were present at the meeting. The Drenner Group has included the adjacent property, 3203 Merrie Lynn, and plans a 5-story development over both properties that will be mixed-use space with no affordable housing units.

- c. Based on facts presented to the SC the process to ensure that neighbors are aware of zoning and use changes was not enforced. Merrie Lynn is a short street with only 14 lots and this change could significantly affect the quality of the neighborhood, as stated by residents at the meeting.
- d. Given that presentation to the SC on which the LOS was based differs significantly from the plan currently proposed by the Drenner Group, it was decided that:
  - i. We will rescind our LOS and so state in a communication to the Planning Commission, Kathie Tovo and all residents of Merrie Lynn. Jim W. will draft the letter.
  - ii. We give the Drenner Group the following path forward:
    - 1. Follow the process and present the plan to all affected residents
    - 2. Listen to their feedback and adjust the plan accordingly.
  - iii. Jim W. presented a motion that we rescind the LOS, Girard K. so moved, and Allen H. seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

10. Recommendations for General Meeting agenda Items:

- a. Maplewood School future
- b. Code Next
- c. Elections for Steering Committee
- d. (Perhaps) Merrie Lynn Project
- e. Perhaps have Kathie Tovo present on Code Next and homelessness initiatives. Perhaps she could be the “judge” at the election cycle meeting.

11. Meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m. Notes recorded by Sharon Lynch

# APPENDIX A

WINDSOR PARK NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION  
MAY 11, 2019 MEETING

## CLIMATE CHANGE AND GLOBAL WARMING RESOLUTION

Whereas there is a deep concern for causes and effects of Climate Change through Global Warming, the Windsor Park Neighborhood Association (WPNA) urges governments, groups and individuals at all levels to take strong rapid action to reduce climate warming - “mitigate” global warming as recommended by the IPCC (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change).

WPNA urges the Austin City Council, the State of Texas’ governing and enforcement bodies, and the US government to enact policies strong enough to make these bodies global leaders in action to limit global warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius. We also urge all local, state, and federal utility agencies and energy providers to transition to renewable energy grids by 2030.

WPNA takes no political position regarding parties, groups, or individuals or politicians, and urges governments to rapidly adopt the following policies on a nonpartisan basis:

At the city and regional level, efforts to reduce emissions and build resilient infrastructure including, but not limited to:

- Reform the land use code to slow the rate of growth of urban sprawl, taking into consideration the concerns of neighborhoods;
- Reduce single-occupancy trips via radical improvement to public transit system ridership capacity and utilization;
- Fully fund the Austin Bicycle & Sidewalk Master Plans;
- Subsidize and incentivize electric-powered vehicle access;
- Promote generous telecommute policies and universal high speed internet access;
- Adopt a 2030 goal of 100% net-zero carbon emissions from city-controlled generation;
- Mitigate and manage the long-term adverse health, economic, and other effects of pollution and climate change.

WPNA urges the Texas Legislature to pass legislation providing for:

- Study of additional controls on oil and gas facilities to reduce methane and other emissions, such as those in HB 225;
- Reduction of methane flaring and venting sufficient to protect the health of all Texans;
- Enactment of emission reduction steps such as those suggested in model legislation available from the Lone Star chapter of the Sierra Club.

WPNA applauds Congress for including numerous provisions in the 2018 Farm Bill that have positive effects regarding climate change, but seeks significant action from Congress, including:

- Prompt funding of studies to determine the most cost-efficient methods for the United States to achieve an electrical generation system by 2030 that is carbon neutral;
- Decisive legislation to ensure that by 2030, the United States shall achieve carbon neutral electricity generation for the nation as a whole;
- Ensure the building of or upgrading to energy-efficient, distributed, and ‘smart’ power grids;

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- Eliminate greenhouse gas emissions and other pollution from the transportation sector as much as is technologically feasible, including through investment in zero-emission vehicle infrastructure and manufacturing; clean, affordable, and accessible public transportation; and high-speed rail;
- Ensure the removal of greenhouse gas emissions from manufacturing and industry as much as is technologically feasible;
- Impose a fee on the producers and the importers of fossil fuels, where fossil fuels include crude oil, natural gas, coal and their derivatives; and, annually or more often, distribute the fees received to US citizens on a per capita basis.
- Ensure that greenhouse gases from CAFOs be measured and reduced;
- Ensure that the US government works collaboratively with farmers and ranchers to eliminate pollution and greenhouse gas emissions from the agricultural sector as much as is technologically feasible;
- Increase support for programs to make methane reduction by livestock operators as cost efficient as possible, for example by supporting research on this topic.

Furthermore, WPNA acknowledges that the effects of climate change will have a disproportionate impact on already vulnerable communities and individuals experiencing poverty and will further exacerbate income inequalities.

WPNA accepts the reports of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) as scientific consensus on the topic of climate change. When discussing this resolution with legislators and the public, if representatives of WPNA wish to state other opinions, they will identify these opinions as personal.

WPNA will, until further notice, take the following neighborhood-level actions to mitigate global warming:

1. Urge residents of Windsor Park to take individual actions to reduce global warming;
2. Promote climate change mitigation efforts by highlighting climate actions of neighbors and local business, starting with a series of “Climate Corner” articles in the neighborhood newsletter, Window on Windsor;
3. Invite all neighborhood stakeholders to develop community initiatives to reduce global warming.

# APPENDIX B

## RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF AUSTIN SCHOOLS

October 2019

**WHEREAS** Austin schools are community assets that serve as anchors of our neighborhoods and school communities;

**WHEREAS** the schools recommended for closure by Austin ISD include some of the most diverse student population in Austin ISD; and

**WHEREAS** one of the goals of the Austin ISD *School Change* report is to encourage "...a future where diverse student populations...enrich the overall learning environment for all students"; and

**WHEREAS** Austin ISD did not conduct community engagement with most of the school communities that are recommended for closure before the recommendations were released; and

**WHEREAS** 74 percent of the students affected by the Austin ISD school closure recommendations are economically disadvantaged and the impact of these changes falls on the most vulnerable student population;

**WHEREAS** eight of the twelve schools recommended for closure serve East Austin students, which is a disproportionate representation geographically; and

**WHEREAS** school consolidation will likely result in overenrolled schools that create new problems and added costs to the district that require passage of a bond; and

**WHEREAS** Austin ISD has not provided the public with clear and detailed information including: how the schools selected for closure were selected; the cost of school consolidation; future boundary changes that will affect attendance zones; over-enrollment that will result from school consolidations; the impact of consolidation on staffing and continuation of academic programs; and detailed feasibility proposals that outline future use of school properties; now therefore, be it

**RESOLVED** That the Austin ISD Board of Trustees delay the decision about school closure and consolidation until additional information is available; the community has ample opportunity for authentic engagement; other school scenarios are considered; the diversity and economic disadvantage of student populations at schools recommended for closure are considered in the school change decision-making process.

**WITNESS** our signatures this \_\_\_\_\_ day of October, 2019.

**Officers of the (neighborhood association here)**

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