

Cherrywood Neighborhood Association Steering Committee Minutes (Draft)

Wednesday, July 14, 2021 | 6:30 PM

Location: Zoom ID: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2541728972>

Attendees:

P	Jim Walker, Chair	P	Cara Breton, Member
A	Allen Hah, Treasurer	P	Jeri Spence, Member
P	Sharon Lynch, Secretary	P	Brandy Savarese, Member
P	Girard Kinney, Member	P	Matt Harriger, Member
P	Jules Vieau, Member	P	Sean Griffin, Member
P	Adam Packer, Member	V	James (Jaime) Cano
V	Cavan Merski	V	Kevin Koch
V	Dave Westenberger	V	Mari Russ
V	Bennett Maddox		

P = Present A = Absent V = Visitor (resident) G = Guest

Agenda:

1. The meeting was called to order.
2. The agenda was submitted prior to the meeting for additions and adoption,
3. Citizen Communication (3 min speaker, up to 5 speakers):
4. The minutes of the previous SC meeting were reviewed and approved with an edit to the role of Adam Sparks on the committee (visitor).
5. Community Presenters: none scheduled
6. Reports/Discussion/Action from Officers and Committees
 - a. Treasurer's Report, Allen Hah: Cash balance is \$4381.14. Net is \$3896.14. There is still room for ads in the next Flea.
 - b. Land Use/Transportation Committee
 - i. Manor Rd/Cherrywood intersection: very short notice of changes were given and only to those property owners that were immediately affected. Some local businesses, Gene Johnson Automotive and the currently vacant cleaners will be impacted by losing driveway access. There will also be changes to bus stops. Matt notes that general engineering principles say driveways near

intersections are bad for traffic flow and the same is true for bus stops near intersections.

- ii. Proposed: we send a letter that we need and expect better communication prior to changes being solidified. We support change and the concepts behind both this and the Days Inn conversion but we want our input to be included in the planning processes.
 - c. I-35/NCINC3 planning: Brandy S reports on proposals for caps and stitches supported by _____.
 - i. There is an open house at Huston-Tillotson University on 8/10 for discussion of proposed projects, including, possibly, caps and stitches. Currently there is little conversation that traffic will be diverted or submerged.
 - ii. Proposed: send communication to the neighborhood via Flea, etc. that in the next few years there will be huge changes to I35 frontage.
 - d. The Bikeways project is largely implemented.
 - e. Demolitions/tree removals: Jules V is mapping demolition permits and sending notices to the SC.
 - f. Historic survey/district updates: none
 - g. Communications Committee:
 - i. We need a person to be an event knower who will monitor events in the neighborhood and report in the Flea.
 - ii. Mailbox has been relocated to Northcross. May change in future to somewhere closer.
 - iii. Flea cover: I35? Days Inn? Coming out of the pandemic? Photo essay on urban arts?
 - h. Nominating Committee: still have two vacancies.
 - i. UBC Update: none
 - j. ANC Update: none
7. Ongoing Business (Discussion and Possible Action)
- a. Homelessness Initiatives and City Updates: how can we help with the people living under the overpass? Hard to assess their needs in a way that allows meaningful intervention by neighbors.
 - b. Pharr Tennis Center Art in Public Places, July 17: meet and greet the artist and learn about the project plans.
8. New Business (Discussion and Possible Action)
- a. Days Inn as Bridge Center/Permanent Supportive Housing: discussion. The City needs to communicate better (JV), the City has signed a lease and is spending federal funds which makes it perhaps not retractable.

- i. Jaime Cano, Assistant Director of Escuelita del Alma, says that the increase in problems they have encountered coincides with reuse of Days Inn as a shelter during the pandemic.
 - ii. Kevin Koch says as a nearby resident he hasn't noted an increase in problems different from what was encountered when the property was used as a hotel; the current problems may be more related to the camping ban. But this change does constitute a de facto zoning change and we were not notified. Ideally, the neighborhood, especially property owners nearest the Days Inn would have been notified and given a contact person/number to report problems.
 - iii. Cara B notes that increased security should not/does not necessarily mean increased police presence.
 - iv. Two issues (Jeri S, Brandy S): bridge housing does not necessarily pose a danger however there have been instances where distressed people showed up at neighbors' houses needing help. What can we do when people show up in need if we don't want to call the police? How do we help people when there is no real system to help. What is the productive way to participate in mitigating or solving these problems?
 - b. We generally want to help but what is the best and safest way for the neighborhood? This warrants more discussion.
9. Recommendations for Future SC Agenda Items and Meeting Date
- a. Next Steering Committee meeting: Wednesday, August 11
 - i. Draft letters to review and approve.
 - b. Next General CNA Meeting: Wednesday, August 18
 - i. Plans for I-35 Frontage Road Open House
 - ii. Homeless citizens in Cherrywood
10. The meeting was adjourned at 7:55.