

Old Austin Neighborhood Association (OANA)
11 February 2014

The OANA Board of Directors (BoD) came together at our regularly scheduled time and place, at 4 PM on the second Tuesday of the month at the Common Room of the Regency Apartments. Ted Siff led the discussions with Ray Canfield, Blake Tollett, Paul Isham, Perry Lorenz, John Horton and new Board member Michael Portman in attendance.

There were no guests.

The regular monthly meeting minutes from 14 January were formally approved and Bill Schnell will be asked to post them. Bill had taken the minutes from the Annual Meeting on 28 January and sent them to Ted, and Ted will circulate them prior to our March meeting for acceptance and posting.

Under **Current News & Action Items**, we discussed the Annual Meeting and what improvements if any are in order. It was generally agreed that the food, beverages and general ambiance was outstanding although the weather was daunting. Ray committed to a hot gumbo to offset any forecasted inclement weather next year. As attendance to these meetings can always be improved, it was agreed that each BoD member would be responsible for bringing at least one guest next year.

A **Financial Report** update was deferred until March.

Under **Government Relations**, although John had no formal report for us we did generally discuss the changes on Lavaca and Guadalupe Streets and how best to navigate them.

Under **Marketing & Membership**, with Bill absent, Michael discussed with us ongoing plans to bring into OANA residents of the various multifamily properties within our neighborhood, especially his own complex The Nokonah. He did make the suggestion that on our website we change the widget on the membership page to read "Join" rather than "Donate". Paul asked for a list of current members at The Spring tower (his home) and volunteered to go recruiting. Ted reminded himself that he would soon be sending out a bullet point recruitment letter that we could share with our neighbors. f

[NOTE: Prior to the meeting Ted shared the following email with me from Karen Armstrong who stepped down from the Board at the Annual Meeting:

"I have found another resource to help develop the database for OANA & SCC. The database is on a new TB external drive and will be posted on skydrive. I'll absorb the time & expense to complete the project. Project time line is to be completed by April 2014. I will also cover the expense for a mailing campaign to obtain new members and email addresses when the database is complete. If anyone has graphic arts resources please let me know. If needed I'll hire that done too. I will keep you posted with progress. Again my apologies for the amount of time this is requiring. Pivot Networks picked up a new nonprofit when we didn't give them the go ahead last April and only do one a year. I am using my own resources and underestimated the scope of the

project. Initial Excel spreadsheet proved unstable to maintain the integrity of TCAD & Property Tax Assessors Data. It is stable enough to temporarily maintain membership data until they can be merged. Thanks for the time extension. I believe once completed its contribution will be well worth the effort.”

This commitment is extremely generous of Karen.]

Under **Planning & Zoning** we discussed the following:

812 W 2nd Street-This is a City initiated rezoning request from DMU-CO to the P zoning district. This Seaholm tract of land was originally going to be a City owned parking facility but the plan now is to locate the chilling tower associated with the entire project on the site. The rezoning was passed by the City Council with the understanding that the noise trespass concerns of close by neighbors to the proposed tower would be addressed by the Austin Energy Department when the use on the tract is discussed.

718 W. 5th Street-Below is the letter we sent in conditional support of this requested increase in entitlements. With the developers of the property in agreement with the conditions the task now is to convince the City in the wisdom of the conditioned request.

++++
February 4, 2014

Nikki Hoelter, Case Manager
Planning & Development Review Department
City of Austin

RE: SP-2013-0454C – 718 W. 5th Street. Also known as 5th & West

Applicant requests an amendment to the Downtown Density Bonus program (Ordinance No. 20130627-105) to allow an FAR on this tract of 20:1 instead of the current allowance of 15:1.

Dear Ms. Hoelter, CoA Case Manager:

The Board of Directors (BoD) of the Original Austin Neighborhood Association (OANA) discussed the above referenced Request by email and has voted to express support for this request with the following conditions:

- That the project be limited to owner occupied condominiums and related service uses;
- That reflective glass not be used on the west side of the project;
- That the project provide Great Street improvements to both sides of West Avenue between W. 5th & W. 6th Streets as well as its frontage on W. 5th Street;
- That the project installs green screening or the equivalent on all of the proposed exterior parking garage walls;
- That the Parkland Ordinance fee paid by this project be used for the improvements to the Shoal Creek Greenway between West 5th and West 10th Streets managed by COA-PARD in conjunction with the Shoal Creek Conservancy; and,

- That after addressing site specific flood mitigation requirements, the fee paid by this project to mitigate flood issues be managed by COA-Watershed Protection to determine a regional or watershed scale flood mitigation solutions in conjunction with the Shoal Creek Conservancy.

We respectfully ask the City Council to grant this amendment request with the conditions enumerated above. Please contact me if you have any questions.

Board of Directors Ted Siff, President, Ray Canfield, Perry Lorenz, Michael Portman, Albert Stowell, Treasurer, Rick Hardin, John Horton, Charles Peveto, Blake Tollett, Secretary, Paul Isham, Bill Schnell

+++++

805 Nueces Street-There seems to be a firm scheduled closing date on the property regardless of whether the currently vested entitlements can be increased under the Downtown Bonus Density procedure. In anticipation of the property’s eventual development, Paul motioned that OANA will ask the City that any funds collected under the parkland mitigation program be specifically earmarked for Wooldridge Park. With Perry seconding the motion carried unanimously.

Under **Parks, Open Spaces and Trails**, we continued our discussion of the parkland dedication fund, a fund created by the developmental fee imposed on any new residential project in the City, and how the fund is accounted for and returned to the citizens of the City. Ted has been working with the Parks & Recreation Department (PARD) to identify funds generated by residential projects within our neighborhood association boundaries and how those funds have been used. Apparently the proposed master plan for Duncan Park will be paid for with those funds. We then discussed the relationship between Duncan Park and the Shoal Creek Conservancy (SCC).

In discussing the SCC, Paul informs us that their letter of approval from the IRS concerning their Section 501(c)(3) status has been received. This should help them in their fund raising efforts.

Prior to the meeting new BoD member Charles Peveto asked Ted to share the following with his fellow Board members:

“OANA board, Charles wanted me to share the following new and info items:

Let’s all encourage participation in "It's My Park Day", which is on Saturday, March 1st. There are volunteer opportunities at Wooldridge Square, Duncan Park and at least 5 other locations along Shoal Creek, the biggest being at Pease Park. I’ll pass on the sign up link as soon as these projects are listed on the Austin Parks Foundations website. [the Friends of Wooldridge Square has a meeting at Noon on the 19th in the Square or the History Center about this].

Also, at the next OANA Board meeting, Charles will give us an update on the History Center Expansion into the Faulk Building. He’s on that Expansion Committee. Exciting possibilities. The committee is calling this effort the History Center Campus!”

Having come to the end of our agenda and with our next meeting scheduled for the 11th of March, we adjourned.

Blake Tollett, Secretary
OANA