

Old Austin Neighborhood Association (OANA)
06 September 2016

The Board of Directors (BoD) of OANA came together on Tuesday 6 September 2016 at the Common Room of the Regency Apartments. Ted Siff began the meeting at 4:06 PM with BoD members Ray Canfield, Austin Stowell, Paul Isham and Blake Tollett present. We were one shy of a quorum. Kathy Marcus from the Spring condominiums sat in with us as an Advisory Board member. Welcome Kathy.

The first order of business was the review of the excellent Minutes from our August meeting. Austin moved acceptance with Paul seconding, and with the arrival of BoD members Diana Zuniga (the BoD's unofficial Assistant Secretary) and Perry Horton, the minutes were unanimously approved. Blake will forward them to BoD member Bill Schnell for posting on our website.

Under Action Items we discussed upcoming BoD meetings:

October 11th: This meeting will be either at the Seaholm Residential Tower or at our normal meeting space at the Regency Apartments. If at the Seaholm, then the meeting hours will be from 5:30 to 6:30 with an OANA sponsored happy hour following from 6:30 to 7:30. BoD member Austin is working on securing the venue space. If at the Regency, then the meeting hours will be from 4 to 5:30.

In November, due to the election being held on Tuesday the 8th, we will be meeting on Monday the 7th at the Spring condominium. For upcoming residential tower visits, the meeting hours will be 5:30 to 6:30 with a social hour following. BoD members Charles Peveto and Diana will coordinate with the Spring folks.

On Tuesday December the 13th we will have a holiday meeting at the Shoal Creek Saloon. The meeting will run from 4 to 5:30 with a social hour following. As a membership promotional, for those who either join or renew their OANA membership at the meeting, OANA will provide them a wine or beer of their choice. If the timing is right, this promotion will be noticed in our early winter e-newsletter.

In January of 2017, the regularly scheduled monthly meeting will be on the second Tuesday, the 10th, from 4 to 5:30 at the Regency, and our Annual Meeting and elections will be on Tuesday the 24th at the Shoal Creek Saloon. Ted and Blake will review the minutes from our last Annual to determine who is up for election this coming cycle.

Under Current News, Topics of Interest/Discussion:

Ted is co-Chair of Moving Austin Forward, a PAC promoting the upcoming Austin Transportation Bond. They are preparing a series of mailers to go out to the community. The detailed schematics of what is being financed are at the City of Austin website under Mobility Talks. Bottom line, the average Austin home (\$257k) will see a tax increase of \$60 per year beginning in two years.

Due to lack of interest on the part of private property owners in the neighborhood, Ted and Michael are rethinking how to spend the tree monies spun off the development of 906-908 Nueces. The City has expressed a willingness to hold the monies (\$6,100) and then spend the monies at our direction in the neighborhood. The W. 12th Street esplanade or inside roundabouts have been discussed as possible locations for the trees.

BoD member Charles Peveto had not returned from New Mexico so we had no update on Wooldridge Square or Duncan Park.

Under Shoal Creek, Ted reports that the Shoal Creek Conservancy (SCC) has hired an engineer to begin looking at whether cleaning and maintenance of the creek bed itself would allow a more direct flow of storm waters thus eliminating creek rises resulting in overflows. Although on its face one would assume these relatively simple procedures would necessarily address some of the flooding, the contract between SCC and the engineering firm is structured so that if the preliminary findings don't support a lessening of occurrences then the SCC has an option to end the study.

Ted further reports that the Shoal Creek Trail "Gap" project is back on track after the heavy rains in early August heavily damaged the temporary stabilization work. The revised end date now is late December or early January. Once this section is opened there will still need to be some sort of signage to direct those unfamiliar with the trail on how to reach Lady Bird Lake. Currently it is an ever-evolving maze that in some areas requires portage of bicycles out of the creek side trail and across city streets and railroad tracks. As for the Bowie Street underpass project, the funding remains in place but the execution remains uncertain. The idea to expand the original TIF that has set aside the funds allocated to the project so as to encompass the end portion of Shoal Creek remains in play. Perry H. reports that the young professionals' auxiliary to SCC, the Shoal Mates, are working with the good folks at the Contemporary with the idea of bringing some art installations to the creek in the future similar to what is being done along Waller Creek.

For further Shoal Creek Conservancy activities Ted directed us to:

<https://www.shoalcreekconservancy.org/events/>

Our membership numbers and financials remain fairly constant. There appears to be no new land matters to discuss.

We adjourned a few minutes early.

Blake Tollett, Secretary
OANA