

Old Austin Neighborhood Association (OANA)
08 October 2013

The Board of directors (BoD) of OANA came together just after 4 PM at the Common Room of the Regency Apartment on Tuesday 8 October. Directors in attendance were Ted Siff, Paul Isham, Ray Canfield, John Horton, Tom Borders, Blake Tollett, Perry Lorenz, Richard Hardin, Karen Armstrong and Bill Schnell. Albert Stowell was unable to attend.

There were no visitors in attendance.

On motion from Paul with Tom seconding, the September minutes with minor corrections were adopted by acclamation.

Under Current News and Action Items:

We first reviewed and discussed the geographic district boundaries of the citizens' Single Member District Commission, the commission of citizens selected to divide the City into voting districts under the 10-1 City Council election format. It is important to note that the map currently under discussion may not necessarily be the final map. There will be four more meetings by the Commission to receive public comments. Our neighborhood is conceptually in District 9, a district that encompasses several near South Austin neighborhoods, all of the CBD and the Northwest District, and the Mueller development. The Commission has been tasked to complete their map by the end of the year but the City Council elections will not be until November 2014. No official OANA BoD action was initiated.

We then discussed the lifting of the 10 PM to 5 AM curfew on the Hike & Bike Trail and the concurrent 24/7 policing of the trail. This began as a 6 months pilot program a couple of months back. During the current budget discussions, Police Chief Acevedo requested from the Mayor a million extra dollars to monitor the trail during the removed curfew period. If the police department did not receive this extra allocation of funding then funding of the Council mandate would come from the elimination of 9 District Representatives (DRs), one from each district. [NOTE-one of the purposes of the District Representative program is to provide a direct link from neighborhood citizens to the police department under the Community Policing format. This concept was brought to Austin under Acevedo's predecessor Chief Knee and is very successful]. After consideration of the costs involved and the use of the trails on a 24-hour basis, specifically use during the 10 PM to 5 AM time slot, the Mayor introduced a motion to Council to reinstate the curfew on the Hike & Bike Trail. This matter has been postponed until later in the fall to gather more citizen input although the elimination of DR positions is not being received well in neighborhoods. No official OANA BoD action was initiated.

Under Financial Report, Albert reported through Ted there had been no significant change.

Under Government Relations & Social Order, John had no formal report for us, but we did discuss the restriping of the traffic lanes along Guadalupe and Lavaca Streets to accommodate Capitol Metro's All Systems Go rapid transit bus system. There will be no more automobile

street parking along the west side of Guadalupe and the east side of Lavaca so as to allow for a bicycle lane along the curb with a rapid transit lane next to it.

Under Marketing we congratulated Bill on the two recent email blasts touting the then very successful cleanup efforts along Shoal Creek. Bill plans a last e-newsletter sometime in late November or early December to announce our upcoming Annual Meeting in late January. Blake was tasked with combing through the minutes to write a yearly report on the actions and accomplishments of the BoD. All board members are encouraged to send in touts.

Karen reports she is making headway on getting data from the Travis County Appraisal District on ownership of properties in our Northwest district. Richard will help her assemble a useable product from this raw data and Bill will help her put together a one page flyer explaining who we are and why it is important for more membership participation in the organization.

Under Planning and Zoning:

There is nothing new to report on the projects under way at 1303 San Antonio Street and the former PTA site on W. 11th Street.

The Judge's Hill Local Historic District continues moving forward and John will report back to us on this.

The Seaholm Power Plant project has seen construction of the City's parking garage and the construction at the Green Water Treatment Plant site should begin in December.

Under Parks & Open Spaces:

Wooldridge Park is looking magnificent although a large oak tree was lost recently. The cause of this failure is unknown but there may be an opportunity here to plant another specimen.

The Shoal Creek Conservancy progresses along. From an email sent out by Ted:

THANKS TO YOU: SCC has hired an executive director; has offices and is up and running: We hired Joanna Wolaver as **SCC's Executive Director** and she officially started October 1st. Joanna has managed city and state bond campaigns, worked for a big city mayor, received a Masters in geography from UT and much more. I think we are extremely lucky to have her. And, this past Monday, October 8th, we moved into **SCC's beautiful new office space**. Our offices are being provided by **Cirrus Logic** for which we are very grateful! SCC's address is 701 West Avenue, Suite 101 in the same building occupied by the Aziz hair salon. As SCC's founding stakeholders, donors and members you have helped incubate and support SCC through its feasibility stage. Now SCC is an incorporated nonprofit, with staff, and an office. Thanks and congratulations for your role in this significant step forward for our city and the Shoal Creek watershed.

SAVE THE DATE for SCC's Official Launch Event: On Wednesday, November 13th from 5:30-7:00 in the **GSD&M** lobby, 828 West 6th Street, SCC stakeholders, donors & members

will gather with city officials to celebrate the beginning of the Conservancy. The space will be decorated with Ted Eubanks photographs of Shoal Creek printed by **Dynamic Reographics**. We will thank city officials for their current work in Shoal Creek; present SCC's first year goals, and enjoy each other's company. An official invitation will follow, but **please put this on your calendar now**.

SCC is looking for four good Interns and needs your help: Shoal Creek Conservancy is seeking interns to fill four positions and needs your help in getting the word out! These positions will help with:

- Membership/Capacity Building;
- Programming;
- Fundraising/Administration; and,
- Communications.

We then turned to the upcoming bond elections, state and local. The State Constitution bonds deal with transportation and water and the local bond will again address the need for affordable housing in the City.

We have officially moved our meeting date from the first Tuesday of the month to the second Tuesday, same time and place. Our next OANA BoD meeting will be on Tuesday 12 November.

With that we adjourned.

Blake Tollett, Secretary
OANA