

Old Austin Neighborhood Group (OANA)  
12 November 2013

The Board of Directors (BoD) of OANA came together just after 4 PM at the Common Room of the Regency Apartments on our new meeting day of the second Tuesday of the month. Board members in attendance included Karen Armstrong, Tom Borders, Bill Schnell, John Horton, Albert Stowell, Ted Siff and Blake Tollett. Perry Lorenz, Paul Isham and Richard Hardin had sent their regrets.

We began with a discussion of last month's minutes. Ted asked that the qualifier to the voting district map generated by the Independent Citizen's Redistricting Commission (ICRC) that the final map had to be approved by the City Council be eliminated from the minutes. There is confusion as to whether the final district map has to be approved through acceptance by the City Council. With this correction the minutes were passed unanimously.

The ICRC has been working diligently on the districting map and pleasing everyone is proving to be somewhat elusive. In the latest iteration our downtown neighborhood is in proposed District 9 along with Bouldin Creek NA, the residents living in the Central Business District and the Mueller development. A heady mixture of interests.

Ted briefly reminded us of the Shoal Creek Conservancy's official launch party coming up tomorrow at the GSD&M main lobby. He reports over 120 confirmed guests.

We then began discussions of our 2014 Annual Meeting and BoD Election. A date and time of Tuesday, 28 January from 5:30 to 7 PM was agreed upon with the meeting to be held in the Regency Apartment's Common Room. John has offered to bring liquid refreshments. Blake's Highlights From The Year's Minutes will be a handout along with a one-page bullet document that Bill and Karen will compose. This one pager will incorporate a membership application and will be blasted out electronically to our email list and carried around in hard copy form to various residential complexes and neighborhood businesses. Ted will study the By-Laws and draw up an Annual Election Ballot for BoD positions that expire this year.

Albert reports we have about \$3,949 in the bank.

Under government Relations John had no formal report. It was noted the Guadalupe and Lavaca Streets makeover along with the West 8th Street reconstruction continue to move forward. With the F1 Race and a home University of Texas football game in the City this weekend it should be interesting this weekend in the downtown area.

Bill then spoke to us about our year-end e-newsletter. He would like to close the submittal window by 5 December with the e-newsletter going out that week to our elist with posting on Facebook and our Twitter feed.

Karen reports she has received data from Travis County Appraisal District (TCAD) that will be used as the basis for her recruiting efforts. The list will have to be manually massaged to make it

manageable, but once that is done it shouldn't require too much ongoing maintenance to keep it current. After the first of the year she wants to step up recruiting of new members and getting renewals from current and lapsed members. She and Bill will compose a one-page recruitment flyer for the BoD's perusal. After extended discussion of whom we are targeting with this membership drive and whether fee increases would be appropriate depending on membership categories, it was decided to leave any adjustments in our current policy to a future time.

Under Planning & Zoning we began by discussing a site plan waiver being sought by the PTA of Texas (SP-2013-0189CT). Basically, since they are building out their entire lot and the lot has no access to an alley but only the street, they are seeking a waiver to set out their trash and receive deliveries from somewhere other than an alley. The PTA says they have an agreement with the County so that the County will set aside space in their building for PTA trash pickup and deliveries of supplies, but the County building is right now only conceptual. Ted will work with them to see if some sort of binding agreement can be reached so we don't in the future have garbage collections on the sidewalk and delivery trucks double parked in the street.

Cirrus Logic will be filing a zoning rollback on their property at 707 West Avenue from the CS-1 zoning district to DMU-60. OANA is pleased that our neighbor is abiding by the Restrictive Covenant between them and OANA that was recorded on the property's Deed Of Trust, the basis of our original support of this property's upzone from GO to CS-1. Cirrus Logic will also be taking down their property at 606 Rio Grande Street, the former Arquelle Restaurant, and their property at 701 West 7th Street. The Arquelle Restaurant building has been offered free to anyone willing to take it and they were also willing to help defray the moving costs, but unfortunately they had no takers. The demolition will be by professional de-constructors and salvageable material will be repurposed. The half block Cirrus Logic owns between West Avenue and Rio Grande Street will become a surface parking lot for the foreseeable future to accommodate the parking spaces displaced during the construction of their new parking garage, office spaces and meeting room at 702-704 West Avenue.

As time had passed too quickly our discussion of Austin Community College's Rio Grande Street campus was brief. There will be a general ACC bond election in November 2014 and improvements to the main building will be proposed. There is also serious talk of programming changes at the campus with the visual and fine art departments being transferred to the Highland Mall campus where performance space could more easily be constructed and concentrating more technical studies on the Rio Grande Street campus.

We adjourned shortly after 5:30 with our next meeting being set for Tuesday 10 December.

Blake Tollett-Secretary  
OANA