

Austin Neighborhoods Council
Minutes of Executive Committee Meeting
Wednesday, December 10, 2003

Location: Artz Rib House

Attending:

Susan Pascoe, President
Jeff Jack, Vice President
Bryan King, Vice President
Bill Stoughton, Treasurer
Doug DuBois, Secretary
Dana Lockler, Sector 2 Rep
Linda Moore, Sector 2 Rep
Linda Guerrero, Sector 5 Rep
Lorraine Atherton, Sector 7 Rep
Donna Tiemann, Sector 8 Rep

Guests:

Clare Barry
Tim Mahoney
Clint Smith

Call to Order 6:35 p.m.

The first order of business was proposed by VP Jeff Jack to switch positions of Secretary held by Donna Tiemann and Sector 8 Rep held by Doug DuBois, due to Ms. Tiemann's conflict of participating in the Oak Hill Associations of Neighborhoods (OHAN). The motion was seconded by Bryan King, and after Mr. DuBois admitted a potential challenge to make all meetings, but all effort would be put forth, the motion was approved.

The second order of business was to review a proclamation which is to be read at the Austin City Council meeting at 5:30 p.m. on Thursday, December 11, 2003. The proclamation recognizes 30 years of service by ANC and proclaims Wednesday, December 17, 2003 as Austin Neighborhoods Council Day. President Pascoe issued an invitation for all to attend for a great show of support.

Next, a discussion was held regarding the Annual Christmas Social, which will be held at Threadgill's on Barton Springs, Wednesday, December 17, 2003 from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. ANC will pay for the food, with a cash bar. Invitations will be

sent to the Neighborhood Association list, along with a reminder to bring \$35.00 annual membership dues. Additionally, invitations will be forwarded across the city to City offices, affiliated associations, and local legislators.

The next agenda item involved a suggestion for filling sector rep vacancies. Of primary concern are the North East, North West, and East sectors. Guest Tim Mahoney had some suggestions for follow-up.

President Pascoe then submitted for discussion the role of ANC Vice Presidents. The by-laws do not currently stipulate specific duties, and duties could be created via Executive Committee Policy, rather than updating the by-laws. Suggested roles for the Vice Presidents include communications and marketing. Communications responsibilities would include handling neighborhood list post card mailings as well as the ANC Talk listserve. Marketing responsibilities would include participation in Council meetings, visiting Neighborhood Association meetings with Power Point presentation.

The position of Newsletter has not been filled and discussion was held concerning the possibility of handling communications electronically, tied to the website and ANC Talk. ANC also receives numerous Neighborhood Association newsletter...how should we serve as a clearing house for this information? Or, should we? We already have links to NA websites, which would include their newsletters.

Due to time constraints, we deviated from the agenda and skipped to Issues and Concerns, providing a forum for Mr. Mahoney. Previously, he had coordinated a Citywide Neighborhood Issues Conference and he was offering to coordinate this event once again. The primary purpose of the conference would be "to build people's capacity and self-knowledge to build momentum for proposing changes to the City Council."

Issues would be determined ahead of time with specific breakouts addressing such issues as:

- Neighborhood planning
- Code enforcement
- The role of Neighborhoods in Austin
- Enforcing performance bonds

It was suggest to structure such a conference around Envision Central Texas, formulating an ANC response to the interim report, tying to such topics as neighborhood planning, etc. Tying ECT to the Conference may help identify the city's true intent on forcing a plan on neighborhoods which they don't want.

However we do it, it was strongly urged to craft an ANC vision of Envision Central Texas.

At this point of the meeting, we heard from two visitors - Ms. Clare Barry and Mr. Clint Smith, regarding the agenda topic of ANC's relationship with ANT PAC - Austin Neighborhood's Together - Political Action Committee. Ms. Barry explained the purpose of founding ANTPAC as a vehicle to specifically endorse political candidates, a position ANC had not taken and debated whether ANC was allowed to, based on non-profit status.

Mr. Smith followed with a vision of the future of ANTPAC as primarily an issues advocacy vehicle, focusing on quality of life issues such as housing, human service, and other neighborhood issues. Come to the table with issues; work towards consolidation of efforts, avoiding East Austin vs. West Austin controversy.

VP Jack also suggested this may be an opportunity to address working with other organizations (agenda item F) such as Austin Area Human Services Association (AAHSA), the Clean Air Force, and Envision Central Texas, Sierra Club, Texas Neighborhoods Together and other organizations which could have an impact on elections. Mr. Mahoney related his past election experience, promoting a geography based organization to get out the vote.

Continued discussion of the ANC/ANTPAC relationship led to VP King suggesting a survey be distributed to neighborhood leaders to get their feedback, along with a call for issues of concern. The goal would be to focus on neighborhood services while creating neighborhood advocacy.

A motion by Jeff Jack was made to move forward with the study and the formation of a sub-committee to examine the results. Lorraine Atherton seconded the motion, and was approved by all in attendance. The subcommittee will consist of Pres. Susan Pascoe, VP Jeff Jack, VP Bryan King, Sec. Reps Lorraine Atherton, Dana Lockler, plus ANT PAC rep. Clint Smith.

Continued discussion on agenda item F (representation and membership in other organizations) led to a motion by VP King to renew membership and pay dues to Austin Area Human Services Association. The motion was seconded by VP Jack and approved by all in attendance.

A resolution regarding the opposition of boat races at Auditorium Shores was presented. Following discussion and corrections to the resolution, VP Jack moved

for passage with a second by Dana Lockler. The resolution was approved as corrected.

The final item of business was deciding if we should have an ANC representative at each City Council meeting. There was no formal motion, but it was suggested the Executive Committee should share rotational responsibility for appearances and consistent ANC presence.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:05 p.m.