

Austin Neighborhoods Council
Executive Committee Meeting Minutes
February 11, 2009
6:30pm to 8:00pm
***** Artz Rib House (2330 S. Lamar) *****

Minutes prepared by Lorraine Atherton, ANC Cosecretary

Present: Steven Aleman, Mark Boyden, Danette Chimenti, Mary Eichner, Lisa Harris, Linda Guerrero, Cynthia Keohane, Jolene Kiolbassa, Bo McCarver, Lou O'Hanlon, Lupe Sosa, Patty Sprinkle, Terry Tevis, Cory Walton, Bryan King, Lorraine Atherton

6:30pm Call to Order

6:31pm Approval of Minutes, for Jan. 14 exec com and Jan. 28, 2009, general meetings

6:35pm Officer/Committee/Sector Reports

- Treasurer's Report, \$4966.37 in savings and \$214.57 in checking.
- PA system update, to be purchased (about \$700) in time for Candidate Forum
- ANC Candidates forum committee – questionnaire team (Danette, Lou, Patty, Cory, Jolene, Jody, Lorraine, and Marcelline, so far) meetings need to start next week, all questions submitted to team by March 1. Questionnaire must be ready for candidates shortly after the filing deadline of March 9. Forum is March 25.
- Waivers of ANC Dues – Resident Council of Spring Terrace, Tillery Square, both approved. Brings membership total to 77.
- Sector Issues – Membership renewals discussed. Northeast Alliance is planning a forum on May 2; Lou will post info to ANCtalk. Jolene reported on her sector's first meeting. ANC East talked with CM Ott and Laura Morrison at their last sector meeting, and pressed for neighborhood participation in the Comprehensive Plan.
- ANC East requests that ANC cosponsor the Homestead Preservation District forum next Thursday (Feb. 19?). Bo moved, Patty seconded, motion passed unanimously.

7:05pm Meeting Planning

- February meeting planning
 - Austin Fire Dept Chief – Rhoda Mae Kerr (45 min)
 - Bicycle Master Plan (20 minutes)
 - WTP#4 – Bill Bunch (6 minutes)
 - March candidates forum planning (10 minutes)
 - Community Tax Centers (2-3 min)
 - Room to Live Initiative – Stephen Zettner to propose resolution regarding open space for VMU, neighborhood design standards (10 minutes). Cynthia will post 20 minutes for announcements and updates, including something on the Parks Board resolution regarding the boardwalk
- March meeting planning – Candidates Forum

7:35pm Ongoing Business and Neighborhood Issues

- TNT - Lisa announced that the legislative agendas will be distributed at the Capitol on Feb. 24, and TNT will need volunteers. Changes to the final agenda, manufactured housing item has been deleted; on county land use authority, Valinda Bolton's office suggested adding roadway authority to provide connectivity for subdivisions with limited access (note that Texas Municipal League no longer opposes all county authority bills, as long as the bills specify that municipal authority is not infringed).
- Waterfront Overlay Task Force Recs – Tomorrow at City Council, Leffingwell, Martinez, Morrison item to move forward.
- Live Music Task Force Recs – Cory noted that the Austin Marathon has 18? bands stationed along the course on Sunday, connection between Outdoor Music and street closure permits?
- Comprehensive Plan - Lou passed around a report on the February PC Subcommittee meeting (see below). Jeff Jack noted that there will be a City Council briefing on the three finalists (see Lou's report) at 2 pm tomorrow. The selection process of the three finalists, including the RFP, has been kept secret. There is no public involvement process.
- BOA Issues. The Board of Adjustments postponed one of its "reconsideration of a reconsideration" cases, based on the written request of someone with no standing in the case. The other case failed for lack of a motion, which should set a precedent.

Danette suggested that neighbors bring it up at Council's audit and finance subcommittee meeting on Feb. 24. (Audit and Finance meets fourth Tuesday each month at 10 am in the Boards and Commissions Room at City Hall.)

- NAC status. Interviews were last week, decision should be announced next week.
- Lake Boardwalk. Parks Board passed a resolution to support the concept of closing the trail gap but no particular alignment and stating that the Waterfront Overlay Task Force recommendations needed to be adopted by Council prior to the completion of the final design. The Waterfront Overlay Advisory Planning Board needs to be in place to oversee the final design and the process.
- ANC Radio. Mark announced that Tim Mahoney's sector plan for the Comprehensive Plan will be discussed next week. Reminded us that the radio show is available to us.

8:00pm Adjourn

Potential Program Topics/Agenda Items

- How to start a non-profit
- Rob Spillar – New Transportation Director
- Howard Lazarus - New Director of Public Works
- New Council Members (Laura Morrison and Randi Shade)
- Mike Daniel – redistricting, misuse of tax credits and other issues
- Platform of ANC Issues
- Presentation from Aging Services Council – demographics and needs of elderly population
- Avance – early childhood/family programs for low income families
- Austin Energy – cost of services study
- Capital Metro (5 min)
- Water Utility Cost of Service Study (coming to end) – Lanetta Cooper ?

Requests for Time on Agenda

- Wildlife Austin – April or May meeting (20-30 minutes)
- RG4N Good Neighbor Ordinance
- Robert Goode – New Assistant CM over Aviation, Public Works and Solid Waste (periodic discussions with ANC)

Report: PC Subcommittee Meeting - 2/3/09 (from Lou O'Hanlon)

Speaker: Jim Walker, Chair (ECT)

Spoke about the pending decision on the City hiring a consultant to coordinate the CP.

Suggestions:

- Consultant must involve as many people in the process as possible.
- ECT has thousands of contacts it will provide to help with outreach.
- Must address local funding options for transportation projects.
- There needs to be a major infrastructure initiative.
- If region does double in 20-40 years, plans need to be made now as to where to put them. Pay attention to "all" the edges - not just force growth to the east.
- Comprehensive Plan must be "principle" based - meaning building trust with neighborhoods, citizenry, local officials, etc.
- Efforts should be made to improve City and County relations in order to better work together in developing the CP.
- Discussed Mahoney's Sector Project - Jim believes it has merit on how to work with the CP, but the CP must grow beyond it. CP needs to be updated constantly as feedback is obtained - sometimes reducing density in an area might be the most prudent source. - CP needs to be synchronized with CAMPO
- The NPs need to be respected and incorporated into the CP - and the NPs need to have input on the CIP budget.
- Transportation should enhance and area - not destroy neighborhoods. (ECT has a transportation model which they will lend to the process).

City Staff - Garner Stoll

- Discussed possibility of adding notices of stakeholder meetings to Austin Energy's utility bills. They do not have much of a budget for outreach, so they need to get creative.
 - The consultants who are finalists will brief the CC on February 12th after 2:00 pm. There will be a meet and greet between 4:00-7:00 pm at City Hall the same day. CC will decide on February 26th.
- (Names of the 3 finalists have now been named: ACP Visioning+Planning Team; HNTB and WRT).

Chris Ewen -

- Gave a PP briefing on a Transportation Conference he recently attended with an emphasis on efficient transit systems, including streetscapes.