

# Austin Neighborhoods Council - General Membership Meeting Minutes

April 28, 2010 721 Barton Springs Road

7:00 pm to 9:10pm

Minutes prepared by Lisa Harris, Secretary

## 7:00 pm Call to Order and Introductions

**7:05 pm** from City of Austin Legal Department: Deborah Thomas, Division Chief over Land Use & Real Estate, and First Assistant City Attorney Karen Kennard

**8:10 pm** Natasha Rosofsky, Executive Director, AVANCE- Early childhood/family programs for low income families. Serves children aged 0-3 who are in poverty and their parents. Holistic program to increase readiness for school. Sept.-May class. Children and their parents graduate from the program after 9 months. Includes parenting education- community resource awareness, English as a second language. Children are exposed to letters, numbers- introducing them to basic literacy skills, how to follow instructions, etc. Over 90% of participant children later graduate from high school. About 100 parents and 100 kids are participating currently they attend one day a week for three to four hours.

## 8:25 pm Resolutions

### 8:25 pm Authorities & Liabilities of Neighborhood Planning Teams

*Whereas City of Austin Land Development Code defines a Neighborhood Plan Contact Team as "an interested party for purposes of notice, appeal, and other processes" and "a separate body apart from any other existing or future neighborhood organization" (Source: Ord. 20080306-073; Ord. 20091105-069; Ord. 20091217-053) and;*

*Whereas the City of Austin encourages participants in the development of a neighborhood plan to form a Neighborhood Plan Contact Team during the planning process or once the plan is adopted and;*

*Whereas many stakeholders devote numerous volunteer hours to work on their neighborhood plan through participation in a Neighborhood Plan Contact Team and;*

*Whereas the roles and responsibilities of Neighborhood Plan Contact Teams are clearly defined on the Planning and Development Review pages of the City of Austin website, but the authority of Neighborhood Plan Contact Teams is not clearly laid out and:*

*Whereas questions have arisen regarding potential liability of Neighborhood Plan Contact Teams and the individual participants in those Teams*

*Therefore be it resolved that the Austin Neighborhoods Council calls upon the City of Austin to clearly define the authority of Neighborhood Plan Contact Teams, including provisions for team members' representation in any litigation arising from their actions, decisions and initiatives arising from participation in city-sanctioned neighborhood planning processes.*

Lou O'Hanlon moved passage. Claire Walpole seconded. Vote: 30 yeas, 0 nays, 1 abstention

### 8:35 pm Residential Remodel Ordinance

*Whereas the City of Austin's Land Development Code has no written definition of the term "remodel" and the current unwritten rule of thumb has led to many abuses for remodels,*

*Therefore be it resolved that the Austin Neighborhoods Council supports adoption into the City of Austin Land Development Code the letter and intent of the Residential Remodel Ordinance proposed by the Codes and Ordinances Subcommittee of the Planning Commission on April 20, 2010.*

Bryan King moved passage. Terry Tevis seconded. Vote: 30 yeas, 0 nays, 1 abstention

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**8:49 pm** ANC Announcements/Updates

**8:49 pm** City of Austin Neighborhood habitat challenge. Alice Nance from Wildlife Austin, and Jeannette Swenson who led the Windsor Park effort last year.

**8:50 pm** Rehab hospital as new zoning category. Michael Holleran of Ridgelea. Is stopped for time being but is going to Council.

**8:55 pm** Comprehensive Plan- Jeff Jack. Participants are asked to express preferences without giving information on the implications of the preferences. (E.g., cost of the different choices.) The oversight committee is not being kept in loop on some parts of the process.

**9:01 pm** Downtown Development Plan & Density Bonuses- Jeff Jack. Density bonus program proposed. Stakeholder group has been meeting for three months but can't come to consensus. Planning commission has representatives there and will be making recommendations to Council about the proposal.

**9:05 pm** Reactivating Building Permits- Cory Walton. This went before Council last week. CM Morrison has written proposed revisions to the ordinance. Council will hear it probably a week from tomorrow.

**9:07 pm** Change Austin teach-in Sat. May 1st on tax appraisal protests.

**9:08 pm** AISD and ACC elections

**9:09 pm** Adjourn