

WPNA Meeting Minutes 10/14/17

Welcome - Call to order at 10:13. Meghan Dougherty welcomed first time attendees, and acknowledged newsletter sponsors and deliverers.

Citizen Communications

- Jeanette Swenson said that financial aid workshops for college were happening at Reagan and across the city.
- Brian Graham said that the city Bond Review Advisory Committee is looking for projects to fund, and encouraged the committee chairs to consider submitting suggestions.
- Mary Aleshire requested that the WPNA scholarships only be awarded to US citizens. Meghan Dougherty replied that we do not know the citizenship of the winners, and that it is not part of the decision criteria.

Minutes – Meg corrected the spelling of Chito Vela’s name. The minutes were approved as edited.

Yard of the Month – Ernest Perales of 6301 Haney Dr was awarded a \$50 gift certificate to Shoal Creek Nursery for his yard, planted in native and adapted plants.

Eastlink – Tom Rowlinson of McCann/Adams Studios spoke on a proposed trail from Bartholomew Park to Lady Bird Lake. The trail is still in the planning phase, and they are working on filling three gaps in the route. The 51st Street crossing will be at grade at Berkman, with a future crossing at Tilley. All materials are available online at Eastlink.Austin.com.

Berkman Drive Plan – Nathan Bokes and Jessie Duncan from the City Transportation Department presented. The study began with \$60,000 funding made available by Councilmember Casar and looks at mobility and safety. Traffic has increased from 9,000 vehicles a day five years ago to over 15,000 vehicles a day now. The study recommends putting in left turn lanes at high volume turn intersections, which would require narrowing the bike lanes near those intersections. It also recommends pedestrian refuge islands at T intersections and intersections with few left turns. The Safe Routes to Schools program is going to help pay for a hybrid crossing beacon at the Rogge/Suffolk intersection. For physical protection of the bike lanes, they are proposing flex posts near intersections, transitioning to large round cement humps. The recommendations are all based on community input, and include 6 crossings in the 1.3 miles from HWY 290 to 51st Street. Feedback will close in the coming weeks, and they hope to start the improvements in six months. Rodney Ahart suggested that the neighborhood partnering program could help planting the refuge islands and the beautification committee could help maintain them.

AISD Bond Proposal – Juan Pablo Martinez presented the resolution that WPNA support the bond proposal as published in Window on Windsor. Brian Graham moved to approve, while saying that equity should go beyond providing building funds. The motion passed unanimously.

Code Next – Brian Graham explained the proposed zoning categories in the current version of Code Next, pointing out that the biggest changes were proposed for the streets west of Berkman. Under the proposal, the City estimated that an additional 770 dwelling units would be built in the next 10 years in Windsor Park. The Contact Team met and recommended that all of Windsor Park’s single family properties be zoned R3B, which would allow duplexes and ADUs, but not cottage courts or cottage corners. Also under the proposed plan, buildings of six to seven stories high would be allowed along Cameron from 51st to Clayton, along 52nd, and in Windsor Village. Required off-street parking for single family residences would be reduced from two per dwelling unit to one. There will be more discussion on Code Next at the November WPNA meeting.

Treasurer’s Report - Meg Brooks said that she is taking ideas for next year’s budget, and Amanda Rose suggested that since Window on Windsor has been running at 14 pages regularly this year, we should budget for it to be that size every month.

Committee Reports -

- Revitalization - Mohan Rao said that they may have another happy hour at Cenote in November.
- Parks - Jeanette Swenson said that the map my park day on September 30 in Pomerleau Park was a big success. She encouraged people to sign up for PARD’s It’s My Park Day on November 4 for both Pomerleau and Bartholomew Parks, with a special need for a leader for the Bartholomew effort. In Pomerleau, clearing is the highest need, both taking out invasives and clearing the fence line for safety concerns.
- Nominating Committee - reported that the current WPNA officers have agreed to stand for another term and were re-nominated. Elections will be at the November meeting.

Standing Rules and Procedures – Dan Strub presented, explaining the purpose of documenting how the committees and officers carry out their tasks separately from the bylaws. Templates for committee chairs and topics for the newsletter volunteers, social media moderators, and the WPNA officers have been posted on Google Docs. Dan requested that first drafts be submitted by the November WPNA meeting.

ANC Update – Brian Graham reported that new officers have been nominated for the upcoming elections. There is one contested race where the incumbent was expelled from his neighborhood association for abusive behavior, formed a new neighborhood association without the original neighborhood association’s knowledge, and desires to continue serving his post as sector representative. Brian asked for and was unanimously given authorization to vote against the incumbent.

The bylaws change regarding prescreening of neighborhood associations applying for membership on the basis of sharing some common ideological grounds and screened solely by the executive committee will be discussed at a meeting on Thursday, October 19. The meeting is open to the public.

Adjorn – The meeting was adjourned at 12:05 pm.