

## WPNA General Meeting Minutes

November 9, 2019

### Memorial United Methodist Church

1. **Welcome:** Dan Strub welcomed new neighbors and thanked WOW sponsors. We thanked newsletter deliverers. Amanda Rose reminded us that there are several routes that need newsletter deliverers. If you are interested in volunteering, please let Amanda know. Thanks to the Armstrong Community Music School, Money Positive, Salt Homes and Karen Pagani for sponsoring our newsletter. If you're interested in sponsoring the newsletter, let Meg Brooks know.
2. **Citizen's Communication**
  - A. **Shane from WP Library:** Lots of programs for kids. New programs on Wed eve from 6-8 pm for resume help and job searches. Board with Books group and adult book study is continuing. Shane shared the history of the WP bookmobile and library. Please come by and visit the neighborhood library.
  - B. **Jackie Brooks:** Thank you to all who have pulled info for the Eastlink project. A few other events coming up that are listed on their website. [austinparks.org](http://austinparks.org) If anyone has additional information to share with Eastlink, you can let Jackie know.
  - C. **Barrett Sundberg:** Climate Committee has been to over 10 area neighborhood associations to share what the WPNA is doing to combat climate change.
  - D. **Speed Bumps on Coventry:** Question from an attendee at the meeting-How do you advocate for speed bumps? Dan suggested she reach out to the city. The first step requires you to get support of other neighbors on your street. Shaleigh Fox is trying to get speed bumps on their road also and will share information about that process with any interested parties.
3. **Yard of the Month:** 1421 Hillcrest Drive. Tommy and Erika Newton. Xeriscaping includes St. Augustine and agave plants. Tommy's advice to anyone who is starting a yard is to get an irrigation system. They will receive a \$50 gift certificate from Shoal Creek Nursery.
4. **Minutes from October:** Motion made to approve the minutes. All were in favor, none opposed.
5. **Officer elections:** The 2020 officer nominees were presented to the WPNA. Motion was made to close nominations, seconded, all in favor. Motion was made to accept the slate. Motion was seconded and all were in favor. The officers for 2020 are: Dan Strub, President; Jackie Brooks, Vice-President; Charlene Ansley, Secretary; Barrett Sundberg, Treasurer; Josh Pitts, Intra-Neighborhood Organization Delegate.
6. **2020 Budget:** We cut costs as much as possible for the 2020 budget. Only donation in our budget is to Memorial UMC. Cutting down newsletter to 8 pages as much as possible. Beautification money has been put aside to mow the median. Thank you to Meghan Dougherty for taking over with sponsorships. Scholarship funds are in a separate account and not included in part of the presented budget. Motion was made to adopt the budget, all were in favor, none opposed. Thank you, Meg Brooks for your service to the WPNA as Treasurer!
7. **Mueller PUD zoning resolution:** Catellus came and proposed a plan to our neighborhood association last month. They asked for us to show support of their proposal to increase density. Be it resolved that the WPNA supports the proposed changes to the Mueller PUD, with the expectation that with the increased density, measures will be taken to ensure that the arterials feeding, and bordering Mueller are not overly burdened by the expected increase in traffic.

A resolution was written, and motion was made to accept the resolution as written. A question was raised about the differences between low income and affordable housing. Proposal to have language more specific about affordable housing in the resolution. This would be added to the resolution in the final paragraph following "...are not overly burdened by the expected increase in traffic. Also, we encourage the provision of no units costing more than 50% MFI." All in favor, 2 abstained.

**8. Schools Committee Resolution: Emily Sawyer and Nadia Khan**

Second version of the draft scenarios have been released. Four schools are up for closure.

Final bullet point of the resolution was left off the printed copies at the meeting. Bullet point is about dual-language learners, focusing on English Language Learners in the programs.

Discussion occurred. Concern was raised about enrollment at Bertha Sadler Means and how it would be affected by the new Mueller Middle School. Motion was made to add the language of a talking point read by Emily Sawyer regarding feeder patterns and equity. Amendment to motion that the schools committee be authorized to edit the language in the resolution. Amendment was accepted. All were in favor, none opposed, none abstained.

**9. Council Members Natasha-Harper Madison & Greg Casar**

Hot topics for the council include: land development code, homelessness, Project Connect.

Questions about the land development code were sent ahead of time to both Council Members by the WPNA. The median age of an Austinite is 32. The Land Development Code is 35 years old. It is time for a revision. In two months, 450 homeless people have been housed. Goal is to be safe, humane and cost-effective in addressing homelessness. Project Connect will affect this neighborhood (blue line expansion specifically).

Regarding Land Development Code-

Myth 1: If my home is damaged or burns down, I can't rebuild. If your house burns down or is damaged, you can rebuild your house, even if it's a single-family home.

Myth 2: Are we going to flood the city with all the concrete we are going to put down? This plan is better for water development/quality.

Myth 3: Is this going to cause huge jump in property tax bill? No, if you live in your house, you can only be taxed to a house that is comparable and like your home. (Recent shifts have benefited residents re: ability to protest your property taxes. This process should be much easier in the future.)

Under the proposed LDC, the vast majority of housing is on the major streets or out on the edges. No solid changes will happen in 2019.

Additional questions:

- A. Are there incentives to offer affordable housing on our properties? The ADU incentive program does need to be looked at.
- B. What thought is going into infrastructure with this increase in population, such as pipes, sidewalks, etc.?
- C. Regarding climate crisis: Increase in population with flooding on the coasts. Has this been factored into the city's plans? Yes. We are addressing how our community will grow based on this factor. We believe that if we stay on the current path, Austin will be a climate refuge. We need more electric public transport. Our biggest carbon footprint is tailpipe.

- D. Between Cameron and Berkman, we have 1200 single-family lots. Transition zones are zoned 7-8 lots deep in gentrification vulnerable areas. Is that intentional? We need to make sure that equity was considered and we (council) need to take a closer look at this.
- E. Can we have more meetings where people can come together to discuss transition areas?  
Yes- all of this is on the table. We've asked for a preservation incentive. We've asked to improve this incentive and make it better. Please remember these are proposals. Nothing is confirmed and is open to change, discussion and growth.

Discussion continued past 12 pm for anyone with additional questions for the Councilmembers.

Meeting was adjourned following the discussion.