

## WPNA Meeting Minutes: June 10, 2017

### Memorial United Methodist Church, 10 am

- I. **Welcome:** Meghan Dougherty called the meeting to order at 10:11 am. She welcomed first time guests and returning guests. Meghan acknowledged newsletter sponsors, members, and newsletter deliverers. This morning we spent the first ten minutes of the meeting with “Coffee Chat”- a chance to enjoy coffee and meet new neighbors. We’ll be hosting Coffee Chat at each monthly meeting. We encourage you to bring a treat to share!
- II. **Citizen’s Communication:**
  - \*Nadia Khan announced a proposal for a different rezoning of the area west of Cameron Road to the IH 35 access road. She will present at the Contact Team meeting this month.
  - \*Charters Wynn discussed a nomination for city council commission and concerns. Rick Krivoniak encouraged people to apply for a city council commission position. This nomination that was concerning was for the Bond Advisory Committee and was a nomination by Ora Houston.
  - \*Brian Graham & Jane Churchill brought tomatoes in to share.
  - \*Meghan Dougherty shared changes to the newsletter. Thank you to Amanda Rose for the beautiful new format.
  - \*Shea Scott discussed Dawna Dukes and contention over her position. There is a meeting at Eastview tomorrow (Sunday, June 11) to discuss. He will forward more information about the meeting to Meghan Dougherty to share with the listserv.
  - \*Newsletter correction: Contact team meeting is on JUNE 12 not JUNE 5, as listed in the newsletter.
  - \*J.F. on Westmoor discussed concerns with unusual trash being left on his block. Calling 311 has been the best recourse thus far.
  - \*A new newsletter deliverer commented that a woman who he delivers the paper to had not received a newsletter in 17 years! (And now she does!)
- III. **Minutes:** Motion to approve minutes was made and seconded, all approved.
- IV. **Yard of the month:** This month’s Yard of the Month are Jenni and Brian Bernier at 5507 Mapleleaf. The residents have been in the neighborhood for five years. They have a drip irrigation system and native plants. They have over 50 different types of plants in their yard and rely on the advice of nurseries in Austin to decide what to plant. They are the recipients of a \$50 gift certificate to Shoal Creek Nursery.
- V. **Watershed Protection, City of Austin: Dr. Eric Loucks, Supervising Engineer, Michele Adlong and Henry Price**

Their department addresses flooding and erosion. They also work on waterway maintenance and vegetation control using in house crews and controls. They do small projects that are designed by engineers in the Watershed Protection Dept. From the time a project is designed and carried out, it’s about a year or two. There are erosion crews and pipe & concrete crews. Large projects: more than 1M to build, designed by consultants and built by contractors. Watershed Features in Windsor Park: Three watersheds occupy WP. Tannehill, Fork Branch and Walnut Creek. Broadmoor/Corona Drive Storm Drain improvements: 5-10 years, Broadmoor Drive Local Flood Small Project- next year or two, Broadmoor Drive Bank Stabilization Project- next five years, Bartholomew Park Stormwater Improvements- next five years, will include some park improvements.

Michelle Adlong is the lead engineer on the Broadmoor Drive Erosion Project, in process and using limestone blocks that last a lot longer instead of concrete. They're also a natural product. Henry Price is working on the Corona Drive/Broadmoor Dr. Storm Drain Improvements. It will involve additional storm sewer lines in the neighborhood.

Contaminant Spills: 512-974-2550

City Service Requests: Call 311

**Q&A:**

Q: Is there coordination between CodeNEXT and the Watershed?

A: Yes. Some of the impervious percentages are analogous to the current zoning requirements.

Q: When we look at watersheds and studies about flooding, west Austin is not analogous to east Austin. Do you take that into account?

A: We recently studied soil on the eastside and data on gauges to see if we're doing a good job of modeling what actually happens. We take local characteristics in mind when we study the watershed.

Q: No-mow zone in the park. What is the next phase of that? Erosion concern near the basketball court- what is the most recent assessment? Worried about the trail route between the basketball court and the creek.

A: The no-mow zone: working on the analysis to see what kind of vegetation can grow behind that area. They have to do a more curated grow zone there in order to maintain the channel. They can look into this with the people who are working on this area.

Basketball court erosion is a mystery. It is an active erosion site in the database. It's quite stable because of the vegetation. It would require tree removal and some serious stabilization work with a trail.

Q: Different compositions in West Austin Ground and East Austin Ground: what are the differences?

A: In West Austin there is more limestone, recharge features in West Austin (sinkhole features that absorb more water which produces less runoff) East: Soils more clay, more absorbing

Q: Big developments have no stormwater control. Highland Mall is the headwaters of the Tannehill Branch. As it's being developed, is that being addressed?

A: Yes. We're in a public/private partnership with Highland Mall. They are building a water control facility. The city puts up 75% of the money and the developer 25%. 1.3 million on the facility to be built next year. They will make available the details to the WPNA. It's designed to improve the quality of the water.

Q: Pedestrian Trail: Is there a map of the artist's rendering for the bridge and trail?

A: It's part of the Urban Trails project. There is no time table yet. There is a map and they launched a FB page recently.

\*Tannehill usually is the worst in terms of water quality. It doesn't take into account the trash. They look into water quality, insects that live in the creek. This is why 1.3 m is being allotted for water quality. 2 m to be spent in Bartholomew Park (possibly).

Q: Why is the quality so bad?

A: There are 3 monitoring sites in the T. Branch Watershed. You can go online and see past reports on the metrics for the score. They measure every three years. They take water quality samples more frequently.

Call Eric or email with any questions. He can be reached at: 512-974-2534, email at: [Eric.Loucks@austintexas.gov](mailto:Eric.Loucks@austintexas.gov)

VI. **Affordable Housing Austin: Briarcliff and Gaston Place Drive**

Isabelle Headrick- Executive Director, AHA!

Mitch Weynand- oversees development aspects of the project

Rich McMath- project architect

Nat Ho- civil engineer

Board members: Renee Lopez

Gene Rogers- WP resident

The site is 0.8289 acres

Address: 1915 Briarcliff Drive

Adjacent to and shares amenities with Leisure Time Village

Great access to public transportation

The project is compiling with all regulations

Green building features: targeting three-star rating, hoping for four stars

Native plant landscaping

Changes were made to the plan of the building once the group spoke to the Contact Team. These changes did increase the cost of the project.

Improvements will be made to make things ADA accessible and safer. The existing trees will never be removed.

Some community members spoke on the need for the accessible housing

**Q&A:**

Q: Will there be partnership with Leisure Time village to maintain the overall look of that area?

A: It's not within the budgets of this project.

Q: What is the security plan for the site?

A: Cameras and an on-site manager during the week.

Q: How many units will be built?

A: 27

Q: Concerns about evacuation in case of fire. What's the plan?

A: Second elevator has been added to the project. One is large enough to accommodate a gurney, entrance is on Briarcliff rather than Gaston Place. Design with the driveway coming in can accommodate a ladder truck. Buildings are right along the sidewalk. The building also has sprinkler system.

Q: How was the project been funded with the added amenities?

A: Costs has increased with the rooflines. Over two million from city of Austin and 1 million from the State of Texas. Still working on putting together the funding. 76% of the funding has been secured.

Q: Current site plan needs to be amended to go to 3 stories and you currently have a 2-story permit.

A: We're applying for a whole new permit.

Q: When do you break ground?

A: October or November and 12-14 months of construction

VII. **Friends of Briarcliff: Kara Kriegshauser**

Discussing [resolutions](#) on improving the accessible housing Austin Briarcliff development

Five areas to consider:

1. Site plan approval from City of Austin's Watershed Protection Department
2. ADA compliant and code-standard parking is approved by Watershed Protection Department
3. Urge them to propose a 2-story, LEED certified structure that faces the street and encourages community and sustainability
4. Urge that AHA provides continual, structured, and reliable onsite care and services for residents with disabilities exiting institutions and those with serious mental illness
5. Urge that the AHA provides continual, structures and reliable onsite care and life-skills services at AHA Briarcliff for their residents with disabilities exiting foster care

**We will bring up resolutions next month for discussion and vote.**

VIII. **Treasurer's Report:** One addendum, \$3293 new donations to the scholarship fund

IX. **Code NEXT Update:** On the back table there are copies of the code zones for the neighborhood. Windsor Village is a T-5, will allow six story buildings. You have until first week in July to make comments on your street, even your house. July 12, Monday night, contact team will meet to discuss further.

X. **Committee Reports:**

Parks: Turned down for all three grants that Jeannette Swenson applied for. Austin Parks wants us to reapply for the fall. HEB and Wells Fargo turned us down. If you know of anyone who might be interested in contributing, let Jeanette know.

XI. **Adjourn:** Motion was made to adjourn. Seconded and all were in favor. Meeting was adjourned at 12:01 pm