January 10, 2015

Windsor Park Neighborhood Association meeting

President Karen Pagani called the meeting to order.

New neighbors/meeting attendees introduced themselves.

Karen recognized newsletter sponsors and deliverers.

We have finished raising the money for the small shade over the play scape in Bartholomew Park. We still need to raise the money for the larger playscape.

Karen is working with the Delwood Little League for designating land in Bartholomew for a dog park.

There is a section of the park that needs to be rehabilitated. Karen asked everyone to call 311 to fix the multi-use field behind the baseball field. There is a retaining wall that has collapsed and is an eyesore and a hazard. The more we contact the city, the more of a priority it will be for the city to get it fixed.

Greg Casar asked to be copied on the 311 information contacts as our new councilman. Greg.casar@austintexas.gov.

**Minutes** from November 2014 – amendments: will add the address to the Yard of the Month. Move for minutes to be approved, seconded, minutes were approved, no one opposed.

**Yard of the Month** -1421 Corona Drive, Astrid and Alex Gantos moved here from Massachusetts and have learned a lot about native Texas plants. They will be receiving a $50 gift certificate from Shoal Creek Nursery.

**Treasurer’s Report** – Ward Davison reported. There will be an audit tomorrow. We have a lot of new members from the December holiday party and today. We are planning on increasing dues. It will be a $5 increase for individual and family and $10 for sustaining, which would mean $15 for the individual membership, $20 for the family membership and $35 for the sustaining membership. At these rates, Windsor Park Association would see an addition $1191 in funding for the year.

Question – why the increase? We haven’t raised the dues in over 10 years. We want to help fund the scholarship, shades funds, supporting the Little League. Whenever we apply for grants, grant committees want to see some matching funds from the neighborhood. Concern – we should also have a basic fee for people on limited incomes, the executive committee is not planning on raising the fixed income rate.

Question – when will this change go into effect? Next year.

This is a proposal and will be voted on in a future meeting.

Ward encouraged anyone with questions or concerns to contact him.

Rebecca Carpenter reported on the money as of the end of December. She made donations to Delwood Little League, Drive a Senior and the UMM Church. Rebecca thanked everyone for letting her serve as treasurer for the past 4 years.

**Mueller Update** – Rick Krivoniak presented. The Mueller Commission will meet in the next week and will be discussing the Workforce Housing Project which will be located on Aldrich. It’s a tax credit project with smaller units. Tuesday, 6 pm at the Carver Library. There will be an update on parking and transportation. There will be changes to parking regulations this year. Parking garage at the Thinkery is still free for now. There are some new restaurants coming in, and a few restaurants that have closed down.

**51st street Vision Plan** – there was a bond passed for $50 million. There are some engineering studies to determine feasibility of the proposal. There will be an open house in mid-February, and Rick encouraged everyone to attend the meeting (they are about $3 million short of funding on the Vision Plan).

Proposal in the Vision Plan – wider sidewalks, street trees, parallel parking along 51st, separated bike lanes, there will be a median by the Home Depot. There will still be 2 lanes in each direction and separate turn lanes. The open house should provide some opportunities for residents to provide input on the plan.

Discussed the need for a pedestrian crossing along Berkman.

There is a proposal to align a driveway for Crossroads Church to align with Mueller.

There is a proposal to do away with the right-hand slip turn from westbound 51st onto Cameron Lane. There are proposals for making it easier for bicycles to turn left onto Cameron from 51st eastbound.

**Bartholomew Master Plan** – Parks and Recreation Department is reluctant to make any small changes (based on the Master Plan) until they have the ability to implement the entire master plan at one point. For example, Disc Golf has been struggling to get the holes built that are included in the plan, based on PARD’s reluctance. Soccer Field – the Little League would be responsible for managing the field, based on the lease from the city, so there might be some delay in getting a soccer field up and running. A hike and bike trail that could connect between the Mueller hike and bike trail and Bartholomew could help to get bike traffic off the streets. There also needs to be a dog area in both Bartholomew and Mueller.

**Windsor Park Neighborhood Plan** – Was created in 2005 in conjunction with University Hills. Plan was adopted in August 2007 and a contact team was created to help monitor implementation of the plan. The plan is available online. Any changes need to go through City Council. Whenever there’s money in the city budget, the city can look at the neighborhood plan and add the features that have been suggested by the plan. Steve Speir is the lead of the contact team, if anyone has specific questions.

**Parks** – Jeanette Swenson announced that the neighborhood has raised over $17,000, along with the $12500 grant from Austin Parks Foundation and match, so we now have enough money to shade the two smaller playscapes. By doing the two at the same time, we got a discount. We will pay the down payment from our funds, and Austin Parks Foundation will pay the balance. We have an $1800 balance to put towards shading the 3rd playscape.

**Contact Team** – Steve Speir presented as a co-chair of the team. The team is open to anyone, you don’t have to be a homeowner, and so Steve encourages renters to join as well. You have to attend 3 consecutive meetings to be a part of the team. They are authorized by the city to monitor zoning requests and work closely with the neighborhood association. Steve recognized many people who are involved in the contact team. They normally meet the 2nd Monday every month at the library at 6:30 pm.

He encouraged everyone to familiarize themselves with the neighborhood plan. Karen mentioned finding a liaison between the WPNA and the contact team who could attend both meetings regularly and include updates in the newsletter on a monthly basis. The team has met repeatedly with the City Council. They also try to meet with business owners to find out their plans and keep them up to date on the neighborhood plan.

**Committees** – Jeanette will start publishing all committee contacts and meeting times in the newsletter to ensure that people are aware of all the ways they can participate in the neighborhood. City council contacts will also be publicized.

**Google Fiber** – Dean Bushmiller – type into your search Google fiber Austin or Google Fiber Windsor Park, this will register your interest and this will be collected for Google data. This will provide competition to other internet providers. It will be a base $300 fee, paid over a year.

Greg Casar – expressed gratitude for support from this neighborhood. Greg wants to create a strategic planning session to bring together people across the city to prioritize needs.

Move to adjourn, meeting adjourned.