

Minutes from the WPNA meeting: 1/14/17

Memorial United Methodist Church

President Meghan Dougherty called the meeting to order at 10:05 am

Treasurer Meg Brooks was present, Vice-President Dan Strub and Secretary Emily Vitris were present

- I. **Welcome new neighbors, thank sponsors, donors, members, and newsletter deliverers:**
Meghan Dougherty (7 new visitors from the neighborhood, 1 sponsor of the newsletter was present, several newsletter deliverers present-thank you!)

- II. **Review and approve minutes from November meeting: Emily Vitris**

Charters Wynn made a motion to approve, it was seconded and there was no further discussion.

- III. **Update on Safety, meeting our new District Representative: SPO Chris Pittman, APD**

Harold Ristow, covers IDA one and Chris Pittman covers IDA two. Harold can be reached at 974-5046. Chris can be reached at 974-5521. Berkman to West is IDA 2 and Berkman to East is IDA 1.

They serve as District Reps/community liaisons: dogs barking, speeding cars, etc. Not 911 type calls or regular patrol cars. They can put out the speed trailer if people are speeding. Chris can be reached via email at Christopher.Pitman@austintexas.gov. Harold can be reached via email at Harold.Ristow@austintexas.gov

Officer Pittman discussed group homes in our neighborhood and the challenges of people who leave group homes, but continue to stay in our area. Cameron Road has a high number of transients.

WPNA used to have a safety committee. Meghan encouraged the WPNA members to consider volunteering as a safety committee chair. Please see her, or email her, if you are interested in volunteering.

Consider attend a Commander's Forum meeting. Meeting dates/locations are posted on NextDoor.

- IV. **Improving the Walkability of our neighborhood: public works, sidewalks: John Eastman, Project Manager Street and Bridge Sidewalks and Special Projects Division Public Works Dept. City of Austin**

The city is missing about ½ of the sidewalks it is designed to have. It could cost around 1 billion dollars to complete that amount. Google “city sidewalk masterplan” to see where the city is going to prioritize the sidewalks construction in the city. Significant number of high priority areas in WP.

Priority sidewalks are mostly located on east/west streets north of Briarcliff and few south of that. Could this be reconsidered? What is the process to get changes made to the sidewalk plan?

The city’s goal is to get a complete network of sidewalks. They tend to be focused on what is near to transit. Over 400 million dollars of high priority sidewalks listed. 10% of the priority needs are funded currently. Mr. Eastman said that if the neighborhood comes together and identifies high priorities, they are very open to that information and it could change the high priority plans for the neighborhood.

10 foot right-of-way was explained in further detail. Ten-day construction notices are provided if a sidewalk is going to be built on your street.

How do we go about requesting changes to the plan? Read the plan and narrative (section 4) for the sidewalk master plan. The sidewalks team is happy to help facilitate a workshop style meeting to discuss further the priorities of sidewalks in WP.

We need a new transportation committee chair. If you are interested in volunteering, please let Meghan know.

If you have specific concerns about sidewalks in the neighborhood, please contact Mr. Eastman at john.eastman@austintexas.gov or phone 512-974-7025/970-846-2573

V. Review treasurer’s report, approve audit committee- general membership: Meg Brooks

Pancake breakfast made: \$1055

Harris uniforms: \$85 collected at holiday party, \$153.79 paid for uniforms (\$74 more to spend on uniforms, purchased shirts, pants, and underwear for students)

VI. Audit committee proposals:

2015 and 2016 audit to the WPNA

Rick Krivoniak made a motion to approve the audit committee. The motion was seconded and discussion was opened.

There was discussion/concerns raised about the openness of the process for nominating the audit committee.

What does the audit committee do? They review finances of incoming and outgoing finances of the organization. Rebecca Carpenter, Sheryl Chatham, Alana Carpenter Moore were nominated to be the members of the audit committee.

Sheryl called the question. It was seconded. 4 people abstained from the vote. The audit committee was appointed.

VII. Propose background check policy for officers: Dan Strub

Dan presented an amendment to the bylaws. The change in the bylaw was written by Dan Strub, explained, and presented to the membership.

Discussion occurred. There was discussion/concerns raised about the necessity of these checks and the invasion of privacy that such a check might entail.

Proposals/revisions to the bylaws were suggested.

Brian moved that the matter be tabled, it was seconded. Motion passed.

VIII. Yard of the Month: Sara Jane Lee

Kristin Moses was the winner of yard of the month. Kristin will receive a \$50 gift certificate from Shoal Creek Nursery.

IX. President's update-strategies for 2017: Meghan Dougherty

Meghan updated the membership about the recent WPNA retreat and goals we have going forward.

X. Committee Reports

A. Mueller Report: Rick Krivoniak

Commission meeting this past Tuesday. Dr. Steven Abrams will be attending a future WPNA meeting to discuss building plans for a 15-acre site at Mueller. Alamo grand opening will likely not be open until March. Six screens and very kid-friendly. Mueller is looking for more commission members. Please consider volunteering.

XI. Announcements from membership and closing

*Windsor Park Book Club: "A Friend of Mr. Lincoln" The author of this book will be attending the book club meeting.

*Gloria has a card for the Harris teachers for the WPNA to sign to thank them for all the work they are doing for the students at Harris, especially the recent increase in student refugees.

*Meghan announced the focus on next month's WPNA meeting: education. Many issues could affect our neighborhood! Please consider attending. FABPAC meeting on January 26 at Garcia Middle School from 6-8 pm where you can hear about these changes and have your voices heard. Juan Pablo, education committee chairperson, will have an article in the next WOW newsletter about how you can get more involved.

*Amanda announced that our library is being proposed for 9 months. Encouraged WPNA members to make your voices known and speak to Ora Houston, Greg Casar or Kathy Tovo

to see if the construction/renovations can be done quicker. It was recommended that the neighborhood send a letter to our council people.

*Highlands of Univ. Hills new developments: contact team sent a letter stating concerns (6100 Friendswood). It has been requested that the developers come talk to the Contact Team. 44 houses coming into the neighborhood. Will be taking out to CEF's and diverting water.

Brian discussed a housing project for seniors next to the vet center on Briarcliff and Wheless has also been an area of concern for the contact team. (Contact team: meetings the second Monday of the month at the library, beginning at 6:30 pm)

Motion was made to adjourn and seconded. Motion approved. Meeting adjourned at 11:53 am.