

CNA Steering Committee
Taqueria Los Altos
October 9, 2002

Call to order and introductions.

Officer reports:

Bree: Discussed merit of having awards for neighbors that have contributed significantly to the hood, sort of an annual hero's forum. The floor was opened for nominations and Isabelle Headrick, Bethany Andrée, and Katharine Beisner were nominated. Jeff Folmar made a motion to approve and Jack Newman seconded. The nomination motion passed unanimously. In regards to the Grande enclosure, there has been clearance given on the design. Now Mark Lind will work on the final stages of design (thanks to Mark!) and the next step is to coordinate with the City. There was some discussion on how and if this should be done, there is some concern about needing a building permit. Bree has talked to Judy Fowler at Austin Energy and the steel girders for the substation should arrive within a week and the final construction and landscaping should be done by the end of the year.

Bo McCarver with Blacklands gave an update of activities. The UBCP process has managed to bring \$7,250 for Patterson Park and \$2,000 for Cherrywood Green, now COA Parks has to approve. Next Bo discussed roads. The UBCP calls for 38th to be downgraded (the position is supported by Blacklands) and Manor to remain as it is currently striped. The next step in the process is to lobby the City to have the expansion plans for these roads pulled from the CAMPO plan. Bo feels it is important to keep this effort separate from any IH35 activities, however, we need to build strong support from the neighborhood to have a strong showing at the CAMPO public hearing on their plan in the Spring of 2003. Bo is trying to work on Jackie Goodman as a support person for this street effort by emphasizing that we put traffic loads on state highways (MLK and Airport) over city streets (Manor & 38th). Girard expressed that this issue should be visited by the P&Z committee. Bo continued that we should work together to find a winning solution to our neighborhood Triangle at Manor and Chicon. He indicated that it would be wonderful public space and we should pursue getting Capital Metro money to purchase the land. In regards to NCINC, we are getting additional media coverage from the Texas News Network, which is producing a story on IH35, and the story of contractors doing lobbying for transportation projects is also being picked up. Stefan has made several presentations to other neighborhood associations and we are due to get an endorsement from the ANC mobility workgroup. A discussion about the future of 38th ensued.

Other Issues:

Jim Walker added that someone should contact COA to see if there is data on the operational benefit of the current Manor road striping that could be applied to 38th for future design changes. In addition, he added that somehow the Flea production got bumped up to 1,800 and asked if there were specific reasons. Bree indicated that she needed an extra 50 to send to all local elected officials (kudos to Bree for taking on this

massive endeavor). Others added that the extras were for advertisers to pass out in their places of business.

The November elections were discussed and the importance of getting the vote out, particularly since Precinct 131 would be the only one in the city voting electronically. The Democratic Party has been approached about holding an event in Cherrywood Green where information on candidates would be available and rides to Fiesta for early voting would also be given. There was extensive discussion and it was agreed that the neighborhood association should assist in the effort to increase voter turnout (no matter what party) in the neighborhood. The discussion indicated that a flyer to encourage people to get out and vote needed to be generated. No responsible party (except maybe Jim) was selected.

Bree Buchanan inquired about her kid's cuteness in the current issue of the Flea. Although enthusiastic support was given, it was unclear whether there was unanimous support. Congratulations Bree!

The safe routes to school results would be presented at the general membership meeting. Rebecca Kohout indicated that we had not received any additional backlogged checks and had no further expenses than the Flea production. There were some questions about what we were proposing to do with the \$1,000 from Grande for a neighborhood project. Bree was going to double-check the language of the letter to see if there were specific restrictions. Ideas thrown out included giving thanks to Grande in the Flea, seed money for a sidewalk project around the box, signs announcing general membership meeting (with potential opportunity for Grande logo on sign), creating a Cherrywood announcement board, or using the money for Cherrywood Green. Rebecca pointed out that this level of expenditure needed to be brought before the general membership for approval, the earliest this could occur would be the January meeting.

On the communications front, Bree gleefully announced that her temporary stint as Flea editor was over. The suggestion was made to let Dolly and Rebecca co-editor the Flea. No action was taken.

No report from Parks or Planning and Zoning. The update from Security is the email about the Commander's forum.

Girard brought up issues with replying to the Neighbor-net and not replying to everyone or having the option available. No resolution or action was indicated.

Jeff Folmar briefly reported on the Delwood Duplex alley issue. There will be a brief presentation at the general membership meeting concerning maintenance problems with the alleys. Jeff Folmar is requesting a vote to determine whether or not the CNA should issue a letter to all property owners of the Delwood Duplexes reminding them of the importance of the alleys as well as the need to keep them clear and passable. It was reiterated that this is just a small, first step in a process to get the alleys fully functional and regularly maintained. Girard Kinney indicated that he would like the strategies for long

term maintenance to be presented to and coordinated with the Planning and Zoning Committee."

Rebecca reported that there is a meeting on the Holiday Arts Festival next week. The festival will take place November 23rd from 11-5. She reported that the artists are ready but we have not heard from additional volunteers. In addition, she has delivered the outstanding welcome baskets and announced that only one of our two award-winning yards made it into the Flea.

The meeting adjourned at 7:59 p.m.

CNA Quarterly Membership Meeting
October 16, 2002, 6:30 - 8:00p, Maplewood School
Attending: 32 Presiding: Bree Buchanan (CNA Chair)
Recording: G. Bennett

1. A FIDUCIARY NOTE (Gordon Bennett)

In the course of the meeting, several references caught my ear to “high voter turnout,” “robust attendance,” “good response to calls for volunteers,” “strong committee work,” and CNA being “well-received by City officials.”

Adding together \$1250 from the Austin Parks Foundation for a trail in Patterson Park, HEB’s donation to shade the wading pool, \$2000 to Cherrywood Green from the UBC Plan, \$2000 from Grande Communications for landscaping in the Cherrywood Green area, TPSD’s striping bike lanes on Manor Road, \$7500 to Patterson from the UBC Plan, \$100,000 budgeted by the City to improve the Patterson playscape,” Austin Energy’s incipient enclosure and landscaping of its electric substation on the Fiesta corner, and possibly \$100,000+ from a Safe Routes to School grant Maplewood and CNA are preparing, dedicated neighbors backstopped by this Association have sprung for us well over a quarter of a million dollars in improvements and amenities for this area in the last couple years.

These efforts have not been CNA organizational initiatives per se. They have been largely the work of active individuals. But I believe having our Association, the FLEA, etc. behind them has played a big role in stimulating this impressive level of community effort. This is one very strong neighborhood association. It has been blessed with very able leadership and participation.

2. eSLATE (Dana DeBeauvoir)

Our County Clerk presented the new voting machines that Pct 131 (Asbury) will pilot Nov 5. For details (and a video), see our What’s New Pussycat? page:

http://asnic.utexas.edu/~bennett/_cwd/pssyct.htm

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Democratic Party get-out-the-vote rallies
Cherrywood Green and Patterson Park
Oct 20 (Sun) 2-6
Food, neighbors...
Independents, Greens, Libertarians, and Republicans welcome
HIGH NEIGHBORHOOD TURNOUT Nov. 5 is the goal

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3. RECOGNITIONS (Bree Buchanan)

Bree presented plaques to Isabel Headrick and Katharine Beisner for outstanding contributions to Patterson Park and Cherrywood Green respectively, to *Flea* layout artist Bethany Andréé, and to me as a “Cherrywood Hero.” As you might guess, I think the world of

this Association and the many friends who make it go. This award means me as much as any I've received. Thank you Bree, and thank you everyone!

4. SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL (Dave Westenbarger)

****MOTION**** (approved unanimously) CNA should contribute a letter supporting Maplewood PTA's grant application. If successful, it will yield \$100,000+ for sidewalks and crossings around the School. Isabel Headrick expressed concerns that people across whose property a sidewalk would run might not be aware of such plans, and might not have an opportunity to negotiate landscaping issues, tree removal, etc.

5. DUPLEX ALLEYS (Jeff Folmar)

****MOTION**** (approved unanimously) CNA should send a letter to residents and property-owners bordering the alleys among the duplexes, advising the desirability of keeping these easements clear, well maintained, and accessible. Jeanne Claire van Ryzin observed that many duplexes host 3 or 4 cars, far too many for the street to accommodate. Mark Lind offered that we all have an interest in solving this problem since clutter on nearby streets makes them more dangerous for pedestrians. Girard Kinney, Chair of the CNA Planning & Zoning Committee, contributed that P&Z should help affected CNA members find a good, agreeable solution.

6. FRIENDS OF PATTERSON PARK (Isabel Headrick)

APF's grant will fund a trail. UBC's allotment will fund assorted improvements.

7. CHERRYWOOD GREEN (Katharine Beisner)

UBC's grant will help fund a trail, picnic table, mutt mitts with disposal. Katharine is threading her way through City requirements to get a water fountain, and a permit to become a proper "park."

8. UPPER BOGGY CREEK NEIGHBORHOOD PLAN (Stephen Kreger)

The next steps are (a) come up with an amendment process to keep the Plan current with neighborhood changes; (b) decide how Planning Team and constituent Neighborhood Associations should relate; and (c) lobby for Action Items that are not likely to happen automatically. Of special interest is 38-1/2 St, which the Plan (passed by City Council) calls for downgrading to a neighborhood street, eligible for traffic calming.

9. TRAFFIC ISSUES (Stefan Schuster)

The next encounter with TxDOT over the planned IH35 upgrade design will be CAMPO's hearing next spring. Between now and then, continued lobbying.

10. SECURITY (Lex Dale Owens)

(a) The property at 3709 Vineland has been boarded up by the City. There are still a few steps left to make sure the scofflaw owners don't allow it to revive as a drug market. Follow-up will be critical.

(b) Lex underscored the importance of WRITING DOWN observations of potential police interest. WRITE DOWN descriptions, make and color of car, even parts of license numbers, etc. It yields better details and higher credibility.

11. HOLIDAY ART FESTIVAL (Rebecca Kohout)

Plans proceed for a fun event Nov 23 (Sat) 11-5 at Asbury. Volunteers are needed to help staff food booths, etc.

12. DELWOOD SUBSTATION (Bree Buchanan)

Austin Energy promises to have it completely enclosed and landscaped by the end of 2002. Mark Lind has been working with them on design issues.

13. PLANNING & ZONING (Girard Kinney)

(a) An information session of some sort will be organized, possibly before year-end, to explain what's allowed and not allowed under the UBC Plan and other City Land Development Code changes.

(b) Now that Friends of Patterson and Cherrywood Green projects are ably organized, it may be wise to merge CNA's P&Z and Parks Committees.

(c) Corridors connecting major green spaces remain a design goal.

14. 2002-03 STEERING COMMITTEE ELECTION (Michael McClendon)

****MOTION**** (approved unanimously) Approve the Nominating Committees slate gazetted in the FLEA. Elected are Meg Brooks, Bree Buchanan, Peter Ketter, Girard Kinney, Lex Dale Owens, Stefan Schuster, and Andy Simmons.

- Adjourn -