

Cherrywood Neighborhood Association - Steering Committee Meeting

Date: Wednesday, May 9th, 2007

Place: Asbury Methodist Church

Meeting Minutes

Attendees

Steering Committee Present: Gordon Bennett, Amy Brotman (recording), David Greene (presiding), Girard Kinney, Wade McElroy, Summer McKee, Mark Schiff, Tom Wald

Steering Committee Absent: Harold Cook, Rebecca Kohout, 3 Vacancies

Other Attendees: Beverly Schiff, George Holcombe,

Motions

- Motion made that we approve the VMU taskforce recommendation and take it to the general meeting. Girard seconded. Friendly amendment made to have Summer speak at the meeting which she accepted. Motion carried unanimously.
- Motion made that we do not endorse the letter from CNA East Austin. Summer seconded. Motion carried unanimously.
- Motion made to reaffirm the policy that our representatives to UBC are obligated to represent the position of the neighborhood. Motion carried unanimously.
- Motion made to support CHULA's letter for movie night. Summer seconded. Motion carried unanimously.
- Motion made for CNA to provide refreshments on film night for the Mayor's presentation with a budget of \$150. Mark seconded. Motion carried unanimously.
- Motion made to approve the minutes from the last meeting. Wade seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Agenda

1. Agenda Setting

- Mayor coming to Asbury, Willowbrook Reach, Jack Newman, Agenda building for neighborhood meeting, David Greene's absence for the summer, Movie night and CHULA, VMU letter, RG4N, Value Sky Park, Committee/ANC report, committee structure

2. Announcements

- Value Sky Park: There is a bid into purchase the Sky Park. The bidder would like to develop the property with a mixed-use approach. The same bidder was trying to buy part of the redeemer property. Seton is no longer using the property.
- Creek Clean Up: Thank you to everyone who came out to participate in the creek clean-up. The big rains we've had though have brought more trash down. David notes that there is a part of the creek that needs some clean-up that is contributing to the trash coming downstream. We should approach the businesses that back to the creek to see if they can contribute to the clean-up.
- Hangers: There is a new cleaner that has leased the building.
- UBC Representation: We are missing representation for a renter and for an alternate. Wade McElroy will become our renter and can also be a business alternate. Tom Wald will be our first alternate.
- Cherrywood Neighborhood Map: There was an error in the map and it will be redone.
- Jack Newman: Jack has resigned from the steering committee. We thank him for all of his work, and he will be missed.
- David Greene: David is leaving on May 20th and returning July 1st. Summer will fill-in in David's absence.

3. Old Business

None

4. ANC Report

- General meeting. No report.

- ANC East. Girard attended, Karen Paup attended as a representative for affordable housing. Bo and Johnnie attended from other UBC neighborhoods. The meeting was totally devoted to VMU. The consensus among the neighborhoods is that VMU will increase the development in their neighborhoods and that it will displace affordable housing. Because of this, they have a letter asking to postpone and if we cannot postpone, then the recommendation is for the east Austin neighborhoods to opt out. They are asking for our endorsement on their letter.

5. Other Agenda Items

Film Night in the Park: CHULA is planning a movie night at Patterson Park on June 15th. Fewer than 100 attendees. Will be family-oriented. .

VMU: The following is the unanimous recommendation from the VMU Task Force to the Cherrywood Steering Committee:

- Recommend VMU for all commercially zoned properties that front on Manor Road, Dean Keaton, IH35, 38th½ (IH35 to the RR tracks) and Airport Blvd.
- Recommend rezoning of the MF and SF zoned properties that front on Manor Road and IH35 to the most restrictive commercial zoning category, and recommend them also for VMU.
- Recommend affordability at 70% MFI (note that all present would prefer 60%, but half of the VMU TF members present felt that it needs to be lft at 80% for VMU to be a viable option for developers. 70% was a compromise)
- Recommend that none of the development incentives be waived.

The Steering Committee unanimously adopts this as their recommendation to the CNA Membership. Please note also that the CNA Steering Committee also recommends that we NOT endorse the letter that has been proposed by ANC East Sector to delay the VMU process. While we are sympathetic to those who feel they have not had adequate time to address the issues, and while we wholeheartedly fully support the goals of diversity, avoiding displacement, affordability and maintaining character of the neighborhoods, we believe that getting VMU in place is actually a step toward these goals, and we therefore would like for at least our little portion of UBC to be able to have these tools in place. Because of the senatorial composition at UBC, it is important to note that we could potentially be voted down.

Responsible Growth for Northcross: Because of the short notice on our invitation, they were unable to attend the meeting. We will try to get them to come another time. .

Agenda for General Meeting: VMU, Mueller Parks and Greenways, CHULA movie night, and other misc. items.

Mayor Winn and Global Warming: The Mayor will come to film night on June 1st. His presentation will be in place of the film. The Mayor would like to advertise it and invite other neighborhoods as well. His presentation will run about an hour.

Capital Improvements for Asbury: Contractors are providing information regarding bids so that George can secure funding. They will look to utilize solar energy.

6. Adjournment (about 8:10pm) – Next steering committee meeting is at Asbury on 6/13. Next general meeting at Maplewood on 5/16.