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STEERING COMMITTEE: Jul 12, 2006, Taqueria Los Altos

- SC PRESENT (7, Quorum): Gordon Bennett, Jennifer Elsner, David Greene, Jack Newman (presiding), Pauline Porter, Randall Terrell, Shani Snoddy

- SC NOT PRESENT: Rebecca Kohout, Kyle King, Megan Woodburn (3 vacancies)

- OTHERS: Dan & Amy Brotman, Harold Cook, George Holcombe, Girard Kinney, Robert Porter, Christiaan Siano, Mark & Beverly Schiff, Karen Sestak

** Next August 9 (Wed), 6:30p, Taqueria Los Altos **

(Jennifer Elsner recording)

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- MOTION (passed): Conditionally approve the proposed Concordia Development (see 1b. below)
- MOTION (passed unimously): Appoint Amy Brotman, Harold Cook, Girard Kinney, and Mark Schiff to fill SC vacancies.
- MOTION (passed): Remove Kyle King from the SC for lack of attendance. Inquire if Megan Woodburn wishes to remain active (she resigned the following day).

1. ANNOUNCEMENTS/DISCUSSION:

1a. ASBURY SIGN (Gordon Bennett)

Our last craftsman has been out of touch but nevertheless hope to finish it by the end of the month

1b. CONCORDIA DEVELOPMENT (Girard Kinney). P&Z met and voted to recommend that CNA support the 22 acre Concordia Development proposal, BUT with some conditions. There are five 300 ft tall buildings included in the mixed use, pedestrian-friendly plan. While there will be very high density, the developer and their architect, Larry Speck, makes a compelling case that this site is an ideal location for the kind of dense nodes that we need in the city to absorb the inevitable growth that is coming, and to provide the density that will attract fixed-rail transit. It is the opinion of Girard that this level of density can actually protect the integrity of the outlining neighborhoods by absorbing the density that would otherwise occur within them.

Discussed was the tower's footprint on the neighborhood. Girard report's that the towers are planned to be perpendicular to IH35, so from Cherrywood's view we will be looking through the buildings not at a wall of them and the shadow footprint of the buildings will be cast onto our neighborhood late in the day.

Also discussed was the traffic issue. Enormous problems are foreseen and there is a very good traffic engineer on board. A major overhaul will be necessary. Public Transportation must be considered.

Also discussed was inclusion of affordable housing. Related concern of some is that affordability brings too many students. Motion made to endorse the plan with conditionally, i.e. that the automobile access/traffic problems are addressed and that the project must have a robust affordable housing component, similar to the Mueller project. Motion passed unanimously.

1c. VINELAND HOUSE (Gordon Bennett). Lots of rebuilding activity is visible on the site. No details about the new owners. This is great development for our neighborhood.

1d. INCREASED/CONTINUED PROBLEMS at BUS STOP (Jack Newman). There is buzz that some of the clean-up being done over on 12th & Chicon has moved the challenges north to our nabe.

(Pauline Porter) Mentions the Bus Stop Safety Issue as being HUGE, beyond our calling APD and the beautification efforts. 1) Its a dangerous bus stop, traffic-wise. 2) Concerns about bus stop not being able to satisfy usage, this is a design issue. Idea that the bus stop moving into the Fiesta Parking Lot, or Fiesta side of 38.5. 3) Continued transient issues. 4) Surrounding businesses (mainly Fiesta's) lack of support to help in clean up efforts, Chevron is specifically cited. "WE NEED TO GET INVOLVED" in this escalating problem. Pauline is announcing an upcoming meeting w/Roberto Gonzales, Director of Planning at CapMetro, on Friday. Veronica & Pauline are attending, discussion about who else needs to attend/what else needs to happen to create more neighborhood support.

(Harold Cook) Suggests Jack Newman, Chair of CNA, attend Friday's meeting as it shows the greatest sign of support. Jack will attend, gladly, and speaks to Pauline directly to assure her that this is of the upmost concern to him personally and as a member of CNA. Harold adds that Cherrywood doesn't have a "business problem" its a "Fiesta problem", asks the group for consensus about this. Group supports action, Harold take it away!

2. UBC/TROLLY REPORT (Girard Kinney)

Illustrates the proposed Trolley route. The concern for Cherrywood is the Mueller to UT piece of it. There is a Cherrywood / Upper Boggy Creek Planning Team Workshop the 5th of August, from 9-12 completely focused on nabe's view on trolley line. Location TBD, possibly UT Union or 1 Texas Center. CapMetro, etc. will attend.

3. PATTERSON PARK: Trail is almost complete.

4. SHANI'S MOVING: Resignation from CNA SC.

5. SC MEMBERSHIP

9 remaining members after Shani's announcement, 7 are active. 7 barely constitutes a quorum! We need to do something NOW if we want to remain functional/continue doing neighborhood business. Jack asks the many attending tonight to step up for the remaining term (Nov 06). Woo-hoo, 4 people rise to the occasion. Amy Brotman, a recently returning neighbor stands and accepts until 07, as does Girard Kinney. Harold Cook & Mark Schiff (15 year resident of 3207 French Place) both accept until November 06. Since the CNA Bylaws provide (Art V, Section C), "Vacancies on the SC occurring between regular annual elections shall be filled on an interim basis by the SC, from nominees provided by the Nominating Committee. An election to fill a vacancy of the SC shall be held at the next general membership meeting."... there is a Motion to approve their nominations. approved unanimously. YEA!

Next issue is should we readdress the by-laws: broaden the base of interested parties, businesses in area? churches? We need creative thinking as to how to expand our reach/inclusion. A motion to move that Kyle King & Megan Woodburn should be let go from the SC as per the bylaws stating removal of members who miss 3 consecutive meetings. Agreed that Kyle King be removed from the CNA and Megan be asked if she intends to remain active. Motion voted on and passed.

Everyone introduces themselves, EVERYONE.

Girard suggests we need a by-laws committee, in order to keep our membership strong and orderly. Pauline adds that we need less formality and more efficiency.

Meeting Adjourned 7:55pm.