

CHERRYWOOD NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION STEERING COMMITTEE
MINUTES 08 APRIL 2009

1. Call to order, introductions. (6:33)

—SC Present: Jeremy Mazur, Robin Peebles, David Greene, Deb Freeman, Justin Irving, Rebecca Kohout, Jack Newman, Mark Schiff

—Non SC: Erica Albright (CHULA), Don Pettigrew & Kathleen Houlihan [interested in becoming SC members], Chapman Shoop Motion to approve minutes: Mark; Jack seconded. Approved Unanimously.

2. CHULA update:

—CHULA is undergoing some restructuring to accommodate goals beyond the Art Fair. Movie night, Big Gardener/Little Gardener, and lots of other project ideas. Next meeting is 4-6pm on May 17th.

3. Neighbornet issues (opened by David)

—David is looking for another possible moderator.

—Current standards of moderation were approved by all.

4. New website launch/ next FLEA issue

—Imminent?

—Will be basic, but will grow. Sections will be managed by committees.

—Will coincide with the launch of Gordon's List.

—Website will also feature polling.

—FLEA will have a new designer (Sherri Whitmarsh) and an expanded May edition.

—FLEA content/articles are due no later than April 17th.

5. FROG update (info from Girard Kinney)

—Friends of the Green was made official last SC meeting

—ATT equipment boxes are now in place

—Adopt A Park plan is underway

—Home Depot has donated \$100 of material for irrigation, herb garden, etc

—Crushed granite trail is finished

—Efforts have been made to repair the drinking fountain

—Park grant application/workshopping is being investigated to secure the long term goals for the park

—Anyone interested in participating in FROG should contact Girard Kinney

6. New CNASC members

—Justin Irving has been approved unanimously.

—Don will submit his application soon, a provisional vote approved him unanimously, pending his application.

—SC is now one person short of a full board.

7. UBC membership

—Jack's insight: UBC deals with zoning issues. If your neighborhood is not represented, it doesn't get to make its own choices regarding zoning. Meetings are monthly. Bo McCarver is the current (and long standing) leader. CNASC needs a delegate that will report back.

—Kathleen Houlihan is considering this position.

—UBC notices should go out to everyone on SC so more of us can try to make their meetings.

Additions based on email threads, post meeting.

Correction of minutes via Girard: Bo McCarver is a rep to UBC from Blackland but has not been Chair in many years, if ever. The current Chair is Thad Swiderski who succeeded Jay Velgos who succeeded Stephen Kreger who succeeded Ora Houston. CNA needs, as I tried to outline in my message that I had asked Jeremy to print out and distribute, at least FOUR reps in order to have full voting strength. I am an Alternate Homeowner and Business Rep, but we need at least one Renter, one Business rep, and at least two homeowners. I am glad to hear that Ms Houlihan is considering being one of the four needed, but unless we want to be totally ineffective at UBC we need a full complement of reps.

Clarification of comments from Jack: Of course a full complement of reps is desired, but all I was trying to accomplish is to encourage individual participation. It is difficult to expect any one person to assume his attendance will matter if it is a total waste of time without all four plus two. Of course, it is not a waste, and each person who has any interest in the larger picture will find UBC very much a useful and engaging experience, and will benefit CNA and the SC greatly.

Notes on ANC and UBC from Girard: ANC (Austin Neighborhood Council): this is an umbrella organization consisting of reps from all Austin Neighborhood Associations who have joined. I do not know whether we are current with our dues, but in the past we have always been a member, with several folks over the years having been our rep. I think that Randal Terrell is our current rep, although I have not seen or heard a report from him for some time. ANC has an "unofficial" East Austin sub-group that is, indeed, headed up by Bo McCarver. I occasionally attend the meetings of ANC East; in fact I attended the last meeting of this unofficial group at Mi Madres several weeks ago and Bo McCarver was kind enough to put our issue about our struggle with AT&T at Cherrywood Green on their Agenda. That group passed a resolution to work with Carol Gibbs, one of the two new Neighborhood Liaison positions, to work on the feasibility of a city-wide ordinance requiring notification to neighborhoods and property owners whenever a utility or telecommunication company construction project (such as the equipment boxes at Cherrywood Green) are being considered. The idea is to try to get the neighborhoods plugged in to the process of determining exactly where these things will be placed, and to coordinate with neighborhoods about the timing and pertinent details of their construction. UBC (Upper Boggy Creek), which is short for UBC Plan, UBC Planning Area, and UBC Planning Area Team, refers to an area created by the City, comprising

five "subdistricts" (Delwood II, Wilshire Wood, Cherrywood, Blackland and Rogers Washington/Holy Cross neighborhoods). Cherrywood is the largest of the five, having more areas and more residences than all of the other four combined. Each neighborhood (sub-district) may have up to four voting representatives, but to have four votes, one rep must be a renter, one must be a business rep and two must be homeowners. Cherrywood's reps are appointed by the CNA Steering Committee and are bound by Cherrywood Policy to vote as directed by CNA on any item where CNA has a position.

End of additions.

8. Train noise matters (presented by Justin)

- Concerned parties will record the problem and take it to the city.
- Passenger routes are discontinued until CapMetro finds a new safety officer, but freight still runs very late at night.
- CNA will draft a letter and get signatures to give CapMetro.
- We will let political candidates know about problems with the train noise.
- Train noise committee needs to engage other neighborhoods located along the rest of the train routes.

9. Preparation for May CNA general meeting

- FROG will need an introduction
- UBC membership
- Austin Energy would like to give a presentation on rebates and energy savings tips/opportunities
- Police chief Art Acevedo will speak.
- Codify official business (such as the letter we submitted about affordable housing)
- CNA is hosting a forum of mayoral and city council candidates
- Strategic planning
- neighborhood should submit a list of expectations/needs to political candidates.

10. Motion to adjourn at 7:37, approved unanimously. Footnote: Jeremy may be consumed by legislative session, and in case of his absence, vice-chair Girard Kinney will take over temporarily.