

CNA Steering Committee Regular Meeting

12 October 2016

Fannie Mae Stewart Community Conservatory, 1902 E. 22nd St.

Meeting called to order at 6:40 PM by Mr. Dyke. Ms. Schwartz agreed to take minutes.

Members present

Leyla Cohlmiya, Terry Dyke, Ryan Ofsthun, Emily Schwartz, Cyrus Tashakkori, Erin Tassoulas

Members absent

Janine Gropp, Jules Kniolek, Jim Reed, Wiccit

Reading of Agenda

Motion: To adopt agenda for 12 October 2016

Resolved: Agenda adopted as modified

Approval of minutes

Motion: To approve minutes from 14 September 2016

Resolved: Minutes approved as read

Reports

Chair

Mr. Dyke gave an update on opposition to the variance for 3312 Robinson, a CNA Development Services action led by Mr. Kniolek, Ms. Gropp and Stuart Reilly (report attached).

Treasurer

Mr. Dyke reported a balance of \$4,731.60 and presented a table of FY2016 budget actuals compared to budgeted expenditures, noting that all budgeted programs show a positive balance (report and budget attached). He also noted that the board will need to submit an FY2017 budget to the general meeting in November, and that it need only take some straightforward adjustments to the present budget that can be done at the next board meeting.

Nominating committee

Mr. Ofsthun reported that the committee has received several applications and will report the slate of candidates to the November 2016 board meeting, the slate also to be included in announcements for the November 2016 general meeting. He noted that the imbalance of staggered terms for current board members would be restored if one member whose term is up in 2017 would run for re-election this November, putting them in the "Class of '18."

Resolved: Ms. Cohlmiya volunteered to do so.

Flea committee

Mr. Dyke summarized Ms. Gropp's update (attached). She mentions progress on the ad sales process, reaching out to advertisers and contributors, and completion of a course in Adobe InDesign, the layout software used by the Flea staff.

Music Festival committee

In this, the committee's final report, Mr. Ofsthun reported that the CherryWoodstock music festival at Patterson Park on September 17 was very successful, with 11 bands and 150 to 200 people attending, and with a recommendation that this be an annual event, said that the committee is documenting the process for the benefit of next year's organizers, including something in writing from Austin PARD contact Annette Moreno to the effect that much of the registration and permitting process required for this first event would not be necessary in the future. Expenses for the festival did not exceed the \$700 combined "Music Festival" and "Other" accounts in the "Special Events" budget category.

Motion from Ms. Schwartz to reimburse the Music Festival committee for expenses over \$500 up to an additional \$200.

Resolved: Motion carried on consensus

The Music Festival committee was discharged with thanks for its service.

Motion from Ms. Schwartz that the board hereby commends Mr. Ofsthun and his committee for organizing the CherryWoodstock music festival and intends to hold a similar event in October 2017.

Resolved: Motion carried on consensus

Business

NCINC2 relationship

Even though CNA has representatives to the North Central I-35 Neighborhood Coalition 2 (NCINC2), CNA positions on NCINC2 proposals must be approved by the general assembly in each case. No proposal for making the process more timely came from the discussion. NCINC2 sent a position letter to TxDOT on 26 September 2016, before the matter could be put before the CNA general assembly. Ms. Schwartz (a representative to NCINC2) reported that she attended a 20 September 2016 TxDOT open house on its plan for improvements to I-35.

Motion from Ms. Schwartz resolving that the Steering Committee of the Cherrywood Neighborhood Association supports NCINC2's recommendations of 26 September 2016 regarding the current I-35 project.

Resolved: Motion carried on consensus

Rapid Bus on Manor Rd.

Ms. Cohlmlia reported that Capital Metro has proposed a new frequent rapid bus route on Manor Rd.

Motion from Ms. Cohlmlia that Capital Metro's proposal for a new bus service to the Mueller neighborhood be put on the agenda for the next general assembly meeting

Resolved: Motion carried on consensus

Meeting adjourned at 8:15 PM

Minutes submitted by Terry Dyke, Secretary; notes taken by Emily Schwartz

Attachments:

1. Development Services update on 3312 Robinson Ave. variance
2. Treasurer's report
3. Flea update
4. NCINC2 letter to TxDOT 26 September 2016

Development Services update on 3312 Robinson Ave. variance

11 October 2016 (email from Jules Kniolek)

3312 Robinson Av. Variance NOT GRANTED. A second hearing is scheduled for November.

Yesterday evening the city's Board of Adjustment heard arguments by the developers of 3312 Robinson Av. in favor of relief from city building code related to their violation of the front yard setback rule (development not allowed in the 25' minimum front yard setback area). This code violation prompted the city to issue a "red tag hold" stop work order on the project and subsequently the developers' request for a variance of the zoning code.

During their presentation the developers argued that 45% of the properties in the subdivision do not adhere to the setback code and therefore they should be allowed to violate the code by act of precedent. However they did not present a convincing argument or evidence to substantiate the claim.

The Board did, however, move to grant a one month postponement of the case to allow the defendants time to produce evidence of their claim by means of having professional surveys completed of the properties they highlighted as proof of precedent. This motion passed by unanimous vote by the board.

One thing to note is that the variance requestor has to prove a "hardship" that is unique to the property in question. In this case a comment by the board chair last night was, "I have a hard time finding a hardship on this."

The next hearing is scheduled for November 14. For details regarding the 10 October hearing go to http://austintexas.gov/cityclerk/boards_commissions/meetings/15_1.htm, case L05.

Jules

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3312 Robinson Development related (12 Oct 2016 email from Janine Gropp):

- Thanks to Jules for writing a comprehensive letter to neighbors with the technical details about the variance request, and Stuart Riley on Robinson Avenue for helping with measurements on the property. I contributed by delivering the letter to Robinson and part of Hollywood Avenue. Jules and Stuart attended the September 28th and October 10th meetings and successfully got the decision postponed while we gathered more neighborhood feedback.
- The next meeting where the variance request will be considered is scheduled for November 14th.
- I can continue to deliver variance feedback forms to neighbors.
- For Steering Committee vote on the issue, I object to granting the variance.

Treasurer's report
October 12, 2016

Bank account:

	Beginning	Ending
Period	09/14/16	10/12/16
Cash Balance	\$5,252.57	\$4,731.60

FY 2016 Budget actuals:

Program	Code	Budgeted	Exp	Rev	Bal
Agency	AGN	\$1,200.00	\$508.73	\$0.00	\$691.27
General Meetings	GMT	\$600.00	\$186.31	\$38.00	\$451.69
Flea	Flea	\$5,055.00	\$4,487.07	\$2,770.00	\$3,337.93
Hazardous Waste Collection	HZW	\$350.00	\$134.06	\$169.00	\$384.94
Associated Groups	GRP	\$500.00	\$940.00	\$790.00	\$350.00
Special Events	SPC	\$700.00	\$608.54	\$0.00	\$91.46
Neighborhood Partnering Program	NPP	\$50.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Development Services	DVS	\$50.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00

Approved CNA Budget 2016:

Program	Item	Amount
Revenue:		
Flea	The Flea	
	Advertising	\$8,405.00
AGN	Agency	
	Donations	\$100.00
Total Revenue		\$8,505.00
Expenses:		
AGN	Agency	
	Blackland grant (facilities)	\$300.00
	Supplies & incidental	\$150.00
	Other/Contingency	\$750.00
MTG	General Meetings	
	Promotion (4)	\$210.00
	Refreshments & supplies (4)	\$390.00
Flea	The Flea	
	16-page issues (2)	\$2,160.00
	20-page issues (2)	\$2,700.00
	InDesign software rental, 1 yr.	\$195.00
HZW	Hazardous Waste Collection	
	Promotion (4)	\$110.00
	Truck rental (4)	\$240.00
GRP	Associated Groups	
	Maplewood grant	\$150.00
	Plant & Book Swap grant	\$100.00
	Other	\$250.00
SPC	Special Events	
	Neighborhood music festival	\$500.00
	Other	\$200.00
NPP	Neighborhood Partnering Program	
	TBD	\$50.00
DVS	Development Services	
	TBD	\$50.00
Total Expenses		\$8,505.00

CNA Programs	Abbrev.
Agency (organizational overhead)	AGN
General Meetings	MTG
The Flea	Flea
Hazardous Waste Collection	HZW
Associated Groups	GRP
Special Events	SPC
Neighborhood Partnering Program	NPP
Development Services	DVS

Flea Update (12 Oct 2016 email from Janine Gropp):

- Reviewed Meaghan's documents related to the Ad Sales process, updated the Ad tracking spreadsheet, created new email templates for reaching out to existing and potential customers, and created a Flea production calendar on Google: https://calendar.google.com/calendar/b/1/render?tab=mc&pli=1#main_7%7Cmonth
- Reached out to advertisers that owe payment for renewals via emails copied to the flea@cherrywood.org distribution, as well as new advertising prospects. New ads expected from Google Fiber, Raven and Lily, and Ro Fitness so far. Volunteers for reaching out to advertisers are welcomed, of course.
- Reached out to story contributors, including Mark Smolen for Patterson Park Community Garden, Girard for development content, Sully for theatre update, Dolly for pet column, and SC. Other content on the schedule includes Lafayette sidewalks update, Cherrywood Arts Fair, and CherryWoodstock.
- Met with Mike and Ricardo at Mike's print shop last Friday and confirmed requirements.
- Completed a 5 hour InDesign course for the layout work, reviewed the last issue files from Sully, and ready to begin template for the November issue this weekend.
- Received content from Leyla, waiting for content from other new members and departing Steering Committee member. Topics and suggestions from the SC are due this Friday, October 14th. Content is due October 23rd.

NCINC2 letter to TxDOT 26 September 2016



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26 September 2016

Dear Mr. Bass, Ms. Eason, Ms. Lorenzini and Mr. McCoy,

On June 18, 2016, the North Central I-35 Neighborhood Coalition 2 (NCINC2) heard a presentation from TxDOT consultants outlining the NEPA process and timeline and two build options—Modified Existing and Lowered—currently under study for the Mobility35 Central 7-mile Comprehensive Project (the “Project”).

NCINC2 actively opposes any option that would include an elevated urban freeway such as that proposed in the Modified Existing option. We support lowering IH35 main lanes through downtown to accommodate future capping of the main lanes, repair east-west connectivity across the corridor, provide improved access, safety and comfort for pedestrians, transit users and bicyclists and include clearances sufficient to not preclude future commuter rail along the corridor.

However, our full support of the Lowered option remains conditioned on the recognition and resolution of concerns of our organization and Member Neighborhoods that remain unaddressed

by TxDOT and its consultants. We ask that TxDOT immediately begin work with the City of Austin to take the following actions to properly address these concerns:

- **Align the Project with Imagine Austin Comprehensive Plan, Neighborhood Plans and Corridor Plans.** The Project should clearly reference Imagine Austin and Neighborhood Plan priority programs, goals and action items as well as City initiatives like the African American Quality of Life Initiative and existing corridor plans such as the Airport Boulevard Corridor plan, and eliminate conflicts with these local efforts. Imagine Austin principles of a Healthy, Sustainable and Compact & Connected City should guide the Project, specifically regarding pedestrian and bicycle access, east-west connectivity, residential and commercial development and the effects of noise and air pollution on human health and quality of life.

- **Provide a comprehensive, long-term vision for the IH35 corridor.** TxDOT should comprehensively address the highway system through Austin's urban core in a holistic manner that verifiably measures issues of access, equity, human health, quality of life and economic development in addition to congestion, capacity and mobility. We ask the Austin District to use an approach similar to that of the 2016 CityMAP report from the Dallas District for a long-range vision for the IH35 corridor, including measuring the indices that would quantify the social, environmental and economic benefits of the removal of the upper decks and lowering main lanes through 51st Street.

- **Initiate a full Environmental Impact Study (EIS) for the Project.** Given the concentration of residential populations along the Project and the proximity to the Boggy Creek and Waller Creek urban watersheds, the Project should require a more stringent review process than the current Environmental Assessment. The EIS should quantify human health impacts due to exposure to particulate matter and pollutants including premature deaths, cardiovascular disease, asthma and any other known health conditions associated with proximity to freeways.

- **Ensure that the public input process meaningfully engages north central stakeholders.** Finally, we reiterate our request and that of the City of Austin for TxDOT to convene a true I-35 North Central Stakeholder Working Group, which should include representatives of affected Neighborhood Associations, businesses, institutions along with City officials and should submit a report of design recommendations similar to that produced by the 2014 I-35 Downtown Stakeholder Working Group.

As representatives of Member Neighborhoods to NCINC2, we endeavor to be active, informed, open-minded and critical when necessary to ensure that TxDOT and its consultants—along with our regional transportation planning authorities—conceive of a future for IH35 that supports the City of Austin and the health, well-being and mobility of its residents. **We hereby formally oppose the Modified Existing option and conditionally support the Lowered option, asking that TxDOT and City leadership work together on the actions outlined above to build a comprehensive, community-driven vision for the future of the IH35 corridor through Central Austin.**

Sincerely yours,

Brendan Wittstruck, Chair
North Central I-35 Neighborhood Coalition 2 (NCINC2)