

Barton Hills Neighborhood Association

April 30, 2013 Meeting

All executive board members present.

Call to Order

Melissa Hawthorne, President. There is an effort to achieve greater funding for the Austin parks. City Council is working towards allocating more money for maintenance, parks, trails and pools. Currently there is 1 person to account for every 175 acres.

Blues on the Green wants to improve notification on lane closures and events. They asked if neighborhood would consider moving it to 8-10pm (compared to current 7:30-9:30p) in an attempt to relieve traffic issues.

Motion to allow BOTG time change to 8-10pm, seconded, no opposition, motion carries.

Nomination committee needed for the upcoming elections as the president, vice president, recording secretary positions are at their term limit.

Mary Ann Neely stated that bags in the doggie bag dispenser have been replenished. If you notice that they are empty please contact her to refill.

Minutes approval. Motion to approve, seconded, no opposition, motion carries.

Treasurer Report

Kerry Price. Balance sheet at entry table. Closing balance last meeting \$19,028, current balance of \$21,480. \$577 in receivables, no payables on record. \$5,500 earmarked money not spent yet - \$2,000 for Park Department, \$2,500 for water fountain at Elementary park. \$1,000 towards sunken gardens.

Neighborhood Watch

John Luther. New crime activity map at table near entry way. In March there were 3 car burglaries, 2 burglaries of residents, and 1 auto theft. April had 7 car burglaries, no home burglaries or auto thefts. Car break-ins are occurring between 2-4am. They break in because they see items they can steal. GPS, ipods. Best thing to do is keep things out of site. 90% of the break ins were open cars, unlocked cars. They do a whole block, start at one end and walk to the other. Police are assigned to areas where crimes are reported. All break ins or suspicious activity needs to be reported.

Greenbelt Guardians

Glee Ingram. University of Texas fraternity APO to resurface Gus Fruh trail. Saturday June 1 is the national trials work day. You volunteer work is welcome and appreciated.

Membership Outreach

Sunny Luther. Spring Fling had an attendance of 75-80 people. Jennifer Ellen Cook and her band played. Screech Owls made an appearance. Next event is 4th of July parade. Volunteer announcements will be made on the listserv.

Area Development

Peter Hess. Big development upcoming will involve the Goodwill store location. Tons of development down South Lamar. Most are mixed use developments up to 5 stories high. As long as they don't violate code or variances needed, nothing can be done. Traffic is a problem and the city has done little to address it. 5th/6th street and Lamar is a major issue. City is looking to potentially make it only one way. The southbound left turn lane may be eliminated. Robert E Lee and Barton Springs, the Umlauf garden wall is slowly falling towards the street. Since the passing of Mrs. Umlauf the city will start working on the wall, widening the intersection. On the lot adjacent to Red's Porch the watershed line was documented with photos after a large rain storm showing drainage to the creek.

Emergency Preparedness

Susan Donaldson. Volunteers are needed as Susan is running the whole show by herself !!! Firewise, keep your gutters clean, trees trimmed and remove all dead shrubs. Susan was in West TX after the explosion. Most residents there wish they had the contact info packets containing all their important documents. Make a packet and keep it in the freezer as they seem to survive major events.

Austin Neighborhood Council

Tom Nuckols. ANC spending lots of time on the 10-1 district representative initiative passed. Handout available at entrance table. Citizen redistricting commission made up of 14 people, which handout shows schedule for the commission events. The ANC is going to try to draw up a map and present it to the commission. Tom is looking for input as towards the two illustrated plans on the handout.

Barton Hills Community Park

Kathleen Schneeman. Continuation of work with school district trying to implement the plan towards the Austin Parks Foundation grant which should be occurring within the next month or two. Glee is working on the boulder and terracing under the live oak trees on the North East corner of the park. New executive team put in place, Roy Smithers is the chair, Stefan Pharis is the design chair. Playscape will be worked on in 2014 when city removes gravel. Design plans had to be altered because of gravel issue around old playscape.

Goodwill Site Project

Walter Merrow. Goodwill store is going to be knocked down and a new 4 story building will be built with a larger Goodwill store on the bottom and 109 affordable housing units above it. There is an open house on May 14th at the Garden Terrace community on William Cannon and South First street, which is a similar development.

Residents are mainly low income, single, under \$27,000 in income, disabled veterans. Only zoning variance is for the two 4-plexes behind Goodwill to turn into a parking facility. Access will only be from Lamar. Emergency access only on Skyway Circle. Goodwill wants to own the land and store, the residence will be owned by the foundation. The entry way will be aligned with the Lamar/Manchaca intersection.

Motion to support project, seconded. Discussion regarding concern that it will be Goodwill foundation community for the long term. There will be a restriction for 40 years to keep it as affordable housing.

No opposition after discussion, motion approved.

AISS Bond Presentation

Bond funding money stays in the community, does not go to the Robin hood plan. Systemic repairs to schools involving roofing, plumbing, and electrical. Proposition 1 involves health and cafeterias. Prop 2 is for crowded schools, safety issues, gyms and potential new schools. Prop 3 involves all the repairs and updating to schools. Prop 4 is about fine arts and athletics. Go to website for detailed information.

Meeting Adjourned