

Barton Hills Neighborhood Association Meeting Minutes

July 24, 2018

1. Call to order – David Poisson
2. Brief announcements – BHNA president, Mark Gentle, who is at meeting concerning the bath house, is to arrive to BHNA meeting later this evening.
3. Motion made and passed approving the minutes from BHNA meeting on January 23, 2018.
4. Treasurer's Report (2018 Q2): discussed by Stan Ostrum

In summary – Total cash on hand = \$31,943.56
Total (earmarked) expenses = \$1,065.00

Total cash balance = \$30,878.56

Issue was registered by member regarding what to do with cash on hand, which will be considered and addressed in future quarters.

5. Neighborhood Committee Reports
 - A. Park Committee – Melissa Hawthorne
 - Issue raised whether BHNA can match individual donations earmarked for the Phase 3 hardscape/plant feature around the new park entry staircase at Barton Hills Community Park (ascending up from Barton Hills Drive), including the rain garden to be planted below the music room of the elementary school (the “Park Entry Project”).
 - Motion made and seconded by BHNA members to have BHNA match individual only donations (not corporate or other business donations) up to the maximum amount of \$5,000 for the Park Entry Project, with all such donations retroactively accepted and matched as such until the Park Entry Project’s official completion or conclusion (the “Motion”)—the Motion passed by all Members present, with one (1) objection to the Motion having been made.
 - B. Green Belt Guardians – Glee Ingram and Stan Ostrum
 - Progress is being made in removing invasives from Green Belt.
 - \$4,000 remains from the TCEQ grant previously received and work will therefore continue; may be an additional \$20,000 in new funds for ongoing violations
 - Remaining work involving chainsaws and herbicide may be contracted out
 - A bid workday was lost in March
 - There have been some improved steps at Gus Fruh in last few weeks

- Will be a major workday, probably on switchback to creek at Gus Fruh, on last Saturday in September
 - Another big workday at Homedale on first Saturday in November
- C. Austin Neighborhood Council Report – David Poisson and Mary Ann Neely
- 32,000 registered residents filed petition to put Codenext to a vote. City council and the mayor ignored the petition vowing to go forward with Codenext. Council and city’s said “city of Austin citizens are not smart enough to vote on a complex land development code. In mid-July a district court ruled in favor of the petition with any Codenext land development code having to go to a vote for approval.
 - A seven-acre tract of land close to the northwest end of Zilker Park, near Stafford Drive and the MoPac bridge was slated to be paved over. This was being done without any public announcement or permitting. The land was previously a land waste dump and was leaking contents because of the staging trucks from ACL being driven and parked on it. While the parks department said they were paving this over for additional parking, the main goal was to provide a paved area for the 3 weeks of staging required for the ACL festival. BHNA, Mark Gentle, and Zilker objected and the project was halted for “further studies”
 - Issue with roads not being big enough to accommodate traffic to anticipated new soccer stadium; additionally, stadium plans include only 1000 parking spots for a 10,000 seat stadium. Soccer representatives said there was enough parking near by to accommodate cars. They were indirectly planning on funneling the cars to the Domain. Once the domain learned of this, they said no way, they are at 100% capacity between the residents and shopping.
 - David Poisson’s report addressing these issues in greater depth was made available during tonight’s meeting
6. Austin Classical Guitar Presentation and Performance
- Performance by Ian Tusky, who also discussed why classical music can make the world a better place
7. Austin Police Department (Officers Woytkewicz and Veronica Saldate)
- Discuss current crime statistics neighborhood, which are “way down”
 - Police are patrolling Barton Hills 28% more than last year, are active in community, but are still 300 – 500 officers short
8. Jody Barr (Investigative reporter with KXAN)
- Discussed the TXDOT waste dumping occurrences in sensitive area of Edwards Aquifer re-charge zone;
 - 6,000 tons of dead animals, debris, oil/tar, and other hazardous waste all dumped by street sweeper/trucks near the Dripping Springs dump site
 - KXAN had waste tested and levels of hydrocarbons present were higher than what they are in pure crude oil
 - waste included findings of chromium and barium

- estimated that the clean-up effort would cost \$500,000 - \$1,000,000, but pursuant to a settlement TXDOT cleaned it up at their own expense and therefore actual cost not known

9. Meeting Adjourns.