

Barton Hills Neighborhood Association

General Meeting—January 22, 2008

Members Present: 42

Called to order at 7:02 by Eddie Torres

General Announcements

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A communication from the Zilker neighborhood mentioned increased burglaries. Emphasized Neighborhood Watch, call 911 to report suspicious activity.

A letter was received from a resident asking to build a porch which would violate our setback rules by 5 feet, but would not violate COA code.

Asked for a volunteer to catalog boxes of old records. Ken Russell will do this task.

Introduced the elected board members present: Kimberly White Erlinger, Clay Boulware, Ken Russell

Treasurer's report was approved

Minutes of the October 9 meeting were approved.

Old Business

Stan Ostrum spoke for Greenbelt Guardians. They have started projects which expend the Stones funds as previous proposed. Specifically they will on Feb 2 and continuing on Feb 9 put paving material on the Gus Fruh trail. Austin Ridgeriders will assist on 2nd. On the 9th additional volunteers are needed for an assortment of projects on both trails.

Johnny Barnett spoke for Park Patrol. The committee recently met again with the Parks Dept. and the Park Police. Once again our concerns were expressed about drinking, trash and fires. The police said they will assign two sergeants, one per shift, to specifically respond to our calls. They have promised to start the heavy usage season with a Zero Tolerance crackdown. At a later date we will receive guidance about who to call, specifically the confusion over 911 vs 311.

Thanks to Rockin Tomato and Low Brow Emporium for raffle items.

New Business

Peter Hess led a discussion of the Terrace commercial development which sits directly across the creek from our neighborhood. They have permits for several additional buildings covered under a grandfather clause. Our neighborhood has been notified that they propose to modify their plans. In summary, they wish to occupy a smaller footprint but build much higher. As a neighborhood, we may or may not wish to formally comment to the city. After some discussion of this complex issue, members voted to call a special meeting soon to consider only this item.

City council candidates Lee Leffingwell and Jennifer Kim, running for a second term, and Laura Morrison, running for an open seat, each made a 10 minute speech covering their accomplishments and plans. Eddie noted that other candidates will be invited to attend our next meeting, which will occur before the election.

Open Forum

There were a few questions from the floor generally concerning development, park access, and law enforcement which were answered mostly by the politicians.

Eddie repeated the call for a July 4th parade coordinator. This position must be filled soon.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45

Respectfully submitted, Kenneth Russell, BHNA Secretary