

Barton Hills Neighborhood Association Meeting
General Meeting on Tuesday, July 27, 2010

Executive Committee Members Present: 5

Members Present:

Non-Members:

Visitors:

Welcome: commence at 7:01

Treasurers report; treasurers report is present. We are looking for a new one if anyone wants to volunteer. Present balance is accepted by vote.

Meeting notes: not present as they are on laptop that is not available. Will email to anyone who wants them.

ANC proceedings: Kay Killen. Many notes are forwarded to us. Tomorrow night, July 28th is the meeting and the city manager is guest speaker. Kay will give a report over the list serve.

Rockin Tomato gift certificate to one of the new members.

Peter Hess – not a lot going on right now....deed restrictions . Vary from block to block, tool to fend off undesirable development. Duplex on Barton Hills Dr – used to be a single family home. How did this happen? It was two lots and had one house. Zoned SF3 = duplexes are allowed. No need to rezone. However, deed restrictions can prevent this. Deed restrictions are very difficult for city to manage; they are private contracts between neighbors so the claims are between neighbors. There are 50 to 60 sets of deed restrictions and Hess wants to put a library of them online or available to all. Q: Where are the records kept? A: 5501 Airport Blvd.

Restaurant Development on South Lamar: Amy's Ice Cream and Phil's Icehouse: Opening day was to be August 1 but the rain has delayed. Will install a play scape. Daily Juice and Soup Peddler will also be built just north in the orange building. Alligator Grill closed down, but Sherlock's Pub will be filling the space.

Barton Hills Elementary School PTA: Kathleen Schneeman has some volunteer opportunities. Need more diversity with volunteers, ie not just parents. Math Buddies and Book Buddies. 20 minutes per week, work with the same child all year. Teacher will assign the adult to a child who needs extra help in those areas, training and materials will be provided. Background check required. Librarian could also use help to restock and organize books. Will send something out on the list serve.

Beautification project at BHE Park: Clay Bouleware. All is installed; sod in, rain has set the grass, drainage work around the basketball court has worked so far to keep the court clean,

fencing was extended to keep kids from jumping off the wall, and a new planter for new trees. Stone doesn't heat up. There is extra, and if anyone wants some extra it's stacked and available. Money for the project came from the Rolling Stones concert several years ago – 2/3 went to Greenbelt Guardians, and the other 1/3 to BHE Park. There is nearly 2k left. Wendy called Austin Parks to find out what else we can do with it, and we will keep you posted on what we can do.

Greenbelt Guardians: Stan Austin. Assistant Coordinator for GG. Has been organizing quarterly plus additional days to clean since 2003. Water and rain has made plants flourish but also increases the usage and the growth of invasive plants. June 5 was Nat'l Trails Day and 50 people did trail work that day to clean within protective restrictions for warbler. 350 people worked on trail between Zilker and Homedale. Next work day is September 25th, Nat'l Public Lands day. Will be posted on the list serve, and on greenbeltguardians.org. Contact Glee or Stan if want to volunteer. Big news is that Glee got a major grant from Impact Austin for 105,000. Called Barton Creek Trail Core. Matching 50,000 from Austin Parks and another 50,000 from another source which means over 200K to improve between Zilker and Camp Craft. Funds a 5 man team from Ecorps to work for a whole year in 2011 in addition to regularly scheduled work. Glee and Stan will be overseeing this work. Focus is on trail maintenance and repair but also on removing invasives. Nearly 200 acres of affected parkland.

Neighborhood Watch: Booth O'Quinn. Since last meeting, BHNW has received Certificate of Appreciation from police department for helping other organizations get trained and started. Also received an acknowledgment of appreciation. Since April, 3 home burg and 3 vehicle burg in May. In June there were 11 home invasions, which is about a 3 fold increase. Yesterday, 4 home burglaries of record in July and 3 car burglaries. We do need more patrol volunteers, though. Please sign up. 3 more signed up since newsletter, but still need more as there are only 21 people from 18 households and there are 15 miles of street in the neighborhood. Most burglaries are between 9 to 3 and we have about 5 hours of coverage a day.

Homedale activity – drug activities, parties, etc. John got APD to come more often for a few days to help out. Latest incident reported by Sam Carr and Alex. 'We were playing at BHE for about 10 minutes and heard screeching of tires, saw a white Honda up on top of the rock wall. Got off, swerved and hit curb that stopped her before entering the playground. She fell out of car on her hands and knees, and ran into 2010 Homedale. Ran to get phones when saw a counselor who was already on the phone with the police.'

- Booth will train anyone, anytime on how to do Neighborhood Watch. If we all did that all the time, we would be much safer.
- John will organize another training session in the fall.

Art on the Way: Mr Geisselman: has been working with Steve for years re: sculpture and installing art in our entries. Steve is here to talk about future potential exhibits and have an open

forum to discuss art in the neighborhood. Steven DuBois: initiated and submitted proposals to city to put installations of art around the city, and creating discussion about what art is, focusing interest in different areas of town. Support expressed for his work and contribution. Direct neighbors would like the installation elsewhere. Some like the idea that our neighborhood may become known for sculpture. Based on the support, he'd like to propose and work on doing an annual install. Various members have volunteered to sit on committee to advise and inform on the subject. One expresses great disappointment in the quality, the negative media attention, and felt that it made BH a laughing stock. Will not sit on a committee. Wants something more mainstream, perhaps consult some other artists that have valid input. Wants something patriotic. Next install would be in March. Some question whether the effect on the direct neighbors is being considered. First – it's not neighborhood land. It's a city public easement. It's a rotating installation, ie 3 months at a time. An artist resident says he does not like it at all, and finds little redemption in the work. Will sit on committee. One resident says if we want art, sometimes we will and sometimes we will not like it. Other artists can apply for the permit and the grant if desired. Art committee sign up is passed through the group. Steve will take comments and give contact info to anyone who wants it.

Has Reds applied for a music permit? Peter Hess will find out.

Next meeting is October 26th.

Adjourn at 8:15.