

NWACA Board Meeting  
February 11, 2020

Vicki DeWeese called meeting to order at 6:35pm

Proxies: Keating, Nunis, O'Leary, Hajdu, Wojtewicz

In Attendance: DeWeese, Brooks, Galvin, DePalma, Grayum, Rawlings, Arrott, Polston, Bolick, Alexander, Nash, Schock, Lundgren, Waidelich, Wright, DeWeese

Guests: Luckens, Eshed

Joanie motioned; Julie seconded to approve January minutes.

Housekeeping – We are still working out a few bugs on membership system. We are going to have to spend a little more money on it. Vicki asked that board members pay their dues. Annual survey is out and board members need to complete. With Facebook, we are a little over 1,000 members with 1,600 NWACA members overall.

NWACA Notes next deadline – Wednesday, February 12 by 5pm – and every Wednesday going forward. NWACA Notes goes out on Thursdays.

Vicki offered to share the letter sent to our resident who is improperly using NWACA in their marketing.

Special Projects – deadline is March 31<sup>st</sup> and we will review at our April meeting and fund worthy projects.

Constable Program – after last month's meeting we discussed the auto theft. Night patrol, which requires two officers was discussed. A neighbor, Shannon Meroney, offered to host a fundraising effort and Connie Lundgren offered to help with this effort.

Treasurer - We have 10 people who were brand new members in December 2019 and we allowed them to carry over to 2020 because there was a gap in communication. There were other members who asked their dues to be prorated, but we made a decision to stand by our rule of \$25 annual.

Financial Review – Headed by Charlie, Committee: Monique, Connie and Joyce. Charlie suggested if we are going to do an audit review, we should have some notes about how specific vendors were chosen to ensure we are not paying over market value.

Budget – Julie sent the budget out last month. She did a preliminary budget in January. Joanie motions to approve budget and Richard seconded.

Vicki asked that Kaz set up a meeting with Joyce to be cross-trained on our website.

Newsletter Backup – Vicki asked if Julie Rawlings would be open to helping with the newsletter. Joanie felt we may be able to get additional support from Peel to take some pressure off our members. Whomever takes on this role, would need to feel comfortable working with Peel to streamline our process and ensure there is reminding people to get their articles, collecting articles, proofreading, and sharing with another member to proofread the material. Julie Rawlings and Connie Lundgren have offered to help and cross-train to ensure we have back up to the newsletter.

Nominating – Joanie is Chair, Committee: Connie, Ben, reported that we have folks involved and we are actively working together. They are currently seeking another person outside of the board to join the nominating committee. Joanie asked that we nominate anyone who may be interested in joining the board by March. We will vote in April and share the new members at the annual meeting.

Zoning – Charlie and Ben spoke on the zoning committee. There are zoning changes going on throughout the city. Vicki mentioned that residents would need to try to enforce deed restrictions to prevent changes to structures despite new zoning.

Transportation, Mobility Corridor – Ruven reported that he went to a CAMPO meeting last night. CAMPO is Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization, it's an MPO. They are established by the federal government and they plan transportation for a specific region. They decide how federal highway money will be allocated. They also do population growth forecast. The 70/40 growth forecast is used by school districts (AISD), CapMetro for future transit systems and other organizations. Ruven reported that CAMPO has particular procedures to determine the priority of projects. For organizations who do not know the criteria for prioritizing projects, their projects are often overlooked. This has caused quite a bit of adversity among city leaders.

Crime Prevention/Neighborhood Watch – Connie Lundgren reported that they are meeting next week on Wed, Feb 19 at 6:30pm at St. Matthew's. This meeting is in response to several car break-ins. We are having more trouble in the neighborhood and a higher level of concern about security. Connie asked for our board members to get involved and attend the meeting. She asked that we establish a neighborhood watch on our street. We need participation upwards of 40% on our streets to be effective. We need to mobilize our neighbors to get involved with our neighborhood watch. For streets who get involved and assign a block captain, we will have a sign on the street indicating the street is under neighborhood watch. Connie will send a flyer to our board members with the hope that we can help spread the word about our neighborhood watch. The biggest break-in time is 10:00am-2:00pm in our neighborhood. Some of the surveillance video shows car break-ins between 3:00-4:00am.

Parks – Caroline reported that they installed turf at the new playground. Save the date for Thursday, March 12<sup>th</sup> at 12:30pm for ribbon cutting for the new playground. Richard reported that the Hyridge/Adirondack playground is ready to get started again. We will need to get 51% of signatures to begin working on this project. Furthermore, City of Austin Parks wanted to focus on the Steck Valley Greenbelt Trails. We have a group of volunteers who are going to meet to work on the Steck Valley Greenbelt and improve the space. On February 17<sup>th</sup> at 7pm at 8834 N. Capitol of Tx Hwy there is a meeting planned with Father Christian to talk more about cleaning up the Steck Valley Greenbelt and discuss future projects.

Day in the Park – Vicki spoke with Austin Oaks who is willing to host our spring event. The space is heavily tree covered. Ryan Perry is going to play. Connie is going to get the stage and Vicki will get generator. We will need plenty of volunteers on Sunday, April 26<sup>th</sup> from 4-6pm. What do we want for food? We may want drinks and light snacks (popcorn, cotton candy, etc.). First Presbyterian may be able to contribute their popcorn maker. Consider getting a food truck such as Mighty Fine, Casa Chapala, etc. We will ask Nyre to design flyers. We may consider a name change.

Sponsorship – Julie W. will send an email this week to invite existing sponsors to renew. We can promote our next event in April and invite members to host a booth. Richard, Monique, Terry and Connie will help with follow up.

Tree, Environmental, Wildlife, Oak Wilt – Joanie reported that pruning is not a huge issue for Oak Wilt as long as residents cover their wounds and sterilize their blade. This should be standard practice all year long. The old philosophy is not to prune February through June, but the new standard is really about covering wounds. Joanie is gearing up for spring recycling collection, event which will entail electronics and Styrofoam. This will likely take place in April.

Facebook – Mike reported he's learned a lot about how the process works. There are still people trying to sign up, but having difficulty signing up. Vicki recommended that we have Austin Web Design automatically generate and send a list of members who have joined within a certain period. This will make it easier to manage the process. We will also have to keep a separate spreadsheet to manage the minors/kids of members who sign up. The Austin Web Design costs approximately \$79/hour, so we may need to increase the budget. However, this seems like an excessive amount to pay for them to generate a spreadsheet with new membership.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45pm.