

NWACA Board Meeting Minutes August 10, 2021

Zoom 6:30

Attendance: Joanie Arrott, Robert Nash, Julie Waidelich, Chris Kaz Wojtewicz, Ben Luckens, Teri Schock, Joyce Statz, Robyn Nunis, Bridget Keating, Vicki DeWeese, Carol Dochen, Connie Lundgren, Anita Tulsiani, Richard Grayum, Charlie Galvin, Ruven Brooks, and Louri O'Leary.

6:34 Call to order by Joanie Arrott.

Library Update by Eric Frierson, Representing Austin's District 10 on the Library Commission

Eric shared that all APL locations are open as of August 2nd. Recycled Reads re-opened on August 6th 12-6pm. This is a great place to purchase books at reduced prices. Although doors are open, there are limited services at this time. Curbside services available at North Village, Central and Manchaca with drive-through at Spicewood Springs. APL Virtual Library website (<https://library.austintexas.gov/virtual>) covers a lot of the services being offered at this time. The Old Quarry Renovation is a part of the 2018 Bond, which will include updated flooring, painting, acoustics, additional wiring/outlets, ADA improvements, etc. The expected start is scheduled in late 2022/early 2023. Eric's email is bc-eric.frierson@austintexas.gov if we have questions.

A motion to approve the revised June minutes was made by Joyce Statz and seconded by Robyn Nunis.

Housekeeping

Membership –

Joyce shared that our membership rose by 23 members in July. A lot of this was a result of the efforts of Shannon Meroney after the July 4th event. We want to get to 980 and we're about 95 people away from our goal.

Executive Committee Needs -

Joanie noted that we are going to discuss a few bylaw changes and we'll be voting on changes at the next meeting. There was some discussion about moving our meetings to in person, but with the Delta variant we have decided not to meet in person at this time.

Financial Report

Robyn Nunis shared our budget vs. actual and highlighted we had budgeted \$3,000 for parade, but we were actually over \$7,800 over budget. Vicki will discuss the July 4th expenses further, but Adam Loewy will plan on contributing toward some of the costs.

Vicki DeWeese shared that during one of the meetings, we had budgeted \$7,800 for the July 4th event. Adam Loewy has contributed about \$6200 thus far, and may contribute another \$2,100 toward the July 4th event. If he does so, the expenses by him and by NWACA will be about even. Vicki has shared a July 4th spreadsheet with all of the expenses and credits outlined. Joanie stated the executive team will follow up with Adam Loewy regarding the balance of the costs. The board discussed utilizing the feedback from this year's event to plan better for next year's event to ensure everyone has an opportunity to provide input. Carol mentioned one of the reasons the July 4th event worked out well this year was that the local businesses around the parking lot were closed given it was a Sunday. It was also mentioned that Vicki DeWeese was incredible to pull off such an amazing event in such a short period of time.

Committee Reports & Updates

Nominations Committee Updates

Joyce reported that we can have 25 board members in total. Our current board is made up of 19 people as of 7/13/2021. We have room for 6 additional people. Currently, we are identifying the needs of the board – members, executives, committees and potential candidates. We currently have a list of 16 names, 3 of whom have expressed interest, 4 who have declined and the others are pending decision. When we looked at our needs, we would ideally like a treasurer, attorney, committee support (business membership, civic engagement, communications, crime and safety, events, nominations, transportation and tree, wildlife and environment.).

Joyce also highlighted the need for us to review the attendance policy for our board members. There is a concern about board members who are not present at board meetings; the policy provides for terminating board members who have not been present. It was suggested that Chris Roddy be removed from the board due to lack of participation. Joyce Statz made the motion and Bridget Keating seconded the motion with unanimous approval by the board.

Revision of By Laws

Joyce noted that there are a few bylaw items up for discussion.

1. Article 3 proposed wording, to reflect the decision about membership made at the last Board meeting: Membership shall be open to any household within the geographical area described above. Each household shall constitute one membership and shall have one vote. Businesses may also become members of NWACA. Each business shall constitute one membership and shall have one vote. Households not physically within the geographical area described above may join as Supporting Members of the Association, but they will have no voting or other membership rights.

2. Are these positions being used? It is proposed that they be removed from the Bylaws.

President-Elect:

In the absence of the President, or upon the resignation of the President, the President-Elect shall assume the duties and responsibilities of the President

Asst. Treasurer:

In the absence of the Treasurer, the Asst. Treasurer shall assume the duties and responsibilities of the Treasurer. The incumbent in this position is also the Treasurer-Elect if the Treasurer cannot or chooses not to succeed himself or if the Treasurer resigns.

3. Residency requirement proposed wording:

Members of the Board of Directors shall notify the Secretary and President within 30 days after change of residency, if the new residency is outside the geographic boundaries in Article II.

Once notified, the President shall call a vote, for simple majority approval to allow the Member to continue for a certain transition period, and for that transition period to be established by the Board, at the next meeting of the Board of Directors.

See [NWACA Bylaws -revisions 07 15 21 - plus KW -v2.docx](#) for additional proposals.

Events Committee

Two potential events are upcoming – National Night Out and Neighborhood Garage Sales.

Neighborhood National Night Out – tentative October 2nd

Connie stated that we may need to monitor the COVID environment before we publish dates for a large NNO celebration. She felt it may be worthwhile to honor our first responders, but possibly on a smaller scale. Charlie Galvin shared concern about NWACA trying to plan events with the stage 5 status in consideration of lost investment and potential exposure. Robert Nash shared that people have been isolated for a long time and neighbors were very responsive to our July 4th event, but it's our biggest event of the year and it is a more significant event than NNO. As such, Robert does not feel it is as critical for the neighborhood if we chose not to host a NNO event this year. Robyn reiterated that she felt we should wait given our current Covid environment. Anita Tulsiani suggested food trucks could set up at key places in the neighborhood which would provide social distancing, but also an opportunity to for neighbors to gather in small groups. We could also have first responders travel around to the designated gathering spots. Joyce suggested making a decision tonight so we can communicate the plan in the newsletter. The Board decided to cancel the plans for a large NNO event this year.

Annual NWACA Garage Sale – October 23rd

Joanie raised the possibility of hosting the garage sale. A few were in favor and others felt it encourages people to come into the neighborhood. We decide to wait to decide on this until the September meeting.

Communications Committee

Kaz wanted to reestablish a meeting schedule for the communication committee and find a time that works for all. He stated that he was currently the only one moderating Facebook and would like some help. Richard Grayum volunteered to be an additional moderator. The committee will give the information to the nominating committee about their needs moving forward. Communication committee will update next month after they meet.

Zoning

The Committee has been focusing on the plans for the Luby's location at the corner of Mopac and Steck. They have had a presentation by the developer for the development of an apartment complex on that property. It is expected to have 275 apartments. There is a restrictive covenant agreement with NWACA that they shared with the board. Among the most important elements in the agreement is that this development could potentially generate \$330,000 for parks, and the developer will support having that spent in the NWACA area. The second item is that the developer agreed to put up a Northwest Hills monument sign on the property and maintain the sign for 20 years.

The action item requested was that a letter in support of this plan be drafted and sent from NWACA. The draft will be emailed to the board for a vote, and this will need to be done by Thursday August 12th. Joanie motioned that the letter be drafted for a vote and Robert seconded it. Motion **passed** unanimously.

It was also brought up that the Austin Diagnostic location on Mesa near Randall's may be rezoned to allow for a swim school. The zoning committee will keep us updated.

9:09 Meeting adjourned. Kaz made the motion and Louri seconded it.

Minutes recorded by Julie Waidelich