

Crestview Neighborhood Association Monthly Meeting
August 10, 2015

EC Present:

Steven Knapp

Nancy Mohn Barnard

Ali Thompson

Elaine Stegant

Roland Rodriguez

Melissa Zone

Anne- Charlotte Patterson

Matt Armstrong

Absent: Dave Considine

Steven Knapp calls meeting to order at 7:30 PM.

Apologizes for time and date mishap. Introduces Pastor Rick who gives a brief welcome speech on behalf of Journey IFC.

Steven - Great turnout for August meeting. We are here to bring people together, to bring neighbors together. At meetings we let you tell us about what's important, and we tell you about the projects that we are working on.

AGENDA ITEMS

Nancy Barnard - Ice Cream Social

Ali Thompson has specific numbers about new members and membership renewals at the ice cream social. Violet Crown Community Works (VCCW) had a table talking to people and getting feedback about Art at Entrances; we had someone for voter registration; also had the Girl Scouts spraying hair color and giving temporary tattoos; we had two local bands Crestview and Pasadena; Mini-Max donated all the ice cream for the social; had our first ever ice cream eating contest; and we had lots of generous donations from local businesses.

Audience Feedback - Move to 1 pm to accommodate church-goers on Sundays. In the past it was held later in the day and also on Saturdays, but the time has changed sometime in the past year. Possibly change locations to have on a Saturday. Someone also asked about changing the social to the fall.

Melissa - Art at Entrances

EC has been working on this project for many years. Looking at entrances into the neighborhood and trying to get an art installation. Could be temporary or permanent. EC wants everyone involved. Want to work with the city and the NPP for funds. Art installation will showcase who we are and tie the past with the new. At the early stages of planning. Hope to get an application and will put more information in the newsletter and website. We are going to want your feedback.

Can promote local artists. If people want to help/get in touch they can email info@crestviewna.org. Can also reach us through FB. If you know anyone on the EC, contact them. We will need volunteers.

In October there's an application deadline. We may not get it.

Steven - We need to have a well-developed plan. We want to go to the city and say this is the type of art we want to put here: here is the width and height. So when the city asks "how are you going to maintain it," we need to have a well put together plan. Need fundraisers. Artists. Grant writers. Any sort of community building. Want to engage local businesses. Legitimate art with maintenance funds behind it. Tens of thousands per installation.

Audience Feedback

Are the art installations going to match?

Don't know. Right now we are just trying to pull it off.

How to Contact the CNA

Email address: info@crestviewna.org.

PO Box is listed on the newsletter along with other ways to contact us.

Would like to consider putting signs out throughout the neighborhood to remind people about the meeting.

Steven - Grover Project

Grover is a wide street. No striping. Inspired by Brentwood's Arroyo project and the future improvements on Justin Lane, working group wants to reach out to NPP and get funds to improve Grover: striped for parking on one side, pedestrian and biking lanes, and driving lanes. Deadline to apply is for 10/1/15. In the application, we will show there is community support for making this project happen: group will go door-to-door and collect signatures. NPP will clear the project with the appropriate departments. Then NPP tells us how much we need to come up with if we get awarded this project. We aren't on the hook for the money at this point. We can submit each cycle (twice a year, once in October and once in June).

The working group consists of Crestview residents, some who live around Grover. Group started this spring prior to this EC. Steven leads group as part of the CNA. Group has been giving little updates along the way. Steven offers to post on FB to allow for feedback.

The NPP asks for a sponsoring organization and hopefully CNA will sponsor project.

Audience Feedback

Concerns about whether or not the EC approved the project, and it was clarified that the previous EC did, though there was a dispute as to whether or not a formal vote was ever taken.

Suggested that an article is included in the newsletter with specific names of members in the working group along with a summary of the plan along with a specific proposal.

There are concerns about the "process" and whether or not this project should be in conjunction with the NCPCT. Audience wants a more formal process to be followed, especially because it requires a 30% financial commitment, which the CNA needs to budget for.

It is suggested that people view the improvements on Mary Lane as an example.

Audience was also interested in learning more about the Justin Lane improvement project.

Steven plans to ask for a more formal vote of support for the NPP application at the September meeting, but it is pointed out that the President starts the agenda.

NEW BUSINESS

Anne-Charlotte - Koenig Lane Pedestrian Resolution

Anne-Charlotte is also on the Lamar Campus Advisory Council (CAC). In May Laura Dierenfield, CoA Transportation Manager, is in the process of applying for grants from the county to make pedestrian and bike improvements to Burnet and Koenig intersection, specifically will effect kids at Lamar Middle School.

Not a specific plan yet but a specific concern includes the right turn lane south on Burnet headed onto Koenig. It's dangerous. There will also be some beautification. Once plans are made, the community will be involved in the process. For now, Dierenfield would like CNA to vote to support improvements. The Lamar CAC has already done so and has written a letter of support.

We would like to vote on whether or not the CNA is willing to support improvements.

Motion Made: *Can I make a motion that we don't vote on this until we know some specifics?*

Do we have a second?

Audience agrees that something needs to be done but there is concern about the money that will be spent in the process. It is pointed out that the money comes from federal funds and already exists; new money for everyone and six counties are vying for the funds.

Motion is withdrawn.

Motion made for approval. Seconded. One Ney.

A letter will be written on CNA letterhead that says CNA supports the Koenig Lane Pedestrian Resolution but wants to be kept in the loop about improvements.

Matt Armstrong - Online Voting

Wants CNA to vote on whether or not online voting should be considered in conjunction with voting at meetings. If someone cannot make a meeting to vote, the person can go online to vote. Currently not asking for a bylaw change. If CNA agrees to explore online voting further, the bylaw change would be voted on later after notification was posted in the newsletter with specific changes to bylaw wording.

Armstrong along with 40 other people have tested online voting platforms in the hopes of getting more people involved in the CNA. Has a petition with 56 signatures; 45 signatures belong to CNA members. Other signatories want to be CNA members and live in neighborhood but aren't able to attend meetings and therefore, have not paid CNA dues. Eight signatories are present at the meeting.

Audience Feedback

Is it possible that the platforms can be posted so that CNA members can review?

Answer: The two platforms that were tested were noted in the newsletter. We can find a platform that works. The question tonight is whether or not we want to explore online voting.

Steven - There's a lot to discuss about online voting, and if we decide to explore this issue, it will be up to the EC to explore issues of security and how to execute it.

Right now what we have in terms of voting is transparent and dependable. It's not on the Internet. "The Art of Deception" -- there's always going to be a problem with the human element. Problems with online voting are who administers the webpage? Who keeps up with the database? Who administers the administrators? And if someone has a personal agenda, this is the perfect way to subvert the CNA. If you use the Internet, you will never really know.

On the petition, what was the statement that you petitioned with?

"We the undersigned members of the Crestview Neighborhood Association are in favor of adopting online voting as an acceptable method of voting for all Crestview Neighborhood Association business."

Matt Armstrong makes a motion that the CNA allows for online voting by amending the bylaws. Per the bylaws you have to accept the question first.

Motion is seconded.

Chip Harris moves to substitute the motion with the following: "That a vote regarding online voting be deferred for 12 months to allow the association the opportunity to accomplish the following: to ascertain and review the relative merits and disadvantages of online voting, to satisfactorily address all issues of concern raised by the membership, to determine whether or not online voting will advance the goals and mission of the association, to determine if there may be any unintended consequences and to provide all relevant information to the membership."

Motion is seconded.

Steven - Why a year?

Audience expresses distrust. Chip clarifies that there are many issues that haven't been brought up or considered. A volunteer organization needs to be time to identify and explore the questions and then bring it to the membership. People need to vote as the whether or not the want Chip's motion to be the primary motion.

Matt Armstrong withdraws the motion.

Steven rereads Chip's motion.

Motion is seconded.

Mike amends it to include a discussion of other forms of voting like proxy voting.

Chip does not accept.

Vote is taken.

Ayes - 43

Nays - 10

Chip's motion passes.

Meeting is adjourned.