

CNA Meeting
9/14/15

Absent: Steven Knapp

Meeting called to order at 7 PM

Visit from Leslie Pool

1. Budget

City Council has finished the budget for fiscal year 2016. Changes to the budget include: \$4.3 million more going to parks; \$350K going to fix decking at Northwest Pool; 3% pay raise for everyone who works at city (non-sworn); an increase in minimum wage for contract workers at the city (\$11 - \$13.03); a homestead exemption; and reduced fees on utility bill. Water utility costs are going up due to bond indebtedness from 10 years ago. Friday hours will start again at libraries.

2. Morrow

Pool is concerned about safety issues on Morrow. She has asked the city to put a traffic measurement tape on Morrow; Highland still lobbying to remove "pork chop." If the city moves forward on removing barrier, it will not be before traffic improvements are made on Morrow. If there are fewer than 1000 cars, it means that there is no heavy traffic; more than 1000 is considered heavy.

Dave suggested keeping the pork chop and allowing Highland residents to take a left onto Lamar heading southbound.

3. Park

5 acres at Ryan drive has been pitted against affordable housing. Thought we could partner with Peter B who owns the land and have affordable housing and a park. Head of Austin Energy would be willing to transfer title to park department for market rate but amortize over a period of years. Pool was thinking of keeping the land with Austin Energy while making it a park. Not adverse to changing the state law. Neither issue has advanced beyond the conceptual stage. Also wanted to look at the Optimists land on Justin. Pool claims this is Public land.

4. Pool

Pools were understaffed which resulted in reduced pool hours. Council is having a conversation with how Aquatics is being managed. There is lots of opportunity for people to get involved.

5. Group Home on Burnet

There have been conversations with the city for 4 months about the group home on Burnet. The city doesn't move you out when you don't have a license. They had bed bugs and improperly given medications. Initially no bed bugs were found. When

pressed it sounds like the bedding with bed bugs was a recent addition. Pool finds this answer unsatisfactory. The City has no ability to monitor medication dispensing. They are trying to tighten the ordinance. It will go before the Health and Human Services Committee this month. There's no excuse for how people are being treated there.

6. Safe Routes to School

Money that would have gone to Project Connect has come back to the city. Each district has 2 million to put towards transportation issues. Pool would like to see this money go to safe routes for school. Dave would like to see improvements for students crossing Burnet to go to Lamar Middle School.

Pool is looking at two new bus stops at Parmer and Rutland and 183.

Parliamentarian

EC was approached and asked for a parliamentarian that would be like a judge and make us follow all the rules. The EC is unable to serve in this role. Robert's Rules asks people to not get personal and to give other people a chance to talk.

Officers have one vote just like everyone else. Officers can vote at the meetings according to how they feel. At the EC meeting they must vote according to the interests of the neighborhood.

Dave wants grass root efforts from the neighborhood--the neighborhood dictates what the EC should focus on, not the other way around.

Drive a Senior

Steve and Tina from the Drive a Senior program explain the program to CNA members.

Drive a Senior is supported by congregations and grants. They receive additional donations from merchants, individuals and family members. The program serves seniors 60 and over and helps to keep them mobile by providing rides to appointments and grocery stores. They also offer minor home repair, yard work and pen pal, phone pal and home visits. There are currently 304 members, and the service provides 45-60 rides a week.

Process: Client calls in and requests a ride. Gets put into a database. Becomes available online to approved drivers. Drivers can click on people who need ride and it takes person to details. Driver makes a call to the person and lets them know when they will be picked up. When ride is over, drivers go to database and note that the ride is done.

4 major fundraisers: Paradox Players, spring garage sale, Oktoberfest. Also deliver May bags (care package) every year to the volunteers. Program has been around for 26 years.

Looking for drivers and office volunteers and nurses and maybe office space in the neighborhood.

Retiring Volunteers

Sue Hill has been the newsletter distribution coordinator for 5 years and she is now leaving. Megan Baker will be taking over the position. Dave thanks Sue for her service and Megan for taking over. Rhonda the copy editor is also leaving.

Changes in the EC

Former president Armstrong has resigned as Advisory Chairman.

Rick Von Flatern is also leaving as newsletter editor; Chip Harris will be taking over. EC and Chip have ideas for revamping the newsletter, such as including a recap of the last CNA meeting and information about what's going to happen at the next CNA meeting.

3 Initiatives in the Neighborhood

All three initiatives are hoping to apply to the NPP for funding. Can apply twice a year. Neighborhood typically sponsors it.

1. Art at Entrances for 10/1.

2. Cullen project - 6/1 - EC has not adopted it yet. Resident led.
Looking at a donation for 37K and 45K for both projects.

3. Grover project - 6/1, Adopted by the EC but we will not ask CNA to look at it yet.
Project has some merit but we didn't attack it from the right angle. First thing it needs is 60% support from neighbors. Roland is going to head up the project and meet with the neighbors and to talk with them about traffic improvement. Roland will be meeting with them in November. Nothing will happen until we get neighbor approval.

Art at Entrances

Nancy Mohn Barnard and Melissa Zone present Art at Entrances project. They are applying for NPP grant from the city by October deadline. Application results will be announced in January. Two installation locations are being considered: Morrow near Burnet and Ryan Dr. and Justin Lane.

They have been knocking on doors to collecting signature from affected households and gathering community support. Any businesses or households within 200 ft radius of installation must be contacted.

Project will entail community input and involvement. Neighbors will have opportunity to submit ideas for art installations.

Barnard and Zone distributed detailed information packets to meeting attendees that included maps.

St. Louis church has provided a letter of support.

Both installations must be on city property (easements.)

Melissa Zone encouraged meeting attendees to complete survey before leaving.

Committee member Alicia also attended. She is helping explore installation possibilities to develop cost estimates. Committee would like input from masons, metal workers, etc. to help determine costs.

Projected budget: \$40,000. Possible funding sources: NPP, donations, business underwriting, Violet Crown Community Works funds, CNA funds.

Call for artists coming in October. Committee wants to avoid art that's flimsy or includes projectiles.

Requesting CNA members vote to make CNA the sponsoring organizations.

Member makes motion to make CNA sponsoring organization, 2nd. Vote taken- one nay. Motion passes.

Future Business

1. CNPCT is involved with zoning in the neighborhood and represent the neighborhood. EC wants to figure out how to work together. For example, CNPCT wants CNA's support for the CNPCT's recommendation for the Korean church development to be zoned as MF1. Dave wants to figure out a way to be more responsive to the CNPCT. Should the EC make the decision? Does it need to be put in the newsletter? We will discuss next month.

2. FAN -- Ex-ANC member Jeff Jack is going to talk about FAN and what's going on there.

3. Off leash dog area in Brentwood Park.

4. Voice and Video Recording or meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 8:55 PM.