

CNA General Meeting
6.13.16

EC Officers Present:

Dave Considine

Mike Lavigne

Ali Thompson

Nancy Mohn Barnard

Elaine Stegant

Anne-Charlotte Patterson

Julie Reichart

Roland Rodriguez

Chip Harris

Meeting called to order at 7:03 pm

Council Member (CM) Leslie Pool

CM Pool has been at a retreat talking about priorities for the next year.

City Manager review has been delayed because the metrics have not been established with which to evaluate him.

Budget - City Council takes July to work on budget and August to go over everything. Some budget items for consideration include reviewing Austin Energy's rate charges. Council is getting pressure from commercial interests and churches for rate breaks.

Transportation Bond - CM Pool wants to focus on sidewalks and safe routes to school, along with urban trails.

There will be a Mobility Committee public hearing on June 14th. Mayor Adler wants there to be a \$700 million bond, which would add 2 cents to the tax rate. CM Pool believes that a \$700 million bond is not necessary. Rather, CM Pool believes that we can achieve the same goals with a \$300 million bond that won't cause a tax increase.

CM Pool encourages District 7 residents to reach out to her office and tell her what type of bond we are comfortable with. The bond could potentially be a big boon for the Crestview Safety Coalition; it will allow for some traffic calming and sidewalks, which in turn, will limit cut through traffic.

Grover Survey - Roland Rodriguez

Surveys have been distributed (80 total) to all residents living on Grover from Justin Lane to Woodrow Ave., in addition to houses on the corner of Grover and adjacent streets. The survey queries residents about their preference for bike lanes on Grover. Four options for bike lane configurations are offered along with an option to

leave things as they are. So far, 30 surveys have been returned. Rodriguez will go door-to-door this week in order to collect the remaining surveys.

If there is enough support for a bike lane, the CNA Grover sub-committee will support residents' wishes and submit an application to the Neighborhood Partnering Program (NPP) after getting further consent from the CNA general membership. So far responses seem to be an even 50/50 split. Final results will be posted on the website.

Discussion:

Member question for CM Pool: Last week an email went out about the Grover project from Crestview Commons, which is not a CNA sanctioned group. How does Council look at situations in which a contradicting organization works against a body like CNA. How do you differentiate?

In CNA's case, we have the documentation with NPP and so we have primacy. If the city got two competing organizations, the city would make both organizations get together and find a compromise. CNA has been around longer, has a large membership and talks with Pool the most often.

Member Question for CM Pool: Is there anything innovative that has come out design-wise that functions well for parking, biking/pedestrian, car lanes, etc.

The City of Austin is working on this issue and it's relatively new. There's a lot of pressure on Austin to change fast. Change is best done incrementally. They are working on things downtown.

Member Comment for Dave Considine: It's unethical for ex-CNA officers to CNA's email list to solicit for their cause. Unethical.

Dave has reached out and asked for a meeting to talk about this issue. The email list is property of CNA. It's in the bylaws.

Barbara/Mullen Lawsuit - Aaron Wallace

7801 Mullen was sold to Dawson Homes (DH) who tore the structure down in order to build two homes on the lot instead. DH's plans violate a restrictive covenant that limits buildings to one single-family residence per lot only. The neighbors tried to contact DH by phone and received no response. They then wrote a letter explaining the covenant violation and informing DH of their intention to sue if current plans continued. DH responded by sending all signatories a letter informing them that if their names were not removed from the original letter, DH would sue them for damages. Moreover, those who removed their names from the petition would have to sign a letter saying that the deed restrictions are null and void.

The deadline to file a general denial just passed; the Wallace family and four other families filed a general denial and have employed counsel.

Proposal: CNA supports the effort to fight the developer and make developer adhere to it. Motion is seconded.

Discussion:

Restrictive Covenants - Is there a way to create restrictive covenants to protect the future of the neighborhood? The only solution is to make the neighborhood a historical neighborhood but to do so, 60% of the residents would need to support it. Historical neighborhoods also bring with them other types of restrictions.

Central Repository - Create an online resource that neighbors can access and see what restrictions exist for their lots.

Financial Support for Families - Is it possible to use CNA funds for a symbolic showing of help for legal fees? Perhaps it's best to set up a Go Fund Me account for families a little later in the game.

Considine asks for a vote to end the discussion. All vote "yes" except for three people who vote "no."

Motion made to offer CNA's support in spirit to those being sued by DH. Motion is seconded.

All but three vote "yes"; three vote "no."

There is some discussion about creating a CNA subcommittee to support those being sued.

Morrow - Concerns about traffic and safety on Morrow have resurfaced. Highland has approached CNA before about opening up travel east to west from Lamar into Crestview neighborhood. Morrow is 30' wide. The recommended traffic volume is 1800 cars a day, which is where the traffic volume currently is. Opening up the pork chop would at least double the traffic. It could increase numbers to 4000-6000 cars a day.

Highland is once again campaigning for the pork chop's removal, and Greg Casar is supporting their efforts. CM Pool supports keeping the pork chop where it is.

Considine would like CNA to vote on an official position in regards to the pork chop's removal.

Residents on Morrow and some of the side streets decided to start the Crestview Safety Coalition in order to address traffic and safety concerns in the neighborhood. They are currently spearheading the fight to keep the pork chop in place. This group is supported by the CNA's EC and a subcommittee.

Discussion: The press has made it sound like the pork chop was meant to be temporary--this is not true; it was meant to be permanent.

Removing the pork chop goes hand-in-hand with opening the gate, along with a left-hand turn off of Lamar.

Proposed Resolution: In keeping with the safety goals outlined in the bylaws, the CNA reaffirms its position to prohibit westbound traffic across Lamar onto Morrow and northbound traffic on Lamar turning west onto Morrow by means of a physical traffic barrier.

Motion is seconded. 33 vote for the resolution; 2 vote against.

Ice Cream Social - 11 AM

We will have the ice cream social on 7/10 from 12-2 pm.

Meeting is adjourned at 8:54 PM.