

**Cherrywood Neighborhood Association
Steering Committee
Cherrywood Coffeehouse, in-person
Minutes of the Wednesday, March 6, 2024 Meeting**

Call to Order

Jim called the meeting to order at 6:36pm. SC members present included: Jim Walker, Adam Packer, Rich Heyman, Girard Kinney, Sean Griffin.

Absent SC members included: Cara Bertron, Allen Hah, Scott Boone, Matt Harriger, Bob Schmidt, Jeri Spence, Jules Vieau, and Michael Wiggin.

CNA members present included Tom Wald, who joined while meeting was in progress.

Adoption of Agenda

With no suggestions or requests for amendments, Jim adopted the draft agenda as published.

Approval of Previous SC Meeting Minutes

Meeting minutes from the February 7, 2024 SC meeting were provided prior to the meeting. No minutes were approved due to lack of quorum at the time of this agenda item.

Public Communication

No attendees or information for public communication.

Community Presenters

No attendees or information for community presenters.

Reports from Offices and Standing Committees

Chair Report, Jim Walker

Jim deferred the substance of the Chair Report to the specific Ongoing Business item discussions.

Treasurer Report, Allen Hah

Allen provided the following Treasurer Report via email, which was read aloud and discussed at the meeting: Our checking account balance is currently at \$4,391.97, and when adjusting for uncleared checks and payments, prepaid or unpaid ads, our current net position is \$3,701.97, which is a little lower than last month (\$6.40 payment for monthly Google Workspace subscription). We were unfortunately short by a quarter page for ads in the February edition, and we will have more space next quarter due to the closure of Nature's Treasures, so if you all can keep an eye/ear out for suggestions, please let me know, or continue spreading the word! That being said, I support the \$250 request for the park fundraiser, as we have plenty of room in the budget even with the shortfall.

SC members discussed vacant advertisers and ideas for new business support. It was relayed that local businesses El Mana and Civil Goat have been unresponsive to advertising invitations/requests.

SC members discussed the annual \$250 donation from general funds to Amplify Austin for Patterson Park, as requested by Friends of Patterson Park. Sean motioned to approve the donation. Girard seconded. With Cara, Matt, and Allen voting aye via written proxy, the motion was approved unanimously.

Nominating Committee, Sean Griffin

In preparation for end-of-the-year elections, SC members discussed ways to identify new interested members. The SC discussed chronically absenteeism among some members, the impact on achieving quorum to conduct important business, and the vacancy provisions to address this within the bylaws. Members directed Sean to follow-up with absent members to assess continued interest and/or vacating seats.

Land Use/Transportation, Vacant

Members discussed a proposal to launch an effort to encourage a unified development vision for North I-35 Cap Area Plan. Girard to reach out to subject matter experts who worked on South Shore PUD. Jim to discuss with City and other stakeholders.

Communications Committee, Jeri Spence (absent)

Jim updated the SC that one CNA member has expressed interest and ability to livestream future meetings. Follow-up needed.

UBC Update, Jim Walker

Jim discussed that no UBC meetings or activity have occurred since the last SC meeting.

Ongoing Business (Discussion and Possible Action)

I-35 Capital Express Project

Jim provided notice that TxDOT will be meeting with Delwood II, Wilshire Woods, and NCINC on Saturday, April 6, from 9am-noon at the Austin Energy HQ, but no clear information on the agenda is available. These groups were asked for an update on their view of our deck and section drawing at Wilshire Blvd to Airport Blvd. We've learned that TxDOT is not communicating with groups who signed on to the Rethink35 lawsuit.

E. 38 ½ St. Rezoning (Alma/Cherrywood Coffeehouse).

SC members discussed the ongoing rezoning case C14-2023-0110. Last Thursday (March 29), the City passed DB90 (new VMU2). Accordingly, the applicant wants to pursue that designation, and so will amend the current application, which requires a new notification process. Current application is in an indefinite postponement. Dremer striving for a Planning Commission in April, but that could be too quick for notification and conflict with other other major rezoning initiatives scheduled.

Jim has developed draft restrictive covenants regarding affordability commitments and guidelines on environmental and design issues. Need some legal help on how to draft properly.

Question whether we have a land use lawyer in the neighborhood who can volunteer. Water drainage issues are important as the property includes the headwaters of the Clarkson tributary to Upper Boggy Creek, must protect the water.

Other key issues of attention include a commitment to parkland dedication *on site*, and accommodating the Redline Parkway which requires a minimum of 32 feet ROW (per Tom Wald). A Restrictive covenant is the only identified mechanism for enforcing parameters without a site plan to incorporate into. Jim has talked to the neighborhood Methodist church about joining the effort, which would give more eyes and resources to enforce the restrictive covenant.

For the next SC meeting, hope to have the first exchange with developers about the covenants. Any new language needs to be offered over the next week or two so we can send them the draft.

Cherrywood land history project

No updates provided.

New Business (Discussion and Possible Action)

Official Actions of the CNA and SC

SC members discussed the need to establish new procedures guiding which SC actions must be adopted at a subsequent General Meeting and how to ensure appropriateness and consistency. Items to improve include strengthening the notification process for official actions; and updating and clarifying the bylaws regarding what is an official action and how it is executed, i.e. a specific listing of actions that are actions requiring official votes, with reference to the existing process that delegates authority to SC to act on short notice until General Meeting ratification.

To address a lack of quorum at the General Meeting, SC members suggested that, if properly notified, and no quorum, an SC action would stand so as not to unduly delay pressing action for several months. This would necessitate measures for ensuring proper notification, including on the Flea cover.

Future SC Agenda Items and Meeting Dates

Jim announced the Next General Meeting will occur on Wednesday, May 15. The next SC meeting will occur Wednesday, April 10. Time, location, and agenda information to be published on the listserv.

Adjourn

Jim adjourned the SC meeting at 7:43pm.