

CORRECTED MINUTES

Highland Park West Balcones Area Neighborhood Association Board Meeting
Old Quarry Branch Library, May 1, 2017

In attendance: Chereen Fisher, Jason Lindenschmidt, Dawn Lewis, Rebecca Spratlin, Pieter Sybesma, George Zwicker, Ty Allen

Absent: Wallis Goodman, Noel Stout

Approval of Minutes: George Zwicker moved to approve the April minutes, Jason Lindenschmidt seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

Neighbor Communications

Neighbor Fred Lewis informed the board that there is a new organization formed, Community not Commodity, that will work to advocate for neighborhood integrity as the land code is revised. They are analyzing the Code and producing educational materials and want to encourage those neighborhoods to have a voice. The group will be holding a fundraiser on May 20th from 4-1 at 506 West 34th St.

New Business

Travis County Precinct Two Commissioner Brigid Shea spoke to the HPWBANA board on several issues. The Commissioner encouraged folks to attend the CTRMA (the Toll Road Authority meetings). She indicated that the CTRMA could benefit from hearing more from the citizens who deal with traffic issues daily and who may have concerns about the toll roads, such as entrances and impact on development. There is a long range plan developing to connect I35 to MoPac, including a possibility of building a double decker bridge over Lady Bird Lake.

The Commissioner also expressed concerns about wildfires in Austin. May is Wildfire Preparedness Month. She mentioned that there are a large number of homebound people in our neighborhood and this is a concern in light of wildfire dangers. Commissioner Shea said she wanted to create a task force to develop strategies to deal with this and other wildfire issues. In 2011 fires were a catalyst for Austin/Travis County to form a wildlife division.

May is Wildfire Preparedness Month. Captain Anderson of the Austin Fire Department also addressed the board. He mentioned that the department now uses satellite imagery to monitor vegetation. Additionally, they partner with Austin Water Utility to strategize how to best use water if there is a danger of multiple fires that are concurrent. Captain Anderson also suggested that neighbors sign up to participate in reverse look up, where emergency responders will notify you in your area if there is a situation that comes up where you may need to evacuate or be aware. The website is www.warncentraltx.org. He recommended several tips such as ensuring gutters are clean and putting in a metal roof.

Officer Reports

George Zwicker presented the Treasurers report for the month of April. It was accepted as submitted.

Committee Reports

Pieter Sybesma reminded the Board that a dedication ceremony was scheduled for Saturday for the newest art works installed for the Perry Art Park on Balcones Drive.

Old Business

George Zwicker reported that after meeting with Highland Park Elementary School Principal Katie Pena, Ms. Pena had submitted the appropriate paper work/application to AISD to start the process for expanding the school zone onto Hancock Drive.

Pieter Sybesma reported that the Public Hearing on the resubdivision of 5019 and 5021 West Frances Place (at Hancock Drive) was scheduled before the Zoning and Platting Commission the next evening.

The meeting adjourned at 8:25 pm.