

Old Austin Neighborhood Association (OANA)
5 March 2019

The OANA Board of Directors (BoD) came together around 4 PM on Tuesday 5 March 2019 at the Shoal Creek Saloon. BoD members in attendance were Michael Portman, Ted Siff, Charles Peveto, Austin Stowell, Katie Jackson, Diana Zuniga and Blake Tollett. Joining us also were Advisory Council members Dorothy Doolittle (the 360) and Roger Cauvin (Plaza Lofts).

Our first order of business was the review and adoption of the minutes from our 12 February BoD meeting, and on motion from Charles with Austin seconding, they were so adopted.

We then moved to **Current and New Business:**

Austin reported that there appears to be no movement on the 507 W. 10th Street matter.

We then discussed the proposed historic building survey of structures within our neighborhood boundaries. With our Certified Local Government \$10,000 grant in hand we now need to identify and secure the \$14,000 balance of the proposed cost. Charles and Ted have identified two Preservation Texas grants opportunities totaling \$2,500, a \$5,000 Preservation Austin grant opportunity, and a \$5,000 Texas Historical Foundation grant opportunity. The applications for these grants will be submitted in a timely manner, and if we are successful, we will be close to our goal.

In discussing other neighborhood news we talked about the recent sale of the Dynamic Reproduction property at 817 W. 12th Street. This is a deep property so when the current low brick structures are taken down we should look for a fairly strong redevelopment. If rezoning is sought, the Downtown Austin Plan/Northwest District calls for the property to be rezoned Downtown Mixed Use with 60 feet of building height entitlement (DMU-60).

Under **Committee Reports and Action Items:**

Our Treasurer Ray Canfield electronically reported that our finances remain stable.

Katie reports the new website is adding content and should be online soon. She did find another photographer and we spent \$540 on 84 professional images that will be uploaded. Katie and Paul are actively soliciting business sponsors at the \$100/one year level. We still currently have two businesses signed on (again, thank you Ray and Diana) and will probably limit this first round to a total of 10 sponsors maximum.

Under parks, Charles reported that the interpretive signage commemorating the visit and speech at Wooldridge Square Park by Booker T. Washington should be up in no more than two months. Although the Downtown Austin Association (DAA) is funding the project, the necessity of going through the City's procurement process has stretched this out somewhat. It should be noted that Ted Eubanks, in conjunction with his Austin Story project, also funded by DAA, is basically working for free on this part of our story. Charles also reported that while the Friends of Wooldridge Square were unable to participate in the Austin Parks Foundation's (APF) It's My Park Day (IMPD) this month, the Friends through APF will sponsor a separate weeding event later in the spring.

For news of Shoal Creek, Ted suggested that we refer to the Shoal Creek Conservancy's (SCC) website for the latest updates. Of particular note is the SCC Social will be held on 7 May. Dorothy reported that the SCC had come to the 360 to give the tenants updates on improvements on the lower portion of the creek trail, specifically the Shoal & Cypress concept (see the SCC website under Projects for details). The SCC is doing outreach to inform residents along the trail of where things now stand and are going in order to hopefully get buy in. It is estimated to cost around 3.5 million to restore the potentially historic wooden railroad trestle over the creek along with replacing the current hike and bike crossing bridge. There have been discussions about repurposing the Seaholm Tax Increment Financing (TIF) monies that were slated for the Bowie Street Underpass under the railroad bed at Bowie and W. 3rd Streets to this project since that project appears to be on indefinite delay. This TIF would stay in place to refill the improvement "pot". There is also the possibility that some of the Hotel Occupancy Tax (HOT) monies could be directed to the project, at least the historic preservation components.

Our next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday 9 April. We discussed having the meeting at Austin's office on Chicon Street on the east side. Although not within our neighborhood, this would be an opportunity to view the currently unique 3D printed home that has been in the news lately. Our fall back meeting location would be the Saloon.

With that discussion, we adjourned to celebrate Mardi Gras.

Blake Tollett, Secretary
OANA