

Original Austin Neighborhood Association (OANA)  
6 March 2012

The Board of Directors (BoD) of OANA came together shortly after 4 pm for its regularly scheduled monthly meeting, the first Tuesday of the month. BoD members in attendance included Ted Siff, Perry Lorenz, John Horton, Albert Stowell, Bill Schnell, Richard Hardin, Ray Canfield and Blake Tollett.

The first order of business was the review of last month's minutes. Upon motion by Blake with Albert seconding they were unanimously passed as written and Bill was told to post them. Going forward, it was decided that Blake will send the minutes around to the group as usual, and if there are no corrections, they will be voted on electronically before the next monthly meeting (always provided Blake gets them written in a timely manner) and then posted by Bill.

We then heard from Albert, our **Treasurer**. No changes to report.

John had no special **Government Relations** report. Under **Social Order**, he reported no new communications from Posada del Rey resident Susan Sullivan in regards to the Rattle Inn. As for Wooldridge Park, neighbor Charles Peveto has been busy pushing the facility rehabilitation plan forward, and John is in communication with him and will continue to monitor the situation at this National Historic Register site.

The proposal concerning the establishment of the **Judge's Hill Local Historic District (LHD)** continues to encroach into our neighborhood association boundary. It needs to be noted that the LHD as proposed is not an opt in district but rather imposes restrictions on established land use entitlements regardless of the property owner's acquiescence. Ted had a telephone conversation with Bob Swaffar and Albert met Bill Monroe from Judge's Hill NA. They are actually contemplating stretching the southern boundary of the proposed LHD down West Avenue to Duncan Park. Albert did not encourage them in this ambition, and there was agreement to disagree on the matter. Ted has informally contacted ACC concerning the Judges' Hill LHD proposal, and officials they were not aware of the proposal. OANA's position on LHDs, as they are currently envisioned, has consistently been in opposition to their establishment in our neighborhood. If individual property owners want to voluntarily form a LHD or combine with an already established one, that is their property right. By general consensus this neighborhood association position was reaffirmed by the Board. Ted will go forward with a letter to our neighbors in Judges' Hill and reiterate our concerns to them.

Under **Membership/Marketing/Camaraderie**, Bill reported that It's My Park Day (IMPD)(a wonderful yearly event sponsored by the Austin Parks Foundation) along Shoal Creek turned out 50 to 60 enthusiastic and hard working volunteers. Cirrus Logic employees, some of Ray Canfield's folks from the Shoal Creek Saloon, and other aficionados of the creek pitched in to pick up litter, paint over graffiti, and generally clean up and reclaim the park. Ray had mentioned it before, but he recommitted to keeping up on the trash and graffiti abatement along the creek adjoining his business. If you couple that to Cirrus Logic's commitment to light the W. 6th Street bridge over the creek and light the creek trail itself from W. 6th Street to W. 12th Street, and to continue their scheduled work days, now you are looking at some real progress. Thank you

neighbors. BTW, John reports that along our neighborhood's eastern border there is some overlap with the Downtown Austin Alliance (DAA) Public Improvement District (PIP) boundary, and if graffiti shows up in that area, the DAA has an abatement team on contract.

Albert informed the Board that Downtown Austin neighborhood Association (DANA) is having a Social at the Rattle Inn on 22 March at 6 PM and OANA has been asked to cosponsor the event. We agreed. The admission is \$5 if you are not a member of DANA (or OANA I suppose).

### **Planning & Zoning, Albert Stowell, Chair**

SP-2010-0036C  
835 W. 6th Street  
Schlosser Development; Rick Duggin 472-7774

This is a notice of administrative approval of a site plan for an office building to be built on the parking lot just to the east of the current Whole Foods building. Whole Foods needs to expand their office needs and their culinary arts school.

We don't have a whole lot of leverage here in that the approval of the site plan will be pro forma if it doesn't require any modification or variance from entitlements already in place. [NOTE: that actually is a question that needs to be answered as this property received a variance from the prohibition against building in the flood plain, and that variance should have expired in 2011] Albert will investigate further. Ted brings up another question in what is going to be facing Shoal Creek when the project is built. We are going to suggest to the property's developer that a non-dead zone function (read not a parking garage) should face the creek and that there be some creek oriented pedestrian amenities such as, if nothing else, a provision for pedestrian access to the creek through the project.

Under **Parks & Open Spaces**, Ted reports that the Cirrus Logic/Shoal Creek Saloon IMPD project wasn't the only activity along the creek. There were over 250 volunteers working on projects at W. 3rd Street, Duncan Park, Pease Elementary School and Pease Park. Again, very exciting, and to further pump folks up, there may be some allocation of monies to the creek in the upcoming bond package. Ted will keep us informed politically on this possibility, but tangible expressions of private support for the creek from folks like the developers of Spring, Cirrus Logic and Shoal Creek Saloon improve our funding odds considerably. The Parks & Recreation Department and the City like to see their investment in infrastructure leveraged with private monies and efforts. Up around the Pease Park area of the creek is a good neighbor, Ted Eubanks, who is working on a vision canvas or master plan for Shoal Creek that should complement prior City efforts. He has an app and a blog for those inclined towards social media.

We then discussed the City's Charter Revision Committee's recommendation to City Council for 10 single member Council seats with the Mayor being elected at large rather than the current all at large Council.

Before we could start talking about religion, and our allotted time having expired, we adjourned. Due to scheduling conflicts, our next meeting will be Wednesday, 4 April 2012.

Blake Tollett-Secretary  
OANA