



Meeting Minutes

Date: April 25, 2011, 7:30PM

Type of Meeting: Judges Hill Neighborhood Association General Meeting

Location: Home of Ray Langenberg

Present: 23 residents

Meeting minutes:

Request for support of volleyball court improvements in Pease Park:

Guest, Max, came to the meeting to request support from the neighborhood for improvements his group wants to make to the sandlot volleyball courts in Pease Park.

The request was for the following:

- Combine the three separate courts into one large court.
- Install a concrete skirt around the court. The skirt would be approx. 6 to 8 inches wide and almost at ground level. It would have a very low profile.
- Increase the depth of the court to the national volleyball associations recommended depth of 1.5 to 3 feet.
- Install new poles and nets.
- Install new sand.

A motion was made by Megan Meisenbach and seconded by Jim Brown to present a letter of support for the project.

The motion passed unanimously.



House Park Update:

Jay Tassin gave an update on House Park. The stadium is now being used by the Aztecs, an amateur soccer team in addition to typical AISD uses.

AISD has worked with neighbors and has been very responsive to complaints of noise and have/are replacing the sound system, as well as measured sound levels on the bluff at 15th St.

Jay has contact information for AISD and the Aztecs in the event that neighbors have issues in the future.

Presentation of plans for the 1700 West Ave, former Shelley House:

John Donisi, Emily Little, and Ken Johnson joined the meeting on behalf of the new owners of 1700 West Ave., Lance and Tish Ferrel.

The new owners have plans for a renovation of the property with plans to keep its historic appearance and footprint. They also will commit to submitting all plans to the City of Austin Preservation Office.

The current zoning is SF3 which allows for a small home-based business with one employee and 3 car trips per day. Their stated goal is to use the property as a residence along with office use. To achieve that goal they are proposing a change in zoning from SF3 to NO-MU-CO.

NO-MU-CO is Neighborhood Office, Mixed Use, with a conditional overlay requiring residential use and only allowing 2 of the 33 uses available for NO zoning. The 2 permitted uses they are targeting are:

- Administrative and Business Office
- Professional Office

In addition they are planning to lease offsite parking so that additional parking is not required onsite as well as proposing to have no signage on the property.

Discussion after the presenters left the meeting was focused on the neighborhood's continuing desire to maintain the residential zoning that is along West Ave. and not let it convert to commercial. No motions were made but the decision was to have Ray Lan-



genberg and Jay Tassin to continue to meet with the owners representatives and discuss alternatives to try to get an SF3 with live/work uses instead of NO-MU-CO zoning.

Discussion of the Dreyfus Heritage Tree

Benchmark Bank from Plano, TX has purchased the Dreyfus property at MLK and Lamar and will be using the property for their first Austin branch location. Benchmark has filed with the city to remove the large heritage oak from the corner citing safety concerns for motorists, pedestrians, and bank employees.

Lisa Kaindle reported that she met with a representative from the bank along with representatives from the City of Austin, the Heritage Tree Association, the Urban Forestry Board, and others. The bank continues to say that the tree is a hazard but the final say for the permit is with the city.

The issue has been on Fox News and there was an article in the Austin Chronicle.

Lisa mentioned that there is now a Facebook page, smartphone and web app to get involved. Lisa will send information on these tools through the JHNA maillist so that those who wish can get involved.