

**West Austin Neighborhood Group**  
**BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES**  
**Tuesday, January 2, 2018**

These are the minutes of the meeting of the West Austin Neighborhood Group Board of Directors held Tuesday, January 2, 2018 at 6:30 p.m., at the Howson Library.

**I. Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 6:33 PM by Board Member Blake Tollett sitting in for President Cathy Kyle. Board members in attendance included: Mary Arnold, Joyce Basciano, Mike Cannatti, George Edwards, Craig Lill and Holly Reed. Board members Elizabeth Adams, Joe Bennett, August Harris, and Gunnar Seaquist were not in attendance. Neighbors in attendance included Kristina and Evan Baehr and Ginny Fredrich.

**II. Approval of Minutes:** George Edwards made a motion to approve the December 5, 2017 Meeting Minutes. The motion was seconded by Holly Reed, and approved unanimously.

**III. Neighbor Communications:** Kristina and Evan Baehr presented the Board with information regarding a variance request they will be submitting in order to construct a 37 SF elevated walkway between the second floor of their home at 2605 W 8<sup>th</sup> St. and a second floor studio over their detached garage. This walkway would allow them to use the studio as an additional bedroom for their growing family by connecting it to the house. The house is currently at 39.99% FAR. The 37 SF walkway would put the FAR just over 40%. Blake Tollett advised that the Baehrs contact their neighbors and ask them to send letters to the Board of Adjustment, stating they are not opposed to the variance. Blake also proposed that the variance (once submitted) be conditional on the Baehr's agreeing never to make the garage habitable.

**IV. Land Matters:**

- A. The Board had a discussion of the possible use of Butler Shores Park for construction of a Major League Soccer Stadium. The proposed 20,000 seat stadium built by Precourt Sports Ventures would have no parking. A petition has been circulating in the WANG and Zilker Neighborhood Association areas, asking for a city wide vote on whether to allow this stadium to be built on City Parkland. Mary Arnold suggested WANG send a letter to City Council in support of following the process outlined in the Austin City Charter regarding use of parkland, as well as asking for an Environmental Study to determine the impact this stadium would have on the Town Lake Waterfront Overlay, the Hike and Bike Trail, numerous large heritage trees, and Barton Creek. Council will meet in February to discuss the location for the soccer stadium.
- B. CodeNext: The Petition asking the Austin City Council for a citizen vote to approve CodeNext is gaining signatures. 20K signatures are needed. Volunteers will be collecting signatures on January 6<sup>th</sup> from 11-5 at the Roberta Crenshaw Pedestrian Bridge. WANG will be writing to City Council with comments on Draft 2, to suggest appropriate zoning for current single and multi family homes in the WANG area, as well as properties zoned neighborhood office, commercial and mixed use, based on the Central West Austin Neighborhood Plan. Joyce reminded the Board that CodeNext Draft 3 will be released on February 12<sup>th</sup>. Neighbors Jenna and Randy McEachern will be hosting a Community Not Commodity event at their home on January 25<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 PM.

**V. Transportation:**

**VI. Membership:**

**VII. Newsletter:** The Board reported receiving the newsletter on Jan. 2. Content for the next newsletter is due on January 11.

**VIII. ANC Liason Report:** Joyce reported that the Austin Neighborhoods Council will have it's first General Meeting of 2018 on January 24<sup>th</sup> at 721 Barton Springs Rd starting at 6:30PM. The new President of the ANC is Jeff Jack.

**IX. Treasurer's Report:** George reported that WANG has 9,938.96 in the Business Account, 519.36 in the Tarrytown 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade Account, and 1,206.74 in the Oak Wilt Account, for a total of 11,665.06.

**X. Old Business:**

**XI. New Business:**

- A. Mike Cannatti mentioned several issues regarding the City Bond Election:
  - 1. Writing to the Bond Election Advisory Committee, asking for a category which would provide funding to support the preservation of Lions Municipal Golf Course.
  - 2. Hotel Occupancy Tax: On Dec. 14<sup>th</sup>, City Council tasked UT with a study of proposed expansion of the Convention Center. A draft is due in October 2018.
  
- B. Next Meeting: Tuesday, February 6<sup>th</sup>, 2018 at 6:30 PM at Howson Branch Library.

**XII. Adjourn:** The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 PM