

**West Austin Neighborhood Group**  
**BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES**  
**Tuesday, March 6, 2018**

These are the minutes of the meeting of the West Austin Neighborhood Group Board of Directors held Tuesday, February 6, 2018 at 6:30 p.m., at the Tarrytown United Methodist Church.

**I. Call to Order:**

The meeting was called to order at 6:40 PM by President Cathy Kyle. Board members in attendance included: Mary Arnold, Joyce Basciano, Joe Bennett, George Edwards, August Harris, Craig Lill, and Blake Tollett. Board members Elizabeth Adams, Mike Cannatti, Haidar Khazen and Holly Reed were not in attendance. Neighbors in attendance included Kristina and Evan Baehr.

**II. Approval of Minutes:**

August Harris made a motion to approve the February 6, 2018 Meeting Minutes. The motion was seconded by Joyce Basciano, and approved unanimously.

**III. Neighbor Communications:**

**IV. Land Matters:**

**A. 2605 W 8<sup>th</sup> St.:** On February 12 the Board of Adjustment (BOA) postponed the hearing for a variance request by Kristina and Evan Baehr to construct a 37 SF elevated walkway between the second floor of their home and a second floor studio over their detached garage. The BOA requested clarification of the proposed construction plan. The Baehrs revisited the WANG Board with more detailed diagrams of the proposed elevated walkway and modifications to the garage roof. After reviewing the diagrams with the Baehrs, the WANG Board decided to continue its non-opposition to their variance request.

**V. Transportation:**

August Harris reported that some sound walls, engineered to grade of road bed rather than grade of road, will be given an additional 4 feet in height in order to effectively block sound. Crash wall requirements and utility features along MoPac have brought about the slight variations in construction design. The walls will eventually be uniformly capped and painted.

**VI. Membership:**

Joe Bennett informed the Board that we need to increase active membership. He has emailed 400 to 500 newsletters to WANG area residents and has received more email responses. Analytics show members' preference for the online newsletter over that for the mailed newsletter.

**VII. Newsletter:**

Future newsletters will feature a series on the Brackenridge Tract. Newsletter content is due by March 15<sup>th</sup>.

**VIII. ANC Liaison Report:**

**CodeNEXT:** Joyce Basciano reported that the **CodeNEXT Petition Drive for an Austin Ordinance requiring both a waiting period and voter approval before CodeNEXT or comprehensive land development revisions become effective.** The deadline to submit petition signatures is MARCH 15<sup>th</sup> for a November vote. City Ordinance requires that only

original hard copies of each name and signature of registered voters may be submitted for this petition.

Draft 3 of CodeNEXT continues to negatively impact Central Austin neighborhoods. Detailed reviews of CodeNEXT draft 3 are available at [www.communitynotcommodity.com](http://www.communitynotcommodity.com) on the Resources webpage. Community Not Commodity (CNC) continues to hold fund raising events.

Joyce asked the WANG Board if it would consider joining other neighborhood associations in donating funds to Community Not Commodity. Mary Arnold made a motion to donate \$500 to CNC, that was seconded by George Edwards and unanimously approved by the Board.

The Cap Metro Community Involvement department is in the process of reaching out to communities affected by the upcoming June 3, 2018 service changes. The outreach is focusing on assisting residents with “learning trip planning taking the upcoming changes into account.” President Kyle will contact Cap Metro for more details.

#### **IX. Treasurer’s Report:**

George Edwards email reported that WANG has \$9,244.99 in the Business Account, \$503.36 in the Tarrytown 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade Account, and \$1,206.74 in the Oak Wilt Account.

#### **X. Old Business:**

President Kyle sent a note regarding WANG’s concerns about CodeNEXT draft 3 to the West Austin News that included upzoning, reduced parking requirements and loss of valid petition rights. August Harris sent additional information regarding Bryker Woods concerns to West Austin News.

#### **XI. New Business:**

- A. Parking Benefits District by Austin High: August Harris reported that AISD is installing parking meters along Stephen F. Austin Drive, the street between the Austin High campus and the City’s greenbelt to the beginning of the tennis courts. The City of Austin and AISD are collaborating on the project. Austin High students will be issued parking permits. This will create turn-over in parking around the school, allow for student parking and provide some revenue for AISD.

August Harris reported that the Trail Foundation is asking for WANG’s support in their request for parking meters for the parking eligible areas not on AISD property to the west of Austin High School. The intent of revenue from these meters will help fund maintenance and improvements to the trail. President Kyle made a motion in favor of WANG’s support of the Trail Foundation request. Blake Tollett seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

- B. Brackenridge Tract status update: August Harris reported that District 10 Council Member Alison Alter has requested a comprehensive traffic study for West Austin among other baseline information in order to begin meaningful dialogue with the University of Texas over the future of the Brackenridge Tract. To date, City staff has provided nothing to her. Given that the Brackenridge Tract Development Agreement expires in a little over a year, time is of the essence. CM Alter wants to hear from her West Austin constituents regarding the future of the Brackenridge Tract, which includes the MUNY golf course and WAYA. Possible uses for the Tract and creative funding options to keep the MUNY golf course were discussed.

- C. Next Meeting: Tuesday, April 3<sup>rd</sup> 2018 at 6:30 PM at Howson Library.

**XII. Adjourn:** The meeting was adjourned by President Cathy Kyle at 8:20 PM.