

BHNA General Meeting Minutes

Date	June 28, 2005
Location	St. Mark's Church
Present	55 members

President Don Long called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m.

Introductory remarks

Long welcomed and thanked members for their attendance. He introduced the Executive Committee members in attendance: Diana Stangl, Recording Secretary; Eddie Torres, ANC Representative; Scott Smith, Treasurer, Howie Long, Corresponding Secretary.

Minutes

Long asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the General Meeting on April 12, 2005. The motion was made and seconded and the minutes were approved.

4th of July Parade

Long introduced Cindy Bogard, Chair of the 4th of July Parade Committee. Bogard reviewed the parade plans which include gathering at Barton Hills Market at 8:30 on Monday, July 4th and starting the parade at 9:00. The parade will go up Barton Hills Drive to the school, where there will be games, food, singing, and speeches. Sara Hickman will ride in a flatbed truck with children and conduct a sing-a-long. Everyone is encouraged to attend and to dress up themselves, their dogs, and their trikes, bikes, strollers, etc.

Sign-up sheets for cookies, water coolers, watermelons, and clean up duties were available. Or you can contact Cindy Bogard for more information.

Wells Fargo and Rockin' Tomato will be the sponsors. Please thank them for their support of our community.

Residents Eric and Debby Eibner have designed some wonderful t-shirts and they are available in all sizes for \$5.00 each.

Long announced that it has been a tradition to give the parade chair two tickets to the ACL Music Festival. A motion was made and seconded to give the two tickets to Cindy Bogard. The motion passed. Bogard then announced that she will auction the tickets off on e-bay and donate the proceeds to the sidewalk committee.

Review of HB 2833, "Takings Bill"

Long introduced resident Andy Smith to discuss HB 2833. Smith is a neighborhood resident and is employed by the Legislative Council and tracked HB 2833 through the session. The bill would have made it cost prohibitive for cities to enforce their regulations relating to impervious cover. The bill was defeated but there is concern that it will be introduced again in the future.

Austin City Limits Festival Update

Long introduced Charlie Jones and Jody Goode with Capital Sports and Entertainment (CSE) to provide an update on the Austin City Limits Festival (ACL). The festival will be held on the weekend of September 23. CSE is working to improve it and has reduced the number of tickets that will be sold each day. They are working on improving traffic problems and are open to all suggestions. There will be a portion of the festival website devoted to neighborhood concerns and Goode encouraged people to check it out. She also suggested people go to www.austinroadworks.org for updates on street closings for the festival. They would be listed under the "special events" page.

Last year the festival brought in \$23 million to the City of Austin.

Goode encouraged people to email her at jgoode@planetCSE.com with questions and concerns about the festival.

Open Forum with Austin Parks and Recreation Department

Long introduced Jay Stone and Lt. Creasey with the Austin Parks Department for an open forum. There were several more questions about the ACL festival. Stone reported that CSE pays for all costs associated with ACL and also makes a donation each year after the festival. Last year's donation was \$35,000.

Stone reported on the Zilker Loop project. Phase 1 (a bridge across the creek to the north of the park) is scheduled to be completed in October. Phase 2 (a bridge south of the pool) will be completed next year.

Stone urged residents to call 911 or 311 to report any problems in the parks and the dispatcher will send the appropriate unit to respond.

PARD is not anticipating any budget cuts at this time.

Stone will report back to Scott Smith on the Sunken Garden project and what the BHNA can do with the designated funds it has for that project.

John Luther - Neighborhood Watch Program

Long introduced John Luther, chair of the new Neighborhood Watch Program. Luther presented his map of the neighborhood that shows the crime reports filed since the last general meeting. Most of the incidents continue to be car break-ins. Luther distributed

forms for people to sign up as either block leaders or to join the neighborhood watch program. So far he has 50 houses signed up and 17 block leaders. He plans to offer mini courses on safety once the program is up and running. He is also still identifying where new neighborhood watch signs are needed. Contact him if your area needs a sign. The City will put them up for free for us through August.

Luther urged neighbors to participate in the Neighbors Night Out program on August 2.

Neighborhood Planning Update

Long presented an update on the neighborhood planning process. The city will begin its process in October. Long proposed that we conduct a survey of all 1400 residents and follow that up with a town hall type meeting and fundraiser in October. The fundraiser would be to fund one of the capitol projects identified in the survey and that we want put in our neighborhood plan.

A motion was made, seconded, and approved to move forward in developing a survey and plan a town hall meeting in October.

ANC Report

Eddie Torres reported on the last ANC meeting. He is posting summaries on the listserv each month.

Non-agenda item – AMD move

Long introduced Dick Kellerman to discuss AMD's proposed move to a site in the Edward's Aquifer watershed. Kellerman is on the board of SOS, which strongly opposes the move. He wanted to know if the BHNA would join SOS in opposition to AMD. Since this was a non-agenda item, it was decided to postpone any vote and place it as a discussion item on the October agenda.

Committee Reports

1. Greenbelt Guardian – Glee Ingram reported that the next work day will be on July 9 at the Homedale entrance. The City has agreed to remove the large ligustrum trees if we mark them. The work will begin early and everyone is welcome to come join in the fun!

Glee reported that the April 23 workday was a huge success.

She also reported that the Austin Parks Foundation will host a trail walk at Gus Fruh on July 23 for all Park Pal members. She encouraged people to join and then participate in the walk.

2. Sidewalk Committee - Jen Stuart reported she is still trying to gather information on how to get sidewalks put in. The 50-50 program that the City had been offering is over. She will continue to update everyone on what she learns. She would still like to hold a

neighborhood –wide garage sale to raise money for sidewalks.

Other Business

A drawing was held for two tickets to the ACL Festival. Robert Johnson won the tickets. He plans on selling them to raise money for the PKD Foundation, which supports research in Polycystic Kidney Disease.

The BHNA has six more tickets to ACL to give away. Watch the listserv to see how to win!

Next Meetings

The next Executive Committee meeting is scheduled for September 20. The next General Meeting is scheduled for October 18.

The meeting adjourned at 9:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Diana Stangl
Recording Secretary