

August 12, 2009  
6:30pm to 8:00pm

Minutes prepared by Lorraine Atherton, ANC Cosecretary

Present: Joyce Basciano, Danette Chimenti, Mary Eichner, Lisa Harris, Cynthia Keohane, Jolene Kiobassa, Lou O'Hanlon, Patty Sprinkle, Cory Walton, Mike Meier, Lorraine Atherton

6:30pm Call to Order

6:31pm Minutes of the July 22 General Meeting were approved.

6:40pm Officer/Committee/Sector Reports

- Treasurer's Report (Treasurer not present)
- ANCTalk new guideline vote – administrative messages to moderators only (Mark Boyden not present)
- Requests for Support
  - Nov 14 Housingworks conference to focus on Comprehensive Plan; Francie Ferguson requests ANC participation. Ask her to present briefly at August general meeting
- Liasons/Committee/Sponsorship Status
  - Heritage Tree Working Group. Joyce reports that the group is at an impasse on whether 24 or 30-inch will qualify as a heritage tree, measured only as single stem, what size will require a public process, and whether Urban Forestry or Environmental Board will review. Schedule for a brief update at August general meeting.
  - ANC Crime and Safety Forum Sept Meeting – ANC Central, Lisa Harris reports that the panel (5 members) has been lined up, and she needs questions submitted well in advance. Solicit questions on ANCTalk and at August general meeting.
  - WQPL (Water Quality Protection Land?) Report. Mary Eichner reports that an August meeting included environmental groups and HOAs. Main question is how to take care of the proposed trail. A deal is being negotiated with Hill Country Conservancy. Austin PARD will not be responsible for the trail.
  - Pecan Street P Report and ECHO (Bo McCarver not present)
  - CapMetro Comprehensive Operations Analysis. Patty Sprinkle reports that the advisory group was shown the results of a survey based on 300 Web responses. There was supposed to be more public input in August, but no word on that yet. Patty will provide brief update at August general meeting and consider adding to September or October general meeting agenda.
- Sector Issues
  - Monthly Meetings: Patty reports on rezoning case in Galindo where commercial zoning is creeping into the interior of the neighborhood. Also in South Central, Lorraine reports that ZNA cleared first hurdle for Outdoor Music permits with approval of Shady Grove parking variance. Lisa reports on progress on renovations at Ney and crime problems at Shipe Park (Danette recommends taking parks problems directly to Director Hensley).
  - NUNA/Hancock telecommunications row. Lisa Harris reports that telecom arrays are appearing atop 120-foot electric poles along 38th Street with no public process. Danette recommends that Mary Ingle or Scott Morris address PC codes and ordinances subcommittee about developing public process.
  - APD Communications (for crime forum)
  - ANC Central Resolution – Residential Rental Registration (Code Enforcement). Holding off on resolution while City Council works on the program, and CM Spelman is looking at a task force.

7:20pm Meeting Planning

- August meeting agenda
  - New Council members Spelman, Riley (50 minutes, beginning with brief intro from each CM, followed by Q&A? Focus on budget and Comprehensive Plan. Ask Riley about CapMetro. Ask Spelman about rental registration.
  - Laura Polio - Pandemic Preparations (15 minutes), should focus on neighborhood participation
  - NAC (5 minutes)

- Francie Ferguson on Nov 14 Housingworks conference: comprehensive planning for affordable housing (5-10 minutes).
  - Resolutions: ANC-East on Downtown affordability and Budget-taxing for discussion? Residential Remodel possibly for vote? See resolutions under "Ongoing Business" and attached
  - Updates and Announcements: ChangeAustin.org on taxes (2 min), Joyce on Heritage Trees, Lisa on questions for Crime Forum, Patty on CapMetro, ? on Residential Rental Registration, Southshore PUD (City Council hearing on Aug. 27), Girard Kinney on billboards? (5 min), Mary Arnold on Brackenridge Tract? (5 min)
  - September main topic –Crime & Safety Forum, at least an hour
- 7:40pm Ongoing Business and Neighborhood Issues
- Cory appoints Lou O'Hanlon to serve as First VP until the next election
  - ANC Community Action Network representative to replace Kathie Tovo; Cory will ask Kathie to write up a brief description of the duties, to be circulated to sectors for nominations.
  - Barton Springs Road PUD (pico PUD) update; developer has asked Bouldin Creek NA to enter mediation
  - Southshore PUD update, City Council hearing set for Aug. 27
  - Comprehensive Plan
  - Downtown Austin Plan
  - Proposed residential remodel resolution: need clarification of whether this should address the City Council or Planning Commission, what the Council is considering at its Aug. 27 meeting, and whether we are asking for a change in the process. Resolution needs to be tightened and refocused accordingly. Can be presented at the August general meeting for a vote if necessary; otherwise, present for discussion only.
  - ANC-East Resolution on Roma Proposal for Downtown Plan: Would like to revise introduction and touch base with Housing Works and other affordability groups on details of the 20/20 Plan.
  - ANC-East Resolution on the City Budget: Did not have time to discuss.
- 8:00pm Adjourn

### Requests for Time on Agenda

- Girard – billboards (Aug or Sep)
- Mary Arnold – Brackenridge Tract (DWPZ), Densification (Aug or Sep)
- Robert Goode – New Assistant CM over Aviation, Public Works and Solid Waste

### Potential Program Topics/Agenda Items

- AISD – new superintendent (increase in age 1-5 kids yet elementary closings, involvement w/community, etc)
- SCORE – starting a business (Missy Bledsoe suggestion)
- Greg Guernsey – reorg and CIP
- How get Rebates for Energy Efficiency
- Rob Spillar – New Transportation Director
- Howard Lazarus - New Director of Public Works
- Mike Daniel – redistricting, misuse of tax credits and other issues
- Platform of ANC Issues
- Presentation from Aging Services Council – demographics and needs of elderly population
- Avance – early childhood/family programs for low income families

**Proposed Resolution concerning Remodel:**

Whereas the City of Austin's Land Development Code has no written definition (in English) of the term, *remodel*, and

Whereas the City of Austin's way of defining remodel currently is by the unwritten "rule of thumb" with little to no relationship to the type of construction being attempted, and

Whereas this practice of the "*rule of thumb*" has led to many abuses of the term *remodel*, and

Whereas other cities (for example: Santa Monica, CA) in the country have precise definitions of terms such as *remodel*, and

Whereas the McMansion Task Force previously worked to define for *remodel* in the LDC, but they were not successful in adopting a definition for the *remodel* definition before disbanding.

Therefore be it resolved that the Austin Neighborhoods Council calls on the City Council to make changes to the Land Development Code that create new standards for defining residential remodels by adopting a definition of remodel which has been reviewed and worked on most carefully by several Boards and Commissions and community stakeholders, including but not limited to the Planning Commission, Design Commission, **Austin Neighborhoods Council (ANC)**, National Association of Remodeling Industry (NARI), Homebuilders Association (HBA) of Austin, and the Residential Development Regulations Taskforce (McMansion Taskforce, now the RDCC) and by City staff in accordance with the staff directive passed by the City Council December 6, 2007:

1. A remodel is limited to the following items; otherwise, it is a substantial remodel and must comply with the LDC, as if it were new construction:
  - The removal of 50% of the structure's complete exterior walls** and structurally supporting elements (columns, 2x4s, and other such elements) from their current placement in the structure measured in linear feet;
  - The remodel pertains to the existing structure** and shall not expand horizontally or vertically, otherwise an application for an addition is required;
  - The finishing of one remodel and starting of a second on the same structure shall have a limited **time constraint**.

## **ANC-East Resolution Concerning the ROMA Proposal for the Downtown Plan**

ANC-East urges the City council to dismiss the ROMA Downtown Plan for the following reasons:

The approach is more one of accommodating moneyed interests instead of providing a visionary and rational foundation for development of a vibrant, livable, inclusive community in the heart of our city.

The plan is specifically lacking in providing a diverse population in the downtown area and, over time, will render an upscale ghetto, void of workforce cultures and families that are the essential ingredients of true communities.

We urge the Council to take a long, 50-year view of the effort to produce a vibrant downtown, and implement an affordable housing plan similar to that of Seattle and adopt a

### ***“20/20 Plan” for Inclusive Downtown Communities***

1. A minimum of 15 percent of the residential units should be affordable to households earning less than 80 percent of median family income (MFI). Of the 15 percent, five percent each should be allocated for households earning between 80 and 50 percent MFI; five percent to those earning between 50 and 30 percent MFI and five percent for those earning less than 30 percent MFI. Another five percent of the for-sale units should be affordable by households earning up to 100 percent MFI (total of 20 percent affordable).
2. For developers who refuse to provide the above, a fee-in-lieu of \$20 per square foot should be assessed, on both commercial and residential developments.
3. The funds generated by the fees-in-lieu should go to affordable housing projects in the follow priority areas:
  1. Downtown
  2. TODs
  3. Projects within ½ mile of TODs
  4. Projects along corridors leading to the downtown area.
  5. GO-Bond money should not be used to buy-down units that cost more than \$150 per square foot unless used for special, low-income projects such as SROs.

## **ANC-East Resolution Concerning the City Budget**

ANC-East urges the City Council to oppose any new and increased taxes and instead generate funds by equitably appraising and taxing commercial properties so they pay their fair share; and

Reduce expenditures by opposing expansion of police and fire department personnel; and

Conduct a systematic and independent review of management positions so as to eliminate unnecessary upper and mid-management positions; and

Reinstate incentive pay for city employees at all levels; and

Reconcile inconsistencies in contracted PARD services across the city.

