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Austin Neighborhood Council General Meeting
January 26, 2011

The meeting was called to order by President Aleman as follows:

AISD Budget:

Presentations were made by Nicole Conley-Abram, AISD Chief Financial Officer, Janet Mitchell and Richard Frazer, AISD District Facilities Master Plan Task Force Co-chairs, on proposed budget cuts and their implications. AISD is facing a \$13.1 million dollar budget reduction for 2011. The Stimulus dollars have expired. There may be cuts to the Foundation Funding. Austin AISD is considered a county wealth state. Ms. Abram stated one aspect of AISD financial crisis is its liberal transfer policy which has resulted in not only facilities being underutilized but policies that require a percentage of budget funds (\$1.3B) be returned to the legislature for use in poorer school districts. So much depends on what the legislature does. Ms. Mitchell stated her office has looked at 96 AISD facilities for possible budget cuts. The school board is seeking budget cutting options and creative funding ideas are welcome.

Resolutions Rollout:

Two new resolutions were presented for rollout to neighborhood associations. Dave Thomas spoke on the policy regarding permanent supportive housing (PSH). He surmised this resolution as ANC requests postponement of any further city action regarding Marshall Apartments in East Austin. He said the City of Austin intends to move some homeless populations into the Marshall Apartments circumventing a housing waiting list. Dave stated that putting the homeless population into these apartments ahead of those on a housing waiting list is controversial. He would like to see collaboration between city and stakeholders come up with a mutually acceptable strategy and request ANC Executive Committee contact the city to halt movement of the homeless population into PSH until a strategy is developed.

Local Historic District Application Process, this resolution addressed the current policy for submitting an application for designation as a historic district.

Discussion of Comprehensive Plan: Jeff Jack

Jeff stated the city staff will take the "Preferred" Scenario to the planning commission and then to city council. He said ANC asked city planners to identify the existing capacity in each Austin neighborhood but no response has been received. We are still waiting. Jeff wants to know how city planner calculated scenario numbers. Neighborhood associations do not know existing capacity because many neighborhood plans were written before current comprehensive planning. He suggested each Austin neighborhood try to get an accurate count of its neighborhood's capacity for growth. The "Preferred" Scenario changes the residential character of neighborhoods. Jeff suggested associations email city council members about neighborhood density.

New Business: Member Comments on "Emerging Issues of Citywide Significance to ANC". Steven invited individual neighborhood association members to comment on "Emerging Issues of Citywide Significance to ANC." Due to enormity of participation and comments this list may or not be all inclusive and upon review may be subject to further clarifications and/or additions.

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Member comments varied and ranged as follows:

- Neighborhood Plans are ignored by COA. What is the legal status of neighborhood plans?
- PUD went against Bolling Neighborhood
- Put 8-4-1 Plan on the ballot, a minimum of 8 single member districts. Go to single member districts
- Spend more time in ANC talking about our community
- Outdoor music venue ordinance updated regulation
- PUD is a loop hoop that ANC contact teams should address
- Infrastructure-there is no infrastructure to support density, sidewalks, etc. This is an issue in West Campus, North Hyde Park, outdoor music venues are an issue
- University Hills faces the issue of disabled group home projects that it feels affect everybody. There is no license to operate group homes for mentally disabled people Some work is being done by the city but what is needed is ordinance language Hearings are coming up on the issue of group homes for the mentally disabled
- ANC should ask city to take a look at Water Treatment Plant 4
- How effective is code enforcement driven by complaints. City is spending high amounts of money on code enforcement
- Allendale NA suggested identifying ways to build an effect neighborhood association
- Identify the six taxing bodies that affect ANC, i.e., city, county, health district, etc., and are they working to help ANC

Announcements

- There will be a Candidate Forum at the March ANC meeting devoted to candidates that will start at 6:00 P.M.
- The Legislative ANC Texas Neighborhood needs two representatives. The focus will be on statewide neighborhood issues.
- The issue around the City of Austin Open Meeting Act will be February 2, 2010 at 7:00 P.M.
- Becker Elementary School has a dual language immergence program. Some fees may be charged or exempt based on financial need.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 P.M.

Secretary

Date

Steven Aleman