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EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
Howson Branch Library
July 2nd, 2001, 7:00 pm

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West Austin Neighborhood Group
 P.O. Box 5722
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West Austin Neighborhood Group

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Hal Katz
 President

Linda Neavel Dickens
 Vice-President

Gwen Jewiss
 Secretary

Ian Inglis
 Treasurer

STANDING COMMITTEES

James Allman
 Membership Chair

Blake Tollett
 Zoning Chair

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Joyce Basciano
 Michael Cannatti
 Erik Cary
 Chris Garrigues
 Balie Griffith
 Sara Madera
 Susan Pascoe
 Selina Serna
 Irwin Spear

HONORARY COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Mary Arnold
 Sinclair Black
 Hon. Lloyd Doggett
 Hon. Beverly Griffith
 Hon. Ann Kitchens
 Hon. Will Wynn

Background Photo of Lime Kiln #PICA24140, Austin History Center, Austin Public Library

THE NEIGHBOR

P.O. Box 5722 • Austin, Texas 78763-5722

June, 2001

President's Message June 2001

CITY TO IMPLEMENT NEW POLICY REGARDING EXCESS CURBSIDE GARBAGE

This month I thought I would keep it simple and just pass on some news. As of June 11, Solid Waste Services customers will be assessed an excess garbage fee of \$4 (plus tax) that was approved by the Austin City Council as part of the 2000-2001 budget. This fee will be charged for the collection of each bag of excess garbage placed at the curb without an extra garbage sticker.

Excess garbage is garbage that does not fit in the City issued cart or does not allow the cart lid to close completely. By assessing this fee, City crews will be able to collect all garbage on the assigned collection day while continuing to preserve Austin's goal of protecting the environment and encouraging waste reduction.

Currently, customers are required to place an extra garbage sticker (\$2, plus tax) on all bags of excess garbage. Bags without a sticker are left at the curb with a notice that an extra garbage sticker is required for collection. This addition to the Pay-As-You-Throw program will allow all garbage to be collected on the assigned collection day reducing the risk of litter and further encouraging participation in the City's curbside recycling program.

As of June 11, garbage crews will leave notices on garbage carts when excess garbage is collected. The notices will denote how many bags were collected and what charges will appear on that customer's utility bill. The notice also includes information on how to avoid having excess garbage by recycling more or switching to a larger garbage cart.

For additional information, contact Jerry Hendrix, Solid Waste Services, 499-3556, or visit the Austin City Connection, www.ci.austin.tx.us/sws.

Hal Katz
 703-5715
hkatz@hwlaw.com

TIPS FROM OFFICER TIM ATKINSON

In the past couple of months a man posing as an Austin police officer used an unmarked car to stop vehicles. Our APD district representative, Officer Tim Atkinson, happily reports that the alleged perpetrator has been caught. While we may not have the police impersonator to worry

about, we still want to remember the following tips from Tim. Knowing the protocols increases safety for both you and our police officers.

The Texas Transportation Code states that when operating a motor vehicle and approached by another vehicle with visible emergency lights, you must pull to the RIGHT and stop. If the police car is unmarked, and you do not feel safe pulling over where you are, please signal by some means so that you acknowledge the officer. Slow your vehicle, put on your flashers, and pull over at a safe, populated, and well-lit location. This is especially important for your safety and the officer's.

If the officer approaches your car IN UNIFORM, please do what he says. If he directs you to exit your vehicle, you must do so according to the Supreme Court. What if you are stopped by an unmarked vehicle and the person is not wearing the friendly Austin Police Department uniform? APD requires that all officers when on-duty carry their badge, police ID, and departmentally approved weapon. If you ask for the plainclothes officer's name, he must give it to you with his employee number in a courteous manner.

Have you stopped in a safe place? Do all these things add up when the plainclothes person approaches you? Then crack your window enough to talk with the doors locked and do not make any movements until the officer directs you to. Then you can (after seeing the badge/ID) give the officer your license and insurance through the window crack. If the officer asks you to step out, politely ask that a uniformed officer arrive on the scene. Remember, a ticket can be taken care of through the window. As long as you are not making furtive movements that scare the officer, anything else can wait until a uniformed patrol officer arrives.

REMEMBER: It is your right to ask to see an ID from any law officer. If you suspect anything, call 911.

Join your neighbors for the annual Tarrytown 4th of July Parade on Wednesday, July 4. The parade begins at 9:00 at the Good Shepherd Church at Exposition and travels west on Windsor Road to Pecos, then follows Pecos to Reed Park. Come participate in this fun, family event anywhere along the route and enjoy hot dogs, cookies, and lemonade at Reed Park. Don't forget to decorate those bikes and animals!

Be sure to visit our website at <http://www.deepeddy.com/wang!>

**Minutes of ExComm Meeting
June 4, 2001**

Members Present: James Allman, Joyce Basciano, Erik Carey, Linda Dickens, Chris Garrigues, Gwen Jewiss, Hal Katz, Ian Ingles, Sara Madera, Irwin Spear, Blake Tollett, Susan Pascoe, Selina Serna.

Zoning Issues

2210 Sunny Slope – Mr. & Mrs. Montgomery presented their case to the ExComm, asking that the work already underway without a building permit be allowed to remain. It was noted that besides being illegal construction, this work also encroaches considerably into the front yard setback. The project had already been red tagged for constructing without a building permit, and there is a variance request to go before the Board of Adjustment. The Montgomerys inquired as to whether the ExComm would support a split variance for enclosing a front porch if the two infractions were separated. The remaining enclosed construction still would not comply with setback requirements. The ExComm requested that the Montgomery's representative, Mr. Barnett, attend the next meeting to further elaborate.

2307 Greenlee Dr. – Mr. Nips, an architect residing at 2307 Greenlee Dr., presented drawings for a proposed carport at his home. As drawn, it would require a variance to allow the carport to extend into the front setback by 10 feet. There is no additional impervious cover requested. The ExComm voted to take no action at this time.

WAYA

Greg Reeves provided an update on the vegetation replanting to occur at the area impacted by the Gymnasium construction and fire line installation. Neighbors expressed concern that the replacement landscaping be of the same character as the previous. WAYA assured the neighbors that the plantings would be native and of a reasonable size. Concern over knowledge of native plantings was expressed when it was revealed that ABC Pest & Lawn is the proposed landscaping contractor. WAYA agreed to share the landscape plans at a later WANG meeting. It was noted that the planting would occur after the heat of mid-summer, so as to give the landscaping a better chance for survival.

Reed Park

Ann Phipps noted that the pool season again would be short due to a lack of funding from the City. She encouraged all to visit with the various Council members on this issue. It also was noted that the salaries for lifeguards are not enticing.

Ann mentioned that West Enfield Pool is a

potential target should the City decide that it must permanently close a few pools due to lack of funding. The condition of West Enfield Pool is poor, and scheduled improvements have not occurred. Ann also noted that last year, Friends of Reed Park had unsuccessfully applied for a grant for a tree survey. This year, the organization is applying to obtain new trees in preparation for the eventual removal of some older, distressed trees. The ExComm voted unanimously to approve \$300 for new trees. This would provide the matching funds required by the grant application.

Cap Metro

Roberto Gonzalez and Samuel Archer gave an update on the proposed "Transit Centers." These hubs would provide locations to transfer to express buses, as well as allow customers to make transfer connections without having to come into the center of town. They remarked that Rte. 22 is a possible candidate for additional sidewalk improvements. Discussion ensued regarding the unreliability of the Rte. 9 service. Many inquired as to future goals for alternate means of mass transit, light rail, HOV lanes, etc. The Cap Metro representatives also responded to a number of questions and encouraged all to attend the CAMPO meeting on June 11th.

Communications Committee

Linda noted that the text in the newsletter has sparked a lot of interest in the Oral History Project. Many individuals and organizations have expressed interest in newsletter advertising. The expanded newsletter for the Neighborhood Social will provide an opportunity for more advertising, and the Communications Committee also will look at expanding the monthly newsletter.

Hal congratulated the team on the expanded WANG web site. All are encouraged to visit the new site. James noted that he has received compliments on the website.

Liaison Committee

James noted that the EMS demolition work was awarded. The construction contract will be certified at a July or August City Council meeting.

Since the Police Chief's Forum conflicted with this month's WANG meeting, no ExComm members attended. Blake will attend the Transportation Subcommittee meeting.

Transportation Committee

All were encouraged to attend the June 11th CAMPO meeting regarding the vote on MOPAC. The next opportunity to impact

future road expansions/improvements may be in the proposed south extension to MOPAC.

Membership Committee

There has been some confusion regarding the expiration date on the newsletter label. Linda to add a note inside the newsletter explaining the date on the label.

Neighborhood Plan

Hal noted that residents in Pemberton Heights have formed a neighborhood association and have begun to work on a Neighborhood Plan. ExComm members agreed to try to work with them. The Ad Hoc Committee will be meeting in the next couple of months.

Treasurer's Report

Ian reported that there is \$1598.94 in checking, \$4569.65 in savings, \$1188.92 in Oak Wilt funds. The current membership stands at 365 paid members.

Minutes

The previous minutes were corrected to clarify the OWANA alternatives and then approved.

New Business

On a proposal by Blake, ExComm members voted to contribute \$150 to the 4th of July parade. Blake and James will staff a WANG table at Reed Park.

Dill School – AISD is putting out an RFP for the property. It is to be sold for possible residential or private school use.

Minutes prepared by Gwen Jewiss

**WEST AUSTIN NEIGHBORHOOD GROUP
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
AGENDA
July 2, 2001**

- I. Call Meeting to Order (7:10)
- II. Citizen Communications
- III. Approval of Minutes
- IV. Committee Reports
 - A. Zoning
 - B. Communications
 - C. Transportation
 - D. Liaison
 - E. Neighborhood Plan
 - F. Membership
- V. Treasurer's Report
- VI. New/Old Business
- VII. Adjourn (8:45)

Minutes prepared by Gwen Jewiss



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