

PEMBERTON HEIGHTS NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION BOARD MEETING MINUTES

February 2, 2016 1600 Preston Avenue, 6:30 pm

Members present: Tina Weinberger, President, Lucy Ennis, Barbara Hunt, Don Simkins, Beverly Jewell Sutton, Betty Trent, Lisa Stark Walsh

Members not present: Daniel Soltedo

Guest: Dalton Young

1. Tina called the meeting to order at 6:40pm.
2. Minutes from the January 2016 meeting were not available for review of action.
3. Barbara Hunt gave an update on painting house numbers on curbs. Girl Scouts working on their Gold Award need to do a project of more continuing benefit. Perhaps a Boy Scout could do this project to earn his Eagle Scout rank. Betty will check with a Boy Scout troop.
4. Tina reported that Tommy Thompson has volunteered to be chairman of the Social Committee. The board voted unanimously to accept his offer.
5. There was discussion about the use of "Reply All" when responding to posts on Next Door. It was agreed that people should be aware of their options when responding and not reply to all unless there is a reason to.
- ~~6. Tina reviewed the process through which a non-Board member is able to provide input to the board: attend a meeting and speak up during the "Forum" segment, speak with the officer or committee chair responsible for handling related matters, request the topic be added to the Agenda of an upcoming Board meeting or join the appropriate committee. Beverly said that the bylaws require that person to speak immediately after the call to order. It was agreed that a person who is scheduled to speak should come at 6:45. A drop in can speak toward the end of the meeting.~~
6. Tina reviewed the process through which PHNA members, other than Board members, are able to provide input to the board: attend a meeting and speak up during the "Open Forum" segment, speak with the officer or committee chair responsible for handling related matters, request the topic be added to the agenda of an upcoming Board meeting or join the appropriate committee. It was agreed that a person who has been invited to speak and is on the agenda should arrive at 6:45 pm. The Bylaws govern all other circumstances arising in the "Open Forum."
7. Lucy reported on the Environment and Safety Committee's activity. She and Betty met at Sabrina Brown's home in January to discuss the triangles. There was a discussion on how to raise funds for the triangles and how to distinguish between the triangles and Hartford Park when collecting contributions.
8. Dalton Young arrived and was congratulated for securing the \$75,000 grant for Hartford Park. She said that once the Park has been completely developed, the City will provide playscape insurance and normal maintenance, as it does for other City parks. However, the City will not pay for electricity, water or the services of a landscaping company (required), which are together estimated to total approximately \$5,000 a year.. Betty suggested that PHNA dues could be raised to help pay for expenses.

9. Betty reported on the dangerous condition of the hike and bike trail between 29th and 32nd streets. The City put up barricades, but people have moved them and are negotiating the narrow path under the cliffs, where the path was washed away after the May floods. She asked the board to send a request to City Council and Kathy Tovo to repair the trail immediately and not wait for a grant to fund the repairs and the board agreed. Betty said she would write the letter, on behalf of PHNA. She said she would also include Richard Craig in this request, and she would contact Brykerwoods. Lisa suggested that other neighborhoods be asked to send similar requests, since the trail is used by people from other parts of town.

10. Betty also asked the Board how they felt about a proposed triangle at Wooldridge and 29th. Brykerwoods wants to help us advocate for this. Tina suggested that we could say that we're in favor of ways to encourage safety and we'll support them. Beverly suggested that this be referred to the Safety Committee.

11. Lisa reported on work done by the Communications Committee to follow up on recommendations passed by the board at the January 2016 board meeting. She met with Edward Tasch from Pemberton Heights, who will help with the enhancements to the PHNA website. Lisa said that we need to decide what we would like to feature on our website. What drop-downs and buttons do we want? She and Don Simkins have done much to update the site already. Tina said that we need contact information and a calendar of events. Lucy said that we need to look at the site from the perspective of a new resident. Lisa also suggested that PHNA needs a way to easily transfer ownership of the site as board members change. Lisa will contact Carla Hatler, owner of the website, to accomplish this. Lisa also will meet with Edward to start the enhancements to the PHNA web site, which will be phased in.

12. Lisa reported that she followed up on the board's January decision to discontinue the Pemberton Journal because the publisher would continue it only if PHNA paid approximately \$2,000 annually to do so. Lisa sent an email to Kathy Peel to communicate this decision. The board also voted to explore ways to utilize "Life in the Heights" as an adjunct to the website and promote the site through articles in the magazine. Lisa and PHNA member, Erin Shanley, met with the editor of Life in the Heights, Amanda Koziel to explore ways to feature PHNA articles and build traffic to the PHNA web site. The board voted to accept the editor's offer to submit PHNA news to fill the one page per month in "Life in the Heights" Erin Shanley will be the submissions editor.

13. Betty reported on Government Affairs saying that we need to pay dues to Austin Neighborhood Council. There was discussion about whether we want to belong to ANC and to West Austin Neighborhood Group? The board voted to pay dues to ANC and find out more facts in order to decide if PHNA should belong to WANG.

14. Betty suggested that draft minutes be sent only to Board members. A final, approved copy can be sent to the neighborhood within 2 weeks. We can speedily approve minutes through email; the board agreed.

15. It was agreed that the next Board meeting be held on Wednesday, March 9, at 6:30 pm, at Betty Trent's home.

16. The meeting was adjourned at 9:25pm.

Respectfully submitted by Barbara Hunt, Acting Secretary