

BCNA STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

May 04, 2020 6:45 PM

Zoom Video Conference Hosted by Andrew Collier

Meeting ID: 883 9113 8311 Password: 020877

Full copy at: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/13TPai4PxDbS1dsULNYYXC1umbg0BT2uT/view>

Attendance: Shows those persons who logged-in for the Zoom meeting

Officers	Present (Y/N)	Zone Reps	Present (Y/N)	Non-Officer	Present (Y/N)
Jesse Moore; President	Y	Stephanie Scholten; Brown	Y	Ingrid Weigand; Parks Chr.	Y
Kate Francis; VP-Issues	Y	Jeff Seiden Jody Zemel; Yellow		Thom Parker; Traffic/Event Chr.	
Paul Strange; VP- External/Zone Chr.	Y	Nick Sargologos; Green		Gary Hyatt; Web & News Dist.	Y
Mimi Martinez McKay; Comm.Dir	Y	Robert Cantu; Lavender			
Ronnie Dittmar; Tres.	Y	Sue Mercado Vincent; Orange			
Matt Coldwell Secretary	Y	Scottee Downing; Pink	Y		
		Angelika Sauer; Blue	Y		

6:50PM Pres. Moore called the meeting to order. The minimum number of officers for a quorum is seven.

6:51PM *Old Business:*

#1. Steering Comm. Minutes from March 02, 2020 **Approved with edits 8/0/0**, correction to spelling of VP Kate Francis.

#2. Email voting tabulation results of March 17, 2020 concerning the cancelation of April General Association meeting, electronic distribution of the April Bulletin and fee waiver for advertisers. **Approved- 8/0/0**.

6:53PM *Zoning Update:*

Paul Strange provided overview and recommendations for zoning variance at 1612 Newton St. Applicant has submitted plans that conformed with current zoning except lot size requirement. The 3880 SF vacant lot was below minimum lot size of 5750 SF. The Zoning Comm. voted unanimously for the approval of the variance based upon the submitted site plan. Paul Strange proposed the Steering Comm. approve variance so that he can report back to the applicant in time for the next Board of Adjustment hearing on May 11, 2020.

Discussion: President Moore seconded the motion but voiced concerns that this may complicate land code development issues. Matt Coldwell offered a friendly amendment to change "approval" to "non-opposition" citing previous use of the term with variances. Coldwell also noted that online research of the 1935 Sanborn map indicated that a dwelling had once existed at the site.

Friendly amendment was accepted by Paul Strange and the motion to "not oppose the variance at 1612 Newton St." motion passed 8/0/0.

7:04PM *BCNA General Assembly Meeting scheduled for June 09, 2020 – where and how?*

President Moore praised the last two Zoom sessions as successes and praised the work of Andrew Collier and Mimi McKay for the last on-line general forum on April 21, 2020. President Moore proposed that, in light of the ongoing COVID-19 restrictions we should plan on having the next BCNA General Assembly on-line rather than in person.

Discussion: Ingrid Weigand presented an alternative point of view that the in-person meetings were very important and effective at keeping our membership informed, active and involved. It was noted that we had only 17 persons at the last forum and that on-line meetings were effectively overlooked by the general membership. She cautioned that participation could drop, particularly if we suspend hand delivery of the Bouldin Bulletin door to door.

Stephanie Scholten & Gary Hyatt mentioned that door/door newsletters were difficult to distribute given the epidemic crisis now.

Mimi McKay suggested making a limited number of hand bills that could be posted in conspicuous spots around the neighborhood. It was also suggested mailing postcards and putting out signs in order to reach everyone in the neighborhood.

President Moore proposed to hold off on any postcard mail-out blasts at this time in order to save that cost for the announcement of the new migration to GROUPS IO. Additionally, he proposed concentrating on producing a limited number of two-sided handbills that could be posted around the area. He also agreed to hold off making a final decision about the on-line meeting versus in person assembly until the next Steering Comm. meeting, June 01.

Action Items:

#1. Ronnie Dittmar volunteered to ask our printer if they could quote a price for a single mailing the newsletter and/or postcards.

#2. Jesse Moore volunteered to write a lead article for the handbill and/or Bouldin Bulletin informing neighbors of current issues.

7:21PM *Communications: Switching from Yahoo Groups to GROUPS IO.*

Discussion: Communications Director Mimi McKay requested clarification from the Steering Committee about how to administer the migration methods and moderating the users. President Moore indicated that he was happy with the new IO forum and would like the migration to be simple and uncomplicated. He did not think that new invitations to join needed to be proffered rather, simply transferring the existing Yahoo list of contacts to the IO forum. Mimi McKay indicated it might not be quite that straight forward as we need some level of "gate keeping."

Action Item: Mimi McKay volunteered to research acquiring a registration name of "Bouldin Forum" with IO groups in order to get that name established for the switchover from Yahoo.

7:33PM *Budget Matters:*

#1. President Moore noted that we have no current 2020 budget authorizations. He mentioned, until a budget proposal for 2020 is approved he can simply act on an ad-hoc basis in accordance with the BCNA by-laws. President Moore also noted that having a budget is one of the criteria for IRS approval of 501c4 status, something BCNA should look into.

#2. President Moore requested that BCNA renew its annual membership dues (\$50) with the Austin Neighborhood Council. Steering Comm. **approved of the expenditure 9/0/0.**

Action Item: Tres. Dittmar volunteered to work on completing a 2020 annual budget.

7:40PM *Parks Update:*

Ingrid Weigand, Parks Chair noted that use of neighborhood parks during this time of COVID-19 is up. There has been an increase of camping in West Bouldin Greenbelt. The City has taken a step back from policing the area due to COVID-problems. A tree house structure near Trail E, "Old Growth" has developed in a heritage live oak tree. Getting it removed has proven difficult but she shall endeavor further with Park Comm. members help.

7:42PM *Sector updates:*

#1. It was noted that the SOCO parking study and assessment has been published and is now available on-line: <https://downtownaustin.com/what-we-do/socoparking/>

#2. Kate Francis and Ronnie Dittmar reported that the redrawing of the sector map is still a work in progress. More to come soon.

7:46PM President Moore adjourned the Zoom meeting without any prejudice at all.