

# **GNA Board Meeting Minutes – June 28th, 2004**

## Attendees:

Board Members: Eric Dorris, Jannelle Imken, Austin Spencer, Mike Collins, John Busch

Absent: Rick Friedman

Board Candidate: Holly Vatter

Committee Chairs: Arthur McLean, Gillian, McLean, Lisette Schmidli

Absent: Robert Floyd

Other Invitees: Ted Biggerstaff

Absent: Nic Holland

## Minutes:

John Busch called the meeting to order at 6:30pm at Eric Dorris's house and enjoined discussion on the following agenda items:

- 1) Voting in new Board Member – John Busch  
Holly Vatter was introduced. She has graciously agreed to complete Rick Friedman's unexpired term as Secretary of the Board since he is moving. A motion was made by Austin Spencer to have Holly replace Rick as Secretary of the Board. It was seconded by Mike Collins. The vote was unanimous. Congratulations to Holly and thanks to Rick Friedman for his service and expertise. Holly's new term (the remainder of Rick's term) will expire in October of '06.
  
- 2) Additional agenda items were collected. These included:
  - \* Gatehouse flags are tattered
  - \* Half-mast requests
  - \* Neighborhood position on toll roads
  - \* Neighborhood Clean-up Weekend
  - \* Fire Ant Weekend
  - \* Membership solicitation letter
  - \* Trash pile on Far View
  - \* Make discounts for GNA members only
  - \* LCRA water tower update
  - \* City Park Road re-paving
  - \* Construction trucks speeding
  - \* Panther Hollow East drawing packages distributed for Phase I & II
  - \* Website account transitioned
  
- 3) Treasurer's Report – Jannelle

Jannelle reported that we're doing okay right now regarding the budget. The membership status is running a little behind at 104 members compared to our goal of 125 members. The board okayed Jannelle sending out a reminder letter to people that were members last year. This includes about 23 households. There were a few that were one-timers, but most have been consistent members and probably just forgot to join again this year. A gentle reminder is probably all that's necessary. Again, Jannelle indicated that we've had enough people pay at the optional \$100 rate that we're still on target for the basic goal, but not for our expanded goal of rebuilding the treasury after such significant Gatehouse expenses, with more on the way. The board also okayed John sending a letter to those that have not historically been members.

4) Entrance Committee Report – Nic Holland

Since Nic was absent, John relayed his report submitted prior to the meeting. The question of sealing the sign was discussed and the board concluded that we would either not seal it or seal it later as conditions dictate. This will give it more time to reach its natural finish, which may be quite acceptable. Arthur mentioned that we might get better visibility during the day if we left the sign's interior light on. John relayed that he had performed the experiment and found the difference to be way too subtle to go to the trouble of rewiring the circuit. Mike suggested that if we wanted to brighten up the effect, perhaps painting the interior surface of the sign with a silver metallic paint (only in the areas that reflect light but don't show from the exterior) might make a difference. The board thought that was an interesting idea and John took the action to discuss with Nic.

5) Social Committee Report – Gillian and Arthur McLean

Per Gillian, using the pavilion at River Place for potluck or BBQ or some other function sounds the most promising. Mike mentioned that events for kids might be organized by Paula or Neeca. Jannelle also said that Paula and Myra should get together to collaborate. The board agreed that Gillian should try to set something up at the RP pavilion before school starts August 17<sup>th</sup>.

6) Welcoming Committee Report – Gillian McLean

No updates in the last few weeks, but Gillian noticed a new family has now moved in on GL Drive in Florine's old place. Per Austin, John and Sheila have just moved out due to a new job relocation.

7) Architectural Control Committee Report – Robert Floyd

Robert was not present at this meeting, but John Busch stated that Robert had recently fielded questions about a masonry fence. Mike asked how long a "For Lease" sign can stay up since one has been up for over 6 months. The board discussed it and found it to be a non-issue since the

owner must advertise to get the property occupied and the market response varies widely. Also, John mentioned that people have been stopped going through a local shortcut. Per Austin, one resident has been stopped twice. John took the action to call this person and get the details.

- 8) Neighborhood Development Committee Report – Lisette Schmidli  
Lisette reported no updates other than what was forwarded prior to the meeting via e-mail (a preferred method of update since it saves meeting time). The e-mail updates referred to the Ribelin Ranch project, Champion's Tract, and the upcoming TXDOT toll road meeting (which Carol Lee had also sent a message on). In response to John's question about the toll road meeting, Lisette responded that there was some talk of removing 360 from the toll package, but there was also resistance to that idea so it probably would not happen. Per Austin, an editorial in the Austin American Statesman was in favor of the toll road plan. John reported that since the public comment period had already concluded, there was no need to develop a neighborhood position on this issue. John updated the board on the LCRA proposed water tower, as well as the Panther Hollow East Phase I and II drawing packages that were distributed to residents adjacent to the development(s).
  
- 9) Website Update – Arthur McLean  
Arthur reported that the most recent activity was the posting of information about the RP country club discount. John mentioned that the website billing, with Jannelle's help, just transitioned from John's credit card to GNA Checking. Arthur mentioned that John's e-mail is bouncing messages from our hosting service. John took the action to check his filters.
  
- 10) Grounds Maintenance / Entrance Report – Austin Spencer  
Flags - Austin reported that he just bought the more expensive heavy duty flags since we did not get good life out of the regular duty flags last time. This will most likely be an annual budget item, since the wind tatters the flags pretty quickly and we want to keep them looking good. Austin explained that he was on vacation during the half-mast requests for President's Reagan's passing and that the security flagpole crank was unfortunately locked up in his garage during that period. Austin took the action to buy a second crank so this wouldn't happen next time.  
Glenlake Clean-up Weekend - The board discussed the annual Clean-up Weekend, and both Eric and Austin volunteered to participate, with Austin taking the action to spearhead and coordinate the activity. Eric will do the e-mail notices and John will send Eric last year's notice for reference. Jannelle volunteered to call the county to pick up the collected trash. John will do signage. Per Austin, the date will be 7/10/04. Jannelle suggested a rain date one week later, which Austin agreed to. John mentioned a complaint he'd received about an unsightly trash pile on Far View, and

suggested that we might be able to take care of it during the next Neighborhood Clean-up Weekend.

Fire Ant Weekend - We also agreed to do the Fire Ant Weekend at the same time, so the signage and e-mails would work together for both. Per Arthur, we should ideally do this twice a year, in May and again in September (Memorial Day and Labor Day per Jannelle). Mike voiced an idea that perhaps we could hire some of the neighborhood kids to do this for profit.

New Construction Sites - Austin recounted the story of a messy construction site in the neighborhood and how he had called the owners to obtain their cooperation to get it cleaned up. He also talked about a speeding dump truck company out of Round Rock which was associated with another neighborhood construction site.

Speeding - Holly mentioned a black pick-up truck that she saw speeding and driving recklessly. It actually swerved to hit a pregnant deer (presumably on purpose). She had to call the Sheriff to put the deer down. Nobody on the board was aware of this truck but all will look out for it in the future.

11) Database / E-mail / Directories Report – Eric Dorris

Eric reported no updates at this time. He will start to work the directories in August with Mike's assistance.

12) Newsletter Report – Holly Vatter

Holly reported that she will be starting the newsletter development in the next couple weeks. She had previously received content ideas from John via e-mail. The board discussed advertisers in the Newsletter, Website and also the Directory (suggested by Mike Collins – a good idea since the Directory is used all year long). Ted mentioned that the website might be attractive if we made it searchable by web spiders. Holly agreed, then she and Ted discussed the technical details briefly. John summarized the list of potential advertisers that have already contacted us as well as our existing Neighborhood Sponsors – businesses that already perform free or discounted services for the GNA. Arthur proposed an idea to obtain discounts for GNA members exclusively as a benefit of membership, perhaps implemented by issuing a GNA membership card. The board discussed this in some detail, but finally concluded that reducing the target audience for any business might be a disincentive for potential advertisers. Mike also made the point that businesses would have to be fairly organized to offer a discount only to those that carry the GNA card, and that might make it difficult or impossible to implement. In the end, the board decided not to pursue this idea at this time.

13) Special Projects Report – Mike Collins

Mike gave a brief update on City Park Road re-paving, which was now complete. John mentioned that Kevin MacDonnell had previous

experience with the use of a more tactile road surface finish which reduced accidents during wet conditions. Mike took the action to call Kevin to discuss it.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00pm.

Respectfully submitted,

John Busch (standing in for Rick Friedman, GNA Secretary)