

GNA General Meeting Minutes 10/16/17

7:00

Call To Order and Introductions by Mike Reitzel

- Mike introduced visitors, thanked everyone for coming

7:05

Election of Officers by Mike Reitzel

- Austin Spencer, Carol Lee were voted in for another term
- Mike asked for help for Arthur for Architectural Control Committee (ACC)
- Arthur said since neighborhood is almost fully built-out, he only gets 3 or 4 requests per year, so it's a fairly easy task.

7:10

Plans to upgrade Glenlake water system by Austin Water Utility Facilities Eng. Brian Barnett

- Brian gave a presentation and answered questions about a second water line connection to River Place.
- This will allow them to remove the tanks near the end of Glenlake Drive.
- Advantages are 2 sources of water, increased water quality, should eliminate need for flushing, and will improve fire flow.
- Construction will take about a year, starting early Jan 2018.

7:25

District 10 Update Councilmember by Alison Alter

- Cancelled, since Alison couldn't be there

7:35

CodeNext Outreach by District 10 Policy Aide Kurt Cadena-Mitchell

- CodeNext involves zoning, transportation and environmental considerations.
- There is a political agenda to increase density, and unfortunately District 10 is one of the targets.
- Much of District 10 is not available for development due to slopes and environmental features
- Since few pieces of the District are available to increase density overall, the changes in these areas may be dramatic.
- Alison's office is doing everything they can do, but need your help.

7:50

Community Perspective on CodeNext by Linda Bailey

- Linda reduced 1400 pages to 1 page, which was her handout.
- She will send other considerations to our Yahoo page, including not supporting it and asking for a citizen vote.
- In general, CodeNext is complicated and deceptive.
- For instance, RR in the old code = 1 unit / lot, but in the new code = 2 units / lot
- They look at our big lots and think we should have more density, however, our slopes, env. restrictions and other rules are limiting.

- Community Perspective on CodeNext by Linda Bailey (continued)

- In fact, with CodeNext, the smaller your lot, the more you can put on it, which makes no sense.
- City Staff wrote the new code, and everyone is being pressured to vote on it.
- Unbelievably, the mayor believes single family homes are not appropriate - he's very clear on that.
- Things that we might expect:
 - More accessory dwelling units (ADU's)
 - More duplexes
 - Reduced parking spaces allowed
 - Covered porch new construction limited to only 5' width!
- Summary: CodeNext could have a big and negative impact.

7:55

Transition of service from ESD4 to Austin Fire Dept. by Chief David Bailey

- After 55 years, transition from ESD4 to AFD is Oct 29th, 2017
- Stations will continue to be manned, response and service will improve w/ 1200 AFD fire fighters, our taxes will not go up.

8:10

River Place Annexation Insights by Scott Crosby, River Place HOA President

- Scott talked about the history and schedule of River Place's annexation by the City of Austin.
- Per Scott, many annexations are driven by water rate discrepancies, so especially watch for these.
- In River Place's case, their water rates doubled, adding 35 cents per \$100 valuation.
- According to city code, the same level of service must be provided, but this is subject to interpretation.
- A vote will occur May 2018 to see if RP MUD will remain intact or if the city will take over in Jul 2018.

8:25

2222/CONA update Michael Reitzel

- The GNA is active again in CONA, and Michael is our new CONA representative.
- Re: Champion's Tract, the developer wants storage and general commercial zoning, and this is being discussed w/in CONA.

8:35

Summary of Area Development Projects by Carol Lee

- Champions tract 3 got approved, but a lawsuit ensued because the process was disingenuous.
- A temporary injunction stopped the bulldozers until the lawsuit is reviewed.
- 1C is at ZAP tomorrow (10/17/17), and they have asked that zoning be changed to commercial, so we need a call to action.
- The lot across from Sienna Restaurant has morphed from a 2 story building to a 5 story hotel.
- There are a lot of upcoming public hearings and we need your help.

8:45

City of Austin Street Impact Fee Linda Bailey

- Should the city grow and pay for itself?
- Logically, there should be economies of scale, but the reverse is happening.
- One example is the City of Austin trying to collect a “Street Impact Fee” well in advance of any spending.
- Nothing is happening on this until 2019, so we’ll discuss this more later.

9:00

Meeting Adjourned by Michael Reitzel