

# **EAST CESAR CHAVEZ NEIGHBORHOOD PLAN CONTACT TEAM Meeting Minutes**

October 18, 2017

## **I. Call to order**

Susan Benz called to order the general monthly meeting of the East Cesar Chavez Neighborhood Contact Team at 6:05 PM on October 18, 2017 at the Terrazas Branch Library, 1105 E. Cesar Chavez Street, Austin, TX 78702. Susan Benz acted as Chair Person. Kristen Heaney acted as secretary.

## **II. Roll call**

Kristen Heaney conducted a roll call. The following persons were present:

Shawn Sommerville  
Lee Gresham  
Julio Perez  
Kristen Heaney – Acting secretary  
Susan Benz – Acting Chair  
Pam Colloff  
Kristin Hotopp  
Mark Rogers  
Sara Strother – left at 8:06PM  
Sara Pedrosa

### **ABSENT:**

Leslie Thompson  
Alma Lyra -Vice Chair  
Sylvia Marroquin

## **Community**

### **RBJ Project Update**

Elena Rodriguez  
Dave Stauch, Capital Project Management

Former entry drive will be abandoned East Ave. (gentlemen roadway)  
Redevelopment has delayed project another 6 months  
This is holding up site development permit  
Looking for council approval in December

Discussion:

Anytime you touch parkland you have to go through general election or get TX legislature approval or go through a Chapter 26 process that has to be endorsed by one of the city depts. In this case, transportation to the lead RBJ has to bear the cost.

Once this is cleared the site development permit should go through.

Hope to break ground for utility work in January.

Our firm is doing a clean-up of hatchery park next month. Ultimately it will become a neighborhood amenity but for now were just cleaning it up.

Julio brought up concerns about animals currently residing in the area, fox. The garden is a natural habitat.

Neighbor, Farah – concerns about a coyote going after her even though she threw stones at it. RBJ resident walking small dogs may be a concern.

Neighbor Amy – if there is a plan to removes foxes and coyotes to be aware of the contractor used. No kill preferable.

## **READING AND APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES**

Kristen Hotopp - H4H motion was seconded by Sylvia

Hotopp – RE 1303 E CC project:

Sector Rep. drafts letter motion send to chairs with 2 day review period, no comment is taken as support/consent/go-ahead. Letter is sent.

## **Treasurer's Report – Susan Benz**

Members can get reimbursed when printing flyers for the public.

We have created a disbursement form.

We voted last time of printing 7 bound copies of the TOD.

Susan made Creek Show Announcement. Thinkery will be involved both weekends.

Update on East Austin Parking Management District

As of July 2017 \$142,490.94 accumulated since the program started.

44% share \$62,696.02 for ECC.

Create a sub-committee to make recommendations to city on projects we would like to see executed.

Sara Pederosa, Julio Perez, Shawn Sommerville interested.

Already mentioned crosswalk over by Chalmers across Cesar Chavez

## **Standing Committee Reports**

### **LAND USE COMMITTEE (part 1)**

Shawn Sommerville was the only one attending from ECC

### **1116 E 3<sup>rd</sup> Street**

Owners want to disaggregate the lots.

25.2.1406 Part D

Ordinance went into effect a year ago due to problems in some areas.

Their plan is to build skinny houses. Primary house and secondary apartment on each. No setback variances. They will demolish existing house and build newly. Owners will present next meeting.

### **Chalmer's South**

We approved MF4. An issue came up in the land development code and MF4 will not give them the FAR that they need to build 87 units so they are back to request MF5. MOTION TO take up Chalmers by Susan Benz. Lee Gresham, seconds.

(Committee Report continued below)

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Chalmers Court**

Phil Crisara, Nelsen Partners

Request today currently CS MF4 want to zone entire site MF5

FAR goes from .75 to 1:1

Will go from 87 units to 86 units

No parking change.

MOTION:

Mark Rogers moves to change from MF4 to MFR.

Shawn Sommerville, seconds.

Sara P, are there any possible use changes with this? NO

Sara P, all of these setbacks are they impacted by the height of the building? NO

VOTE: All is favor. Unanimous agreement.

## **COMMITTEE REPORT (continued)**

### **Historic Preservation, Amy Thompson**

Many ECC Residences recommended for landmark status or designated historic landmark districts.

Everything over 70 years old is recommended as a historic

Gave feedback that Cesar Chavez to 6<sup>th</sup> street was overlooked and they only recommended Navasota to Comal along 3<sup>rd</sup> street.

Neighborhood was surveyed. Draft guidelines were made.

3<sup>rd</sup> step was collecting 51% of neighborhood signatures. Stalled out here.

Last April, historic landmark commission directed city staff to initiate the 3<sup>rd</sup> street historic district project. Two houses have since been demolished and 2 others have had permits submitted. Staff has not taken it seriously. They are reviewing videos from meeting back in April. Pio's office is involved. If demo permits are given the district will be eliminated, won't qualify.

REQUESTS:

1. Asking team and neighbors to write in [cara.bertron@austintexas.gov](mailto:cara.bertron@austintexas.gov)  
Meeting is 10/23  
Write a letter to staff and commission of our appreciation of the support back in April. This opportunity is eroding and we really need your support.
2. Sector 1 and 2 are under siege. We are hemorrhaging historic properties. Developers are buying up tracts of these properties. We could expand the ask sector reps to actively pursue conversations to go beyond this one block.  
MOTION:  
Sara P - Amy draft a letter responding to this and expressing our hope that ECC support the historic district. Kristen Hotopp, seconds.  
Encouraging that the district be supported and staffed and taken seriously.  
VOTE: ALL in Favor. UNANIMOUS VOTE  
Preserves homes and ability to stay in their homes longer.
3. Landmarks. To submit application was \$2,000 fee. There is a provision that if your home is recommended by the city and you can get it proposed for you can get the fee waived. You cannot get it without the support of your planning team.

For COA identified proposed landmarks, would ECC-NPT consider a blanket policy to support anything the city recommends as a landmark.

MOTION:

Kristen Hotopp - Amy write a letter of support on behalf of the team that was to landmark their homes. Sara Pedrosa, seconds.

Susan request that a map of identified properties be attached. A PDF and a link.

VOTE: All is favor. UNANIMOUS

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

### **Approval of the Bylaws.**

Our bylaws are to be adjusted to meet city requirements.

Susan took cities template and put our info in.

MOTION:

Sara Pedrosa - adopt the bylaws

Pam Colloff, Seconds.

VOTE: All in favor. UNANIMOUS.

### **Scout Inn Outdoor Music Permit**

Casey Carter C3 Presents

Tonight is 1<sup>st</sup> night Scott Inn us open as a bar

Request for up to 5 live events per month 60 per year in addition to ACL and SXSW and can otherwise occur anytime.

Five events per month is our ECC restriction.

Request is to remove language about 5 event per month.

Touring seasons need flexibility.

MOTION:

Sara Pedrosa - oppose and write a letter to oppose.  
Kristen Hotopp, seconds.

Neighbor Farah brings forward parking concerns.  
Susan Benz states that she handed our language to Charles Attal. This was known.  
Susan recommends coming back with a more specific circumstance.  
Neighbor recommends consider way to give back to the neighborhood.  
Sara Pedrosa suggests that understanding the ins and outs of booking could help.  
Having a way to illustrate that to the ECC.  
Children oriented program. Could help.  
Casey withdraws the request.

MOTION is withdrawn.

### **CAPITAL METRO**

FARAH requests ECC write a letter to the capital metro board who are intending to change routes 21, 22, 490. Sara Pedrosa is representing Farah.  
It poses a hardship for residents of RBJ and beyond that Cap Metro has an obligation to get people where they need to go.  
260 people depend on these routes for going to doctor, pharmacy, planned their lives around these routes. Community between 70 – 90 years old.  
Retrain residents to make new routes.  
Family eldercare pledged to fight this.  
22 is a great route for UT students.

MOTION

Julio that ECC write a letter of support to not suspend these routes in the strongest language that we possibly can.  
Lee Gresham, SECONDS

New routes would require multiple transfers.

VOTE: All in favor. UNANIMOUS

Sara Pedrosa will write the letter. She and Juilo request approval to attend CAP metro meeting to speak on ECC behalf.

### **MISC.**

Susan Benz requests we attend historic preservation meeting at 7PM Monday. We sign up to speak and donate our time to Amy.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Sylvia, seconds.  
Misspelled Kristen Hotopp's name  
1408 - Shawn recalls 4 in favor, 2 opposed, 2 abstain.  
MOTION

Mark – accept the minutes as amended  
Lee, seconds.  
VOTE: 5 in favor, 4 abstain

**ADJOURN 8:14 PM**