NA Steering Committee Meeting Notes

Introductions

-Meeting began at 6:30 PM

-Attendees introduced themselves, stated how long they’ve been in Austin and why they’ are interested in being involved with a Neighborhood Association

-Andy Bucknall explained to the group what a Neighborhood Association is, how it could benefit us, and how it is different from an HOA

Q&A

-Attendees brought up concerns/questions they had about having a Neighborhood Association. Some of the points brought up in this initial discussion:

* + Renters in the neighborhood would also be able to be a part of this group, unlike the HOA, so more neighbors would be able to be involved.
  + Neighborhood Associations are not bound by the HOA covenants, focus of NA is much more broad and would focus more on maintaining, enhancing and supporting the quality of life for all residents wishing our NA’s boundaries. It would work to grow our residential influence on governmental and other bodies or persons in matters of mutual interests to residents.
  + After forming the NA, we would then be able to be a part of the Austin Neighborhoods Council, which would give our area of the city more visibility. We need bylaws to be able to be a part of the ANC.
  + Alan Graham brought up that there is a bond election coming up to produce bike lanes and sidewalks in our area. Having a neighborhood Association would help with getting things like this onto ballots and bringing similar improvements to our area.
  + A concern was raised about possible conflict of interest if an HOA board member were to also serve as a chair of the NA,. The group discussed and the majority agreed there wouldn’t be a conflict of interest they could foresee.

Establishing Steering Committee

-Attendees excitedly agreed to move forward with the process of creating the NA and forming a steering committee- which would include all members present

-Andy Bucknall elected Chair of the steering committee, Pat Jackson elected Vice-Chair of steering committee- both unanimous votes

Discussion and Revision of Draft Bylaws

-Discussed potential names for NA. Settled on East Austin Community Hills (E.A.C.H.), incorporating both Woodland Hills and Community First Village. The name also makes it easy to differentiate from the Woodland Hills HOA.

-Established the boundaries: FM 969, Imperial Dr., Hogeye Rd., & Decker Ln

-All agreed to the purpose stated in the draft bylaws, no revisions made.

-All agreed to not have fees for joining NA

-Requirements for NA membership agreed to. Group made slight revisions to correct syntax and take out unneeded verbiage about Associate membership.

-Discussed and agreed that an Annual Meeting for the NA will be a meeting for all neighbors to share ideas/concerns. Annual meeting will also be the time that officers are elected. Group discussed and agreed to revise bylaws to have this annual meeting in the summer, since HOA annual meeting is in the fall.

-Group discussed the idea of co-chairs instead of a president/vice president. Agreed would like to have co-chairs from each neighborhood (Woodland Hills & Community First).

-Discussed and agreed upon having monthly meetings- at least for now. These meetings will be held on the first Tuesday of the month at 7:00 PM at the Unity Hall at Community First Village. Agreed to have the Annual Meeting on the first Tuesday in June.

-Discussed whether we want a number of residents vs. a percentage of residents to make quorum

Conclusion of Meeting

- At 8:30 PM, group decided to end the bylaws discussion for now. will meet to resume on Tuesday, November 7th at 7:00 PM at Community First Village.