

WCNA Neighborhood March Meeting
March 15, 2021

Start: 1903
End: 2020
20 neighbors in attendance

Board members:
Brandon Steffen
Tyler Bowers
Ryan Pequignot
Kelly Benton
Ben Whali

Main items:

Michell Chambers (City Council) came to address trash pick-up in the neighborhood. Trash was picked up 3-16. Brandon made a call for E-mails, so neighbors can stay informed. Posting on beyond porch parties and Facebook page.

The board made a call for new members and had its 1st membership drive. Good turnout of new members. Brandon brought up all dates posted for the whole neighborhood calendar and volunteer opportunities from old and new members as a way of getting reconnected.

Neighborhood meeting minutes will start fresh with this meeting, as old ones have gone due to covid. 2020 and 2021 budget reports have been passed around. Passes with all I's and approved.

Membership report when typed we had 165 members after 1st membership drive, this is already better than 134 the previous year. New date for membership drive to be posted on Facebook and in the beyond porch parties Facebook group. Brandon invited neighbors to join the next drive.

Brandon made a call for a liaison from section 4 of the WCNA to be represented in the meetings, looking for a volunteer or possible nominee.

Brandon made a call for volunteers to start to form committees for the home tour and to get in touch with the tour board, as there are many moving parts, small committees for each would help. The home tour board is in the process of obtaining houses, any volunteers? March 26th will be the meeting for the tour date time and place on web site.

Moody park:

Tom Cain to explain: Last planning meeting with neighbors was Feb. 2020 before covid and only one survey had taken place. The park committee is talking about an outdoor get-together to involve the neighborhood to reach more than just board members. They are looking to place "storyboards" for people to write different ideas.

Kevin Biggs from Electric Works was on the last zoom call on March second, and the committee talked with Kevin on open spaces to connect many parks and other areas such as Fairfield and the '07. The committee is hoping to get Electric Works more involved and The Parks Department and City to get a rounder idea to flesh out what each (possibly connected) and WCNA parks and spaces needs are to the whole community.

Kelly Benton talked about the Easter egg hunt on APR. 4th rain date is held, and the event to take place in Moody Park.

Charlotte to talk about the tunnel overflow project. (Theme Dr.)

Two things going on with this project. One, the storage tunnel from Dewger Ave. to Foster Park, and two, drop shafts to get overflow to the tunnel. It has been three years and counting at drop shaft 5, and is ongoing still behind schedule. The area between Berry and Nelson and Theme Dr. a total mess with little to no movement. Theme Dr. is a protected national and local historic area/street. Will the trees removed from this area be replanted, will City/construction company replant them? Also, during this time of construction systemic activity or sinking houses have been a worry along historic Theme Dr. Some homes have sunk up to 1/16 of an inch over the three years, this is a concern.

Drop shaft #5 has run into many issues along the way causing the delays. Camp Allen Dr.'s drop shaft much further ahead than Theme Dr. Charlotte says her yard destroyed and has sunk due to this construction. Hoping on 8/24 all to be finished on Theme Dr.

Yet, new water mains and knee wall project to start the next year. a 10 to 12-year wait on the knee wall project to help slow traffic from Main to Washington. One way to Main St. the other to Washington Blvd. The split to be at Berry St. Former layouts and pictures will go to Kelly Benton to put on the website. When Drop shaft 5 is complete the intersections at Berry and Nelson streets at Theme Dr. will be reopened until closed for the knee wall project in the coming year.

Tyler LHD expansion:

Expanded 84 – 85 by two historic expansions.

The 900 & 1000 blocks of Lavina St. Union Rockhill and Jackson streets will be involved in this expansion. Even empty lots to protect new homes going in. 55% was reached to move on to phase two. WCNA asked to go south of the tracks, the state said not enough historic value to look at.

Looking at the last puzzle piece (slide Shown) homes date back to the 1840s and 50's looking into phase 3 back to Lavina Ave. and hopping over Broadway. City council approved the last expansion 6-3. Phase two locked in and phase three starting by the end of the year. Expecting to pass on the second and third phases.

Electric works update:

Bigger updates: Houses moved and new parking garage.

The parking issue and traffic flow issues were what the board talked to Kevin Biggs about at the last meeting and how to manage them. Where Electric Works wants to build a parking garage

and have traffic flow it will require the 1300 block Jackson to be moved or demo and some Properties on Union St. as well. Broadway and Taylor streets are possible points for egress and regress. The style of the build is called "Texas doughnut" and the garage will be wrapped in 200 apartments, along with local businesses on the ground floors.

The WCNA Board is talking to Kevin Biggs about their plan to move homes and save homes not destroy. We have a few possible places for these homes to move to. Updated sight plan in two to four weeks from electric works for the area. No one has seen sights updated to this fast-paced build. Upcoming discussions on what would go in the shops at the bottom floors of the garage. Brought up college street closing. Tyler to post from Weigand when roads will shut down due to construction to give a heads up. Visuals will be put out and up on social media.

Hospital update:

Walkthrough and update 2 weeks ago. Total construction weeks 117 now down to 102 or 105. Early completion, soft open in November official open house December of this year. Hospital shops and food open to the neighborhood. No plans yet for the demo of the old hospital. Looks to be out possibly in early 2022.

Saving nurses dorm two to three buyers for building "coinciding with the neighborhood". Parking garage to stay on Wayne St. Barricades to come down in August. Mob building to get a 25m facelift.

Ambulance route to go back out to main with curb system, not back into the neighborhood. Looking at parking system for residents of Jackson and Berry streets due to hospital visitors parking in the neighborhood. The hospital looking to be a part of the home tour.

Cell towers Update:

FCC Federal and State Government all involved. The idea is to take light poles and replace the existing pole with a cell tower. Everyone having problems within neighborhoods including Northside and The '07. Cellco the developer and installer Verizon the renter.

Each new tower has to go through a 106 review. Historic preservation and historic resource "environmental" preservation. Ours falls under state DNR due to or historic title. The Association is counted as a consulting party so we have a say in where the new towers go, along with the state board DNR and the 106 committees. Last Friday Tom Cain had a one-hour talk with Don and Krieger who is also named as a consulting party on the placement issue.

The city right of way department is getting flooded with permit requests. By Cellco 1 or 2 at a time rapidly not giving a chance to finish reviews of the last. The WCNA has not been shown "the whole forest" of these towers. Looking to get what our push-back options are. Gov. Pushing 5g, states, and local government are in cahoots.

Cellco is turning earth before each 106 is complete two to three a week. No notices. Looking at other cell providers to do the same thing. State trying to limit neighborhoods say in these matters. FCC not even up to speed with this technology yet to fully understand tech. The City is not pushing against it.

Beautification and safety programs:

WNCA to bring the tree program back. Cover 100% of the cost in the park strip. The city takes up 90% we only pay 50 dollars a tree.

Sidewalks and curbs city pays 50% WCNA pays 25% neighbor pays 25% also working around trees.

Home beautification if facing street WCNA will pay up to \$300.

Safety and security reimbursement up to \$40 for cameras and security lights facing the street or alley.

The proposed budget for beautification 2021 was voted on in the meeting all I's 100% pass.

10:30 am press meeting in front of Sheridan Court to kick off city beautification in West Central, Brandon Jeff Paddock, and Mayor Henry to speak.