

CRNA MONTHLY BOARD MEETING MINUTES
April 11, 2019 6:30 –8:00 PM
8540 SPRUCE ST. CORNER LEONIDAS ST., 70118

Present: Julianna Padgett, Bill Ives, Nathan Schwam, Meagan Impastato, Tammy Butler, David Alvarez, Elaine Leyda, Alex Wagner-Romero & JC Wagner-Romero.

Residents: Lisa Miller & Zak Miller (Cambronne St.) & Carlos Zervigon, candidate for Dist. 98.

Others: Aimee Freeman (Maple area), candidate for Dist. 98, Sean Hoffman (Zimple near Broadway) and Steven with the mayor's neighborhood engagement office.

Meeting was called to order at approximately 6:30 PM, with a quorum present.

New Business:

- **Introductions:** All present introduced themselves, said where they live and something good that's happened to them recently.
- **Approval of minutes from March meeting:** A motion was made by Bill Ives and seconded by Nathan Schwam and voted in favor by all present.
- **Financial Report:** given by Nathan Schwam, Treasurer of the Board, there is \$2,855.00 in the account + the \$1,000.00 that came from the Tricentennial Grant.
- **Alex Wagner-Romero & JC Wagner-Romero's Board Application** – A motion was made by Bill Ives & seconded by Nathan Schwam.
- **Housing. report from the meeting with Iris Development, HANO's choice of contractor for our area:** Julianna Padgett provided updates from the meeting, notably, that the representative of Iris Development assured those present that he will be developing the property as residential doubles. Discussions were had regarding green space or play area for kids.
- **Chevron Station. plans for expansion of the gas station on Carrollton & Willow** – They will be tearing down the current structure and making a retail/convenience store, serving middle eastern food, leasing 2 rental office spaces. Bill brought up the possibility of integrating affordable housing on top of retail.
- **Carrollton Court House** – April 22nd meeting at St. Andrew Church, 6:00 PM regarding possibly bringing the approval process back to the HDLC—this was Joe Giarrusso's effort.
- **Stop Light on Oak Street has been out for 2 ½ weeks** – Elaine Leyda will report same again tonight.
- **Central Carrollton Meeting regarding Infrastructure** – Nathan Schwam provided updates from this meeting, notably, that Adams St. is slated for reconstruction possibly including underground management, they will be installing ditches. DPW representatives attended.
- **Carrollton Area Network Meeting** – April 16, 2019 at new Police Station, they will elect new leader and discuss the parks. Also, they will be having a NONPAC meeting (meet with the police leaders for your district). Elaine will be in attendance.
- **Porch Fest** – an event to build relationships with our neighbors. David Alvarez who has agreed to lead the Porch Fest planning/execution effort provided updates & preliminary planning ideas. Would like it to be the area from Carrollton to Leonidas, Sycamore to Jeanette (16-ish square blocks). He will be spear heading a reach-out effort for commitments from neighbors inside this area with well-suited porches. Then next steps would be to set up meetings with Porch Fest committed participants, decide on portable restroom placements, bands, what the \$1,000.00 will pay for, what vendors (food & drinks). Discussions were had regarding potentially having crafts for kids and face painting. We have a Fall target date. Sean Hoffman offered young volunteers.

- **Glass Recycling Project** – Updates provided by Alex Wagner-Romero & JC Wagner-Romero. They discussed another neighborhood’s effort to get more neighbors involved and will observe the CCA’s next recycling day and come back with ideas. Maybe staging the place to drop off the glass at the Lycee School, we need truck volunteers. April 16 at 6:30 or 7:00 there will be a phone conference scheduled regarding the desire to have more neighborhood participation and not just volunteers to help with the next cleanup effort.
- **Upcoming Parks millage** - Bill Ives discussed draft letter regarding CRNA’s potential position on this issue (See draft letter emailed to all CRNA members). The Audubon millage, as is, is set to expire in 2021 and was originally voted on in the 1980s to fix Woldenberg Park and set up the Aquarium & Zoo to become self-sustaining. This new proposal would combine 3 millages including the Audubon millage, and millages that benefit NORD and Parks & Parkways. Bill informed us that the president of Audubon makes 4 times what the Mayor makes and 3 ½ times what the head of City Park makes. Most present seemed to agree that it would be best to allow this millage to be rejected, forcing city council to present a different millage, this time with NORD and Parks & Parkways by themselves. There was much discussions on issues with lack of transparency especially on Audubon’s part and that the CEA (Cooperative Engagement Agreement), as is, does not require enough transparency. Decision will be made by email vote whether CRNA should put out a letter informing voters of the misinformation & other issues.
- **Discussions regarding drug selling/use in the neighborhood** – Tammy Butler provided updates regarding police failures to apprehend known drug dealers near her home.
- **Update from Steven from the mayor’s office** – The mayor’s perspective on the Parks millage is that it will get Audubon to give up money and split it with the other agencies—Fair Share.

Announcements:

- **May 21, 2019 Meet & Greet for Carlos Zervigon, Candidate, State Rep. Dist. 98 hosted by Bill Ives & Cindy Morse at their home, 8601 Zimpel St.** - Come to meet the candidate and mingle with neighbors in their beautiful home and yard.
- **How to Join CRNA:** You can register on our website with a donation and/or you can register to our email list to receive blog updates. Visit CRNA-nola.org. Also, our updates are posted on the Nextdoor App.
- **Next meeting will be Thursday, May 9, 2019.**

Respectfully submitted,
Meagan Impastato, Board Secretary