

# **Angus Valley Area Neighborhood Association**

*Board Meeting Minutes – July 14, 2010*

*Milwood Library*

## **I. Call to order**

Rodger Barnes, President of AVANA, called the meeting to order at 6:51p.m.

Board members in attendance: Chuck Pace, John Bramlett, Ward Boyce, Gaye Thompson, Jim Lorance, Deliese Kennedy, and Jennie Anderson

Board members absent: Dan Whitliff, Marcia Kirkland, and Paul LeBlanc

Residents in attendance: Marissa Little and Stacy Peterson

## **II. Review of minutes**

The minutes of April 14, 2010, were reviewed and approved as submitted.

## **III. Finance Report**

Jim Lorance presented the treasurer's report. Total income this period was 61-cents (interest income).

Expenses were \$113.38 (Police appreciation snacks and Post Office Box Fee).

The association's cash balance is \$1545.37 and a written financial report was filed with the minutes.

## **IV. Committee Reports**

- **Traffic & Safety** - Chuck Pace presented the following crime data for the past two months in Angus Valley:
  - **For the period 04/15/2010 – 05/15/10**, there were thirteen (13) criminal incidents that generated reports in the Section 8 apartments:
    - 1 assault / family violence
    - 1 burglary of residence
    - 3 burglaries of vehicles
    - 1 criminal mischief
    - 1 felony DWI

- 1 family disturbance
- 1 forgery arrest
- 1 possession of drug equipment
- 1 rape
- 1 theft of service
- 1 theft of vehicle

Three (3) incidents for the rest of Angus Valley:

- 1 assault / family violence (on Mustang Chase)
- 1 family disturbance / parental (on Black Angus)
- 1 fraud arrest (on Pony Chase)

- **For the period 05/16/10 – 06/16/10**, there was one (1) criminal incidents that generated reports in the Section 8 apartments:

- 1 assault / family violence

Five (5) incidents for the rest of Angus Valley:

- 2 burglaries of a residence (one on Mustang Chase and one on W. Cow Path)
- 1 forgery arrest (on Maverick)
- 1 harassment (on W. Cow Path)
- 1 possession of marijuana (on Mustang Chase)

- **For the period 06/17/10 – 07/13/10**, there were ten (10) criminal incidents that generated reports in the Section 8 apartments:

- 3 assaults / family violence
- 1 burglary of a vehicle
- 1 credit card abuse / forgery
- 1 cruelty to animals
- 1 debit card abuse
- 1 delivery of narcotics
- 1 possession of a controlled substance
- 1 theft of service

Three (3) incidents for the rest of Angus Valley:

- 1 criminal mischief (on Branding Chase)
- 1 felony DWI (on Sage Hen)
- 1 harassment (on Mustang Chase)

Chuck also reported on the Annual Police Appreciation Night held on April 29, 2010. He indicated that our participation was very much appreciated.

Chuck also reported that one of the speakers at this event reported that certain crimes often correlate to other crimes. For instance, family violence is often an indicator of other types of violence, including DUIs. That speaker also reported that the increased level of car burglaries city-wide is a huge ongoing problem, and reminded us to keep our valuables out of sight when they are in our autos. Additionally, he reminded us that approximately 50% of the auto burglaries occurred to vehicles that were unlocked.

Additionally, Chuck attended the CLASP meeting. The attendees were allowed to tour the 911 Center which is manned 24 / 7 and allows the participation of all safety related organizations (fire and police departments, FMEM, Tx. Dept of Transportation, etc.).

Chuck reported that there is a new web site that has analyzed the crime statistics in Austin. It is a free site and can be accessed at: [Kriemelabb.com](http://Kriemelabb.com). Chuck reminded us that the incident reports and the final reports often vary in number (as in don't match up).

Regarding our efforts toward a Neighborhood Watch, Chuck indicated we need to choose the type of signs to order. This was done at the end of the meeting, so now those signs can be ordered. Chuck will order them, and the Board agreed to reimburse him for the costs of same (approximately \$374.00 plus shipping). The City of Austin will then install the signs at \$60 per sign. We will try to get them installed all at the same time.

Regarding a previous suggestion related to the possible installation of "No Thru Traffic" signs at the entry points into the neighborhood, we will likely put this on the agenda of the General Meeting this coming October (2010) so that we can all discuss this together.

- Communications (Yahoo Group) – John Bramlett reported four (4) new members for a total of 133 on our list-serve. We had 43 messages – most were animal related or about brush pick-up in the neighborhood.

Marissa Little and Mark Sapp are our new web-masters. Melissa and Mark will be working towards making the web-site better and easier to work with, and will likely be redesigning the site accordingly. It was suggested that we could use a picture of the old sign that used to sit at Duval and W. Cow Path many years ago. So, we are looking for a picture of the old neighborhood sign and if one is found, we may use it on our webpage. Anyone with ideas is welcome to e-mail with their suggestions, etc., as well as with other news that might interest our neighborhood.

- Liaison to Other Neighborhoods – The adjoining neighborhood group (headed up by Karen Flanagan) held their annual 4th of July parade. We discussed the parade route,

in general, and that it would be nice to have a bit more notice on its particulars, etc. We agreed that our two neighborhoods should be more inclusive.

- Parks Committee - Randy reported (via Deliese) that the extra railroad track (side-rail) is almost complete now. Randy also reported that the “temporary road” that was constructed out of large white-colored rocks along the back of the subdivision between the houses on Deer Track and Yett Creek Park is a 40-year temporary road with no plans for removal.
- Welcome Committee – No news.
- Correspondence – Some public hearing notices were received from the City, but upon review, do not appear to have an effect on our neighborhood. The Secretary of the Board will keep these notices with our minutes.

## V. New Business

- Nominating Committee – We need a committee to put together a slate for the upcoming General Membership Meeting. Our By-Laws require notice to be given to the Board at least 45-days in advance of the General Meeting, and the proposed slate must be published on our web-site at least 15-days prior to the General Meeting. It was suggested that we place multiple signs around the neighborhood to advise the members when the meeting will be, etc.
- By-Law Committee – We need to review and probably revise the By-Laws. The By-Law Committee meeting will be conducted on Wednesday, August 11, 2010, at the conference room located at 11855 Research Blvd. starting at 6:45 p.m. The Board Members decided that whoever shows up at this meeting will constitute the committee.
- Quarries Liaison Committee – We will likely participate in these meetings between the Mesa Park Neighborhood and Hyde Park Baptist Church. Mesa Park has indicated a need for neighborhood support in its constant oversight of the church’s apparent stretching of the limits of its development in its Quarries’ location.

The site plan at this location requires neighborhood meetings and meets approximately one time per month, and we agreed to support them in this quest. Of late, it appears that the Church is attempting to add sports fields (baseball) with lights that would be on until 11:30 p.m. Mesa Park is opposed. Other changes are also proposed, but we don’t have the particulars on these.

- Bike Paths – The meeting that was discussed previously (to be held in late April 2010) between certain city council member’s aides and AVANA never happened. The President of the Mesa Park Neighborhood Association, David Crowley, agreed to support us in our opposition to the bike plan.

To recap: The results of our neighborhood survey (of October 2009) was sent on to the City mayor and council members in which AVANA expressed its desires against opening our neighborhood up to the bike path. Two council members (via their aides) responded, but only one of them was supportive of a potential meeting to discuss this issue. We still need to meet with the City and we feel that the more support we have, the better; although, we still have no idea as to scheduling of such a meeting at this time. It was suggested that Stacy Peterson head up the committee and check on whether we can still have this meeting as she was previously interested in doing this. Stacey agreed to consider the appointment.

A bond issue will likely be on the roster for the City's citizens to vote on this Fall which reportedly will address the resources needed to bring the bike path into reality. Of note, and off-the-record (of course), was the comment by at least one policeman (at an informal meeting) that the bike path would potentially open our neighborhood to increased crime and/or decreased safety.

- Cut-thru to Riata – There is a gate now at the fence, but it is locked. The fence and gate belong to an AVANA member that is an avid bicyclist, but he doesn't want the bike path to come through this location. He also does not want the cut-through opened back up that would link our neighborhood to the Riata neighborhood.
- Davis Elementary Liaison – Jeannie is our liaison, and reports that the schedule of events for this Fall is being put together at the school and encourages us to schedule the General Meeting with them in the very near future.

## **VI. Adjournment**

- The meeting was adjourned at 8:12 p.m.

*Submitted by Deliese Kennedy Robinson, Secretary  
Date Approved: September 8, 2010*