



MUSEUM PARK NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION  
General Meeting  
Holocaust Museum  
June 7, 2017  
6:00 pm

## MINUTES

The meeting was called to order by Sandy Stevens at 6:03 PM.

After a general welcome, Sandy introduced Su Nguyen, joined by his wife Lynne & his business partner Chase Stanle, to discuss the development of the parcel of land at Southmore & San Jacinto. They have broken ground on Java Lava, which will be a neighborhood coffee shop & café (see <http://www.albanystudio.com/current-projects/#/karmasu-lanai/> & <http://javalavabrew.com/>). Su and Lynne own KarmaSu Coffee (<http://www.karmasucoffee.com/>) in Kona, Hawaii; their coffee will be featured at Java Lava & the food will have a Hawaiian theme. The restaurant will be 1400 sq ft with both indoor and outdoor dining space. An alcohol license is planned. There will be 13 parking spots on-site, as well as bicycle parking; a BCycle station is also planned. The opening date is not finalized, but November is a possibility (they need to work around construction as well as the coffee picking season). Tentative opening hours are 6am-8/9pm. Su mentioned a desire for this to be a 'place for the neighborhood' and he welcomes community input.

President's Report: Sandy provided an update on the encampment at US59. Warnings have been issued to ~90% of the 'residents'; citations should follow soon. HPD is moving cautiously in light of the lawsuit filed by ACLU; Sgt. Farquhar has issued all warnings himself. Sandy noted that the Constables have increased their patrolling of the area, and an increased presence of HPD vehicles in the vicinity was also noted.

Kathleen O'Reilly, speaking as MPSN President, then provided a Super Neighborhood update.

- a) Recent meeting with Commissioner Ellis's office: Kathleen noted that this was the first time she can recall being proactively contacted by a Commissioner's office. In addition to the social services survey that was distributed at the last meeting (and via email and social networking), two additional surveys, focusing on transportation and parks, are planned. The overarching goal is for the Commissioner to develop a strategic/master plan for the precinct. An outside company will analyze the results; feedback on the first survey is expected in September.
- b) Upcoming meeting with TxDOT re: US-59 suppression (for background & 3D visualization, see: [http://www.ih45northandmore.com/pub\\_hear\\_doc.aspx](http://www.ih45northandmore.com/pub_hear_doc.aspx)). Current discussion centers around a cap of 1 vs 2 segments. The cap provides an unprecedented development opportunity, so we want to get this right. Kathleen notes that this is an ongoing conversation, and we do not want to be caught off-guard by deals for development that does not benefit the neighborhood.  
Kathleen took a quick poll of the room re: possibility of mixed-use, affordable housing at this future location. The opinion was mixed, with several voicing strong opposition.
- c) Upcoming meeting with Parking Management & Houston SouthEast re: traffic on Almeda corridor & parking in the neighborhood. We want to address the problem, not simply push it to the next block.
- d) General reminders/announcements:
  - a. When discussing neighborhood improvements, etc. with local officials, please mention the Livable Centers Study.
  - b. MPSN recently attained 501c3 status. Planning re: fundraising, etc. is underway.

Vice President: No report

Secretary: Please see the website for the minutes from the May meeting.

Treasurer: Cynthia acknowledged a \$567 donation from Halliburton (via Steve Flowers). We have ~\$17,000 in the bank. See website for the full report.

Parliamentarian: No report

Membership: Barbara recognized new & returning MPNA members. She also asked non-members to join MPNA and to get involved.

Community Engagement: Sandy announced, on Cindy's behalf, that an ice cream social will take place at the beginning of the July 5<sup>th</sup> MPNA.

Quality of Life:

- a) Beneficial Landscaping: Kathleen will post/distribute names of landscapers as well as a recommended plant palette.
- b) QoL committee meetings will resume in the near future. Contact Kathleen if you are interested in joining.
- c) Update on medians at Caroline & Southmore: The damage to the median will be mitigated according to principles outlined in the Livable Centers Study. The desire is to address any future damage in the neighborhood using the LCS as best practice. To this point, please document and reach out to MPNA if you see damage being done by developers (eg. parking in median, curb damage). To date, developers have not paid for the damage caused by their heavy machinery, etc. Instead, tax payers are left footing the bill. We would like to foster a culture of respect for the neighborhood.

Safety & Security: No report

Preservation: Lynn clarified that the Preservation committee is not aimed at stopping development, but rather at honoring the past. The committee will meet the second Wednesday of each month, at different locations throughout the neighborhood. You do not need to be a member of the committee to attend; all are invited to join in. The next meeting, June 14, will take place at the Parador (corner of Binz & Alameda).

The meeting adjourned at 7:05pm.