

Newsletter of the Zilker Neighborhood Association

Austin, Texas Established 1981

Plans Include Zilker Bike Lanes and Parks

An updated version of Austin's Bicycle Master Plan contains recommendations for bike lane changes within the Zilker Neighborhood (see the map on page 11). ZNA co-president Richard Gravois will be heading a committee to look at these recommendations and to consider making our own recommendations for bike lane improvements. ZNA is particularly interested in working with neighbors in Barton Hills to study the potential for bike lanes and sidewalks along Rabb Road. It has also been suggested that parking could be eliminated on the east side of Bluebonnet to provide a parking-free bike lane to Zilker Elementary School. If you would like to work with this committee, please contact Richard at 441-3430 or rgravois@yahoo.com.

The updated bicycle plan is scheduled to go before the Parks and Recreation Board on April 28 and to the Planning Commission May 12, with a City Council briefing on May 14. The plan is available at www.ci.austin.tx.us/bicycle/update2008.htm. Zilker is in Sector D2 of the bicycle network.

The original ZNA Sidewalk Plan, adopted by ZNA in October 2001, was based on the results of a survey in the July 2001 issue of the ZNA newsletter and on the recommendations of the 1999 Traffic Calming Study. Early in March, the *(Continued on page 11)*

ANC Picks Leffingwell and Cavazos

by Lorraine Atherton, ANC co-secretary

The Austin Neighborhoods Council (ANC) unanimously endorsed Lee Leffingwell for mayor of Austin, at its March meeting.

For its 2009 City Council endorsements, ANC continued the same high standards that it set in 2008. To qualify, candidates must fill out ANC's lengthy questionnaire on planning, zoning and development, community values, city government, and budget issues, so that ANC's members can evaluate their positions before the forum and a second round of questioning. A candidate must earn at least two-thirds of the membership's vote to win an ANC endorsement.

In a press release announcing the endorsements, ANC described Councilmember Leffingwell as "overwhelmingly the most qualified" of the five mayoral candidates, with "the *(Continued on page 10)*

Next ZNA Meeting

Monday, April 27 6:30-8:45 PM

Zilker Elementary School
1900 Bluebonnet

Meet and Greet Social at 6:30 Business Meeting at 7

> City Plans for Parks and Sidewalks

Bike Lanes on Rabb Road and Bluebonnet Lane

Late Hours and Outdoor Music Permits

Newcomers, old-timers, homeowners, renters, and business owners All Welcome

**

Election Day is May 9

✓ Precinct 332

votes at Zilker Elementary, Bluebonnet at Hether

✓ Precinct 462, at MHMR office, 1700 South Lamar, Suite 101, off Collier

* * * * * *

A Park by Any Other Name

Zilker Neighborhood Park is the lovely space adjacent to Zilker Elementary School at 1900 Bluebonnet Lane. For the last couple of years, a committee has been working hard to make improvements to the park and school campus through tree planting and care, a reconfigured and resurfaced walking trail, and new exercise equipment.

Almost no one refers to the park by its official name, because it is so easily confused with the much larger Zilker Park on Barton Springs Road. We would like your input and suggestions for a new, more distinctive name for our little neighborhood park. In considering names, you might think about a historical association, individuals who have contributed to the school or neighborhood, or something that describes the geography of the park or area.

Please send your park name suggestions to Kim McKnight at kimmcknight@austin.rr.com by May 31, 2009. Include the suggested name, your reasons for choosing the name, and your contact information. A committee will review the suggestions and make a proposal to the neighborhood association and school.

Kim McKnight



A beautiful new mosaic brightens the concrete wall next to the tennis courts in our neighborhood park. The Zilker Playscape Mosaic was designed by Andrea Ewen and created with the support of Jenny Melendez, Steve Stratakos, Stefanie Distefano, Christian Gribble of Convict Hill Floorcovering (convicthillfloorcovering.com), the Arts in Public Education committee, Andrea Ewen, Joyce Kling, Steve Sawhill, Moira O'Leary, Melissa Callaway, Jessica Aufdermaur, Aimee Kandl, Stacey Shapiro, and numerous additional community volunteers.

Thank you to everyone who donated and helped out in any way. This is surely a work of art for all Zilker students, teachers, staff, and neighborhood residents to cherish for many years to come!

Jenny Melendez

Volunteer for neighborhood park projects by contacting littlezilker@gmail.com or Kim McKnight at kimmcknight@austin.rr.com.

Donate toward future park improvements by sending your contribution made out to the Austin Parks Foundation (write "Zilker Neighborhood Park" in the memo line) at 816 Congress Ave, Ste. 1680, Austin TX 78701.

News of Little Zilker Park

by Heather Way, President Friends of Zilker Neighborhood Park

The Friends of Zilker Neighborhood Park (FZNP) has been busy this winter and spring with several new improvements to our cherished neighborhood and school park on Bluebonnet. On March 7, more than 25 neighbors and school parents volunteered on It's My Park Day to care for our park trees with a layer of new mulch. Thanks to weekly watering by Gardner Sumner and a crew of neighbors, the trees planted last spring made it through the drought. The mulch will help them survive the coming summer.

On the same day, Zilker neighbor Kirk Scanlon led a crew to install a new split-rail cedar fence, separating the running track from Bluebonnet Lane and addressing safety concerns raised by teachers and others in a neighborhood/school survey last year. Special thanks to the Austin Parks and Recreation Department, AISD, Austin Java, and all the folks who came out to make our It's My Park Day event such a huge success. Thanks also to Gardner Sumner, Kim McKnight, and Gina Diehl for their leadership in organizing the workday. FZNP plans to continue to host a park workday each fall and spring.

More wonderful additions to the park over the past three months include: a new playscape near the basketball courts (thanks to AISD), a chimney swift tower (see the February *ZNews*), a tile mosaic, a set of picnic tables, and benches.

The purpose of FZNP is to allow the neighborhood and school community to work together to develop Zilker Neighborhood Park and the outdoor campus of the school as an excellent public space and, by improving the parkland collaboratively, to build bonds between neighbors and families attending the school. A nonprofit association (under the Austin Parks Foundation), FZNP is led by a steering committee of five representatives from Zilker Neighborhood Association, four Zilker Elementary PTA representatives, and one member appointed by the principal.

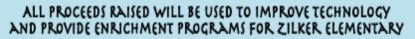
If you are interested in getting involved with our next round of improvements, FZNP is always in need of volunteers. ZNA is also looking for additional appointments to the FZNP steering committee to serve during the 2009-2010 school year. The steering committee meets on the third Wednesday of each month, from 6-7:30 pm at Zilker Elementary School. All are welcome to attend. Please contact Heather Way at hway@austin.rr.com or any member of the ZNA executive committee if you are interested in serving on the steering committee.











zilker. filspring

LIVE/SILENT AUCTION
FADO IRISH PUB
MAY 1, 2009 • 6 PM-11 PM
\$10 PER PERSON

MUSIC BY "MYSTERIOUS WAYS" UZ COVER BAND













Jennifer Douglas

Specialized Public Finance, Inc. • www.spubfin.com

Sara Beth & Ari Grushka-Hicks

Floor Covering Solutions • www.floorcoveringsolutions.net

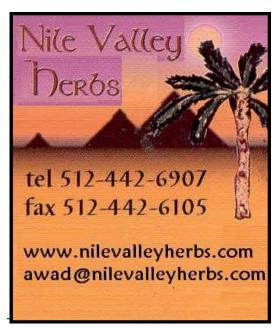
Heather Way & Bill Christian Paul & Rose McCord Christian Gribble www.ComictHillFloorCovering.com Khaled & Liz Sawaya Jaime Bass JRCS, Inc.

ROUND-UP FOR KINDERGARTEN

Kindergarten Round-Up is Wednesday, May 6, at 9 a.m. in the Zilker Elementary School library. Any children who will be five years old on or before September 1, 2009, are eligible for kindergarten for the 2009-2010 school year, but a parent or guardian must register the child.

If your child will attend kindergarten at Zilker Elementary next fall, please come to Round-Up and pass the word on to families of other new kindergartners. The event includes a welcome and introduction to the school, along with an opportunity to meet other families with incoming kindergartners. New students are welcome with their parents.

When registering a child, please bring the child's birth certificate, Social Security card (optional), current immunization record, proof of parent's residence in the Austin Independent School District (for example, a current utility bill or lease agreement with valid address), parent's or guardian's driver's license or other picture ID. If you bring two



NEW ZILKER STARTS MAY6

copies of each document with you, it will speed up the registration process tremendously.

If you are unable to attend Round-Up on May 6, you may still come by the school office on May 7 or 8 between 8:30 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. and register your child.

Please try to register your child in May so that the school staff can plan for next year's classes. Children may be registered between May 7 and June 4, from 7:45-3:00 p.m., and later registration will also be available in early August.

If you have questions about registration, please call the school at 414-2327.

The Kindergarten Play Date—an opportunity for incoming kindergarten students and their families to gather informally at Little Zilker Park (aka the school playground)—will also be scheduled in May.

Mary Christine Reed Zilker Elementary PTA zilkerpta@gmail.com "Irie Bean coffee...
it's that good!"

Find our great coffee and smiling faces just around the corner.

irie Bean Coffee Bar

Irie Bean Coffee Bar * 2310 S Lamar 326-4636 * www.iriebean.com

Barton Hills Assisted Living 1606 Nash Avenue

441-6000

License#000389, 030323

Barton Hills Guest House 1809 Ford Street

Offering personal care in an elegant home-like environment, conveniently located near downtown.

- -Private and Semi-private Floor Plans
- -Three nutritious hot meals daily.
- -24 Hour Attendant Supervision.Licensed Nurses.
- -Physical, Social and Recreational Activities
- -Housekeeping Services
- -Medication Services

www.bartonhillsal.com



Personalized AttentionNutritional Consultations

Holistic Practitioners

Finest Pure, Natural SupplementsPure Body and Skin Care



Open Daily. We Are in the Neighborhood!

plumblossomwellness.com 512.306.7344 ●1700 S. Lamar



Zilker Area Real Estate Pros Sold 16 homes in 78704 this past year

1813 Margaret
1301 Oxford
2109 Peach Tree
902 Ethel
2004 Arpdale
1707 Bauerle
2101 Montclaire
1610 Southgate Circle



1904 Goodrich #3 1914 Goodrich 1604 Kerr 3001 Kinney 900 Lund 2111 Ann Arbor 1804 Ann Arbor 1817 Treadwell

CALL TODAY FOR A FREE NO-OBLIGATION MARKET ANALYSIS at 440-1799

No one can match our experience. We have enjoyed helping our neighbors in this great area for over 25 years!

Peach and Cynthia Reynolds Email: Peach@kaleidoproperties.com www.kaleidoproperties.com



One side of this oak tree shades the sidewalk along Kinney Avenue and the other side shades the

parking lot at Ashton Green. S Lamar Wm Cannon Downtown Enfield

Allandale

Far West

Ashton Green: Multifamily Yard Sale to Save Kinney Avenue Oak

by Trish Hurless

Ashton Green Condominiums will be hosting a multifamily yard sale on May 2 to raise funds to save a live oak on Kinney Avenue.

The tree was moved here by a long-time Zilker resident 18 years ago after lightning struck a hackberry that previously stood on the property. After several months of searching for a replacement tree, the resident had a 17-year-old live oak transported from Houston and planted on Kinney.

Over the past few years the tree has been showing signs of declining health. A city arborist was recently consulted, and a local arbor specialist was referred. It was determined that the tree has nutritional problems due either to the change in soil types from Houston to Austin or to root girdling (which is when the roots circle around the trunk and slowly choke the tree by cutting off the flow of water and nutrients). Both issues are treatable, but if nothing is done soon the tree is likely to die.

Live oaks typically live anywhere from 75 to 100 years and have been known to live hundreds of years. Ashton Green's tree is now

only 35 years old, and Austin's city arborist called it "one of the prettiest on Kinney Avenue." The arborist is very interested in saving it and having it tagged and registered with the city once its health has been restored.

YARD SALE, SATURDAY, MAY 2, 8 AM TO 3 PM SOUTH END, ASHTON GREEN CONDOMINIUM PARKING LOT 1307 KINNEY AVENUE

In case of inclement weather, the date will be moved to the following Saturday, May 9.

Some items for sale include women's, men's, and children's clothing, books, housewares, baby gear, and toys, as well as baked goods.

If you are interested in donating items or cash to the sale please contact Ashton Green Condominiums at aglandscapecommittee@gmail.com.

Up All Night on South Lamar

A late hours permit, issued by the State of Texas, allows a bar or restaurant to sell alcohol between midnight and 2 AM. In some cases, such as a location within 500 feet of residences, the business must get approval from the city Planning Commission.

In response to an application for a late hours permit by the Music Cafe on South Lamar, the ZNA zoning committee has been trying to determine a track record for late hours permits in our area. To our surprise, we could not find any bars or restaurants with permits to serve alcohol after midnight in the Zilker NA area (on South Lamar north to Barton Skyway and on Barton Springs Road). We have checked about two dozen businesses, including a 24-hour cafe and two bars. None has permits on file in the city's system, and they all seem to have last call at midnight.

If the applicant pursues this permit, the issue will likely be on our April 27 ZNA agenda. L. Atherton



Best damn BBQ brunch in town! Every Saturday & Sunday 11-2pm



476-0100 1530 Barton Springs Rd. UncleBillysAustin.com

Enjoy life without pain! Get superb chiropractic care in a stylish clinic in the heart of SoCo. Our gentle approach restores flexibility, energy, and strength.



(512) 416-7700

www.ClearPointWellness.com 611 S. Congress Ave, Suite 135

Austin Yoga School

Iyengar Hatha Yoga from the Heart



We love beginners!

Beginners to Advanced—Daily Classes Teacher Training—Special Workshops

1122C South Lamar Blvd. www.austinyoga.org 923-4643



COME MEET OUR **FOSTERS!** 440-7529



www.southpawsplayschool.com/foster_dogs.php

Zilker Neighborhood Association: Frequently Asked Questions

How often does ZNA meet? Quarterly, in February, April, July, and October, at Zilker Elementary School. The Executive Committee meets at 7 PM the first Monday of each month, usually at Artz Rib House.

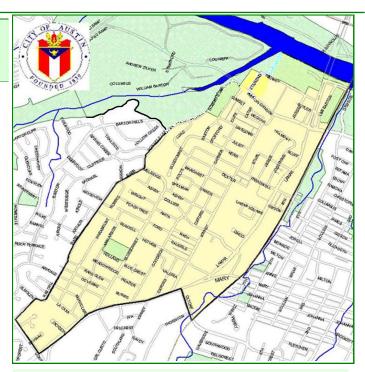
Who does ZNA represent? Directly: The membership of our association, which is open only to residents within ZNA's boundaries. Indirectly: A larger cross-section through neighbor-to-neighbor discussions and circulation of more than 2800 newsletters.

How many members does ZNA have? As of November, 145 members have paid dues or will be eligible to vote as soon as they renew.

Is Zilker@yahoogroups.com the official list serve for ZNA? No, but the Yahoo group is a useful communication vehicle. It is open to all residents, whether they are ZNA members or not.

How many people belong to the Yahoo group? 537. How can I contact the association by e-mail? ZilkerNA@austin.rr.com.

How does the ZNA Executive Committee arrive at a position on an issue? The committee considers several factors in determining a position that is consistent with the sentiment of the neighborhood, beginning with the ZNA bylaws and including, depending on the issue, the ZNA neighborhood planning survey conducted in 2004, the City



The boundaries of ZNA include Zilker Park on the west and extend to the railroad tracks on the east. The southern boundary is Barton Skyway. The northern boundary is the lake.

of Austin neighborhood planning survey conducted in 2005, *ZNews* surveys, input gathered from discussions and resolutions adopted at our quarterly meetings, discussion on the list serve and email input from neighbors, and political consultation with board and commission members and City Council members.

Membership is open to Zi	BECOME A ZNA MEMBER TODAY ilker residents (renters or homeowners) 18 years old or older. n. Additional contributions are welcome. (Many couples pay \$25.
Name:	E-mail:
Name:	E-mail:
Address:	Phone:
Dues: Contrib	oution for ZNA general fund:
Contribution for Holiday F	Samily Program:
Please make checks payable	e to Zilker Neighborhood Association and mail with this form to:
ZNA Memk	perships, 1818 Treadwell St., Austin, TX 78704

As this newsletter goes to press, ZNA secretary Ryan Stryker is preparing to launch a new ZNA Web site. If all goes well, the site should be up and running at zilkerneighborhood.org before April 27. If not, you can still find ZNA at main.org/znaweb.

The ZNA Zoning Committee is monitoring a rezoning request at **2305 Bluebonnet,** for MF3 (multifamily) from LO (office).

Now that South by Southwest is over, the new ordinances regarding noise and outdoor music permits will begin to take effect. Venues in the Zilker neighborhood with outdoormusic permits are:

Shady Grove, 1624 Barton Springs (expires May 23)

Paggi House, 200 Lee Barton (Aug. 7) Uncle Billy's, 1530 Barton Spgs (Aug. 7) Flipnotics, 1601 Barton Spgs (Sept. 10) Irie Bean Coffee Bar, 2310 S Lamar (Dec. 2)

Land use cases are regularly discussed at monthly meetings of the ZNA Executive Committee. If you are interested in a zoning case or other land use issues, please feel free to attend, the first Monday of the month, 7-9 PM, at Artz Rib House.

Peggy Pfaff



Authentic Regional Mexican Cuisine



1st Place Austin Chronicle Hot Sauce Festival, Restaurant Division, Red Sauce 2007 & 2008

Tuesday Special, \$2 Tecate & Tecate Light Wednesday night, Kids eat FREE!!! Thursday dinner, \$3 Mini Margaritas

Cochinita Pibil, 2008 Food Award Winner- MAXIM August 2008

1816 South Lamar BLVD., Austin, TX 78704 512-326-4395 * WWW.sazonaustin.com

www.StilPoint.com



Marketing Tools that Motivate

WEB DESIGN
LOGO DEVELOPMENT
CORPORATE BRANDING
EVENT & EXHIBIT GRAPHICS
DIRECT MAIL & DISPLAY ADS
BROCHURES & CATALOGS
MAGAZINES & NEWSLETTERS
PACKAGE & BOOK DESIGN
MEDIA RICH DEMOS
FLASH/3D ANIMATION
MOTIVATIONAL POSTERS/FLYERS

mark.mitchell@stilpoint.com 512-476-1027 W • 512-695-4132 C 512-443-7597 F

Marketing Tools that Motivate



www.StilPoint.Com

WEB DESIGN
LOGO DEVELOPMENT
CORPORATE BRANDING
EVENT & EXHIBIT GRAPHICS
DIRECT MAIL & DISPLAY ADS
BROCHURES & CATALOGS
MAGAZINES & NEWSLETTERS
PACKAGE & BOOK DESIGN

MEDIA RICH DEMOS

FLASH/3D ANIMATION

MOTIVATIONAL POSTERS/FLYERS

ART DIRECTION
GRAPHIC DESIGN
ILLUSTRATION
PHOTOGRAPHY
INFORMATION DESIGN
PROJECT MANAGEMENT
RINT PRODUCTION SPECIALIS'
FLASH & 3D ANIMATION
WRITING & EDITING
PROGRAMMING
PRINTING

MARK MITCHELL

Owner & Visual Thinker 512-476-1027 W • 512-695-4132 C • 512-443-7597 F www.stilpoint.com • mark@stilpoint.com

SOUTH AUSTIN COMMUNITY ACUPUNCTURE



2041 S. Lamar acupunctureworldheadquarters.com (512)707-8330



(Continued from page 1) best vision to lead Austin through these tough economic times. He is the mayoral candidate who cares most about issues critical to neighborhoods, as evidenced by his budget priorities and his commitment to planning and community participation." Of particular interest to ZNA members is his strong support of the waterfront protections that are so important to all Austinites who appreciate the open space and vistas along Lady Bird Lake.

In Place 1, the other highly competitive council race, ANC's voting members overwhelmingly endorsed Perla Cavazos. From the ANC press release: "Of the two former Planning Commissioners in this race, Perla Cavaz-

The Law Office of Robin Theobald Cravey

Robin Cravey attorney at law

807 Brazos Street, Ste. 807 Austin, Texas 78701

512-236-9655

www.CraveyLaw.com

m ...

We draft your wills, probate your parents' estates, represent you in property transactions, and advise you in other matters.

os stated the strongest and most thoughtful commitment to both neighborhoods and comprehensive planning and to community participation, with a clear vision for moving forward. In addition, her experience as a policy analyst at the state legislature promises to bring a new level of sophistication to the City Council's deliberations on taxes, budgets, affordable housing, and intergovernmental issues."

In Place 6, neither candidate earned the ANC endorsement.

Responses of the eight candidates who participated are posted on www.ancweb.org. Those candidates are: Lee Leffingwell and Josiah Ingalls in the mayoral race; Perla Cavazos and Chris Riley in Place 1; Mike Martinez in Place 2; Bill Spelman in Place 5; Sheryl Cole and Sam Osemene in Place 6.

Early voting begins April 27, and election day is Saturday, May 9. Please don't miss this opportunity to vote for the ANC slate of four excellent, progressive candidates.

The AUSTIN NEIGHBORHOODS COUNCIL has endorsed these candidates in four City Council races:

MAYOR: LEE LEFFINGWELL
PLACE 1: PERLA CAVAZOS
PLACE 2: MIKE MARTINEZ
PLACE 5: BILL SPELMAN

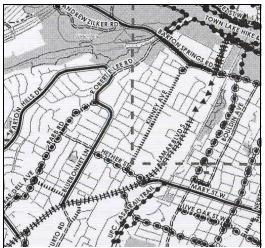
For 36 years, ANC has fostered, empowered, and provided a voice for neighborhoods, their associations, and the quality of life issues that continually confront them and the entire Austin community. ANC currently has 85 member associations representing neighborhoods across all areas of Austin. For more information, visit ANCWeb.org.





(Continued from page 1) ZNA executive committee updated that plan and established these new priorities, among others:

- Fill in sidewalk gaps on Kinney and Treadwell
- Connect Mary-South Lamar sidewalks to the new branch library
- Complete Bluebonnet sidewalks around the curve on Melridge, to connect to the bus stop and the existing sidewalk at Zilker Skyline.



On the drawing board for Zilker in the city's new bike plan: Cross-hatching on Kinney, South Lamar, and Arpdale indicates "wide curb." Heavy lines are existing bike lanes, dots are proposed.

THE PARKS DEPARTMENT is holding community meetings in April to review the Long Range Plan for Land and Facilities, available till April 30 on the parks Web site. This draft is based on input gathered last year, so this may be your last chance to speak up for your favorite trail project or pocket park. (Advocates for small parks will be happy to see that "pocket park" has reentered the city's vocabulary.) Parts of the plan that affect our neighborhood directly will be in Planning Area 17.

The meeting for the Central portion of the city (including ZNA) will be April 29, 6:30–8:30 pm, at the Mexican American Cultural Center, 600 River St. (478-6222). The PARD announcement asks that "input participation be from residents within the designated boundary to insure the meeting stays on track and focuses only on recreational opportunities within these areas." Comments may also be sent to longrangeplan@ci.austin.tx.us. If you have any questions prior to the meeting, please contact the PARD Planning & Design Division at 974-6760. L. Atherton

Green Mango Real Estate

The real estate agency of 78704.

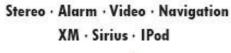
Buying or selling a home in Zilker? Talk to a neighbor.



Peter Stiles 663-7619



Now is a great time to buy! Call me to find out about low prices and great interest rates.





CARS · TRUCKS · BOATS MOTORCYCLES · RVs

Victor Elmur 2123 Goodrich Ave. (512)912.7770 Austin, TX 78704

www.audiomobileonline.com

PROUDLY FEEDING 78704 FOR OVER 10 YEARS

Maudie's

1212 S. LAMAR, 440-8088 WWW.MAUDIES.COM



www.main.org/znaweb 2009 Arpdale St., Austin, TX 78704

E-mail: ZilkerNA@austin.rr.com Editor: Lorraine Atherton, 447-7681 Ad Sales: Dave Piper, 916-9636

Distribution: Kim McKnight, 663-6422

2009 Executive Committee of ZNA

Elected Officers:

Co-Presidents: Richard Gravois, 441-3430, and

Lorraine Atherton

1st VP: Bobby Rigney, 471-3758 2nd VP: Steven Jennings, 382-5805 Secretary: Ryan Stryker, 431-4245 Treasurer: Andy Elder, 428-9180 Social Chair: Greg Shotwell, 797-4376 ANC Delegate: Kurt Koegler, 288-0676

 $ZNews\ Editor: \ Lorraine\ Atherton,\ 447-7681$

About the Zilker Neighborhood Association

ZNA holds general meetings the fourth or fifth Monday of February, April, July, and October, at Zilker Elementary School. The Executive Committee meets at 7 PM the first Monday of each month, usually at Artz Rib House.

Our Purpose: To improve the quality of life in the neighborhood in matters of land use, environmental protection, public services, consumer protection, preservation of the historic and unique character of the community; to provide support in other matters of neighborhood concern; and to promote and participate in the civic life of the city.

Committee Chairs:

Holiday Family Program: Barbara Cossie, 447-4437

Membership: Kim McKnight, 663-6422 ZNews Advertising: Dave Piper, 916-9636

Parks and Environment: Gardner Sumner, 468-6200

Zoning: Peggy Pfaff, 466-5043



