

NACA MONTHLY MEETING
Thursday, 17 September 2020
Virtual Meeting via Zoom

uctions:

da Schiera called the meeting to order at 7:01 PM.

ral Announcements:

ugust meeting minutes were reviewed and approved.

ollowing statement of Land Rights was read by Melinda Schiera:
North Austin Civic Association (NACA) would like to acknowledge that the land boundaries
are original territory of a number of Indigenous peoples— specifically the Numunuu also
n as Comanche Nation and the Tonkawa Tribe. We honor and thank the Indigenous people
ected to this territory where we gather, and give gratitude to this land on which we meet. N
ork towards decolonizing our practices, and make our Civic Association an inclusive space

ronto-Zarifis has resigned as Co-President. NACA and its leadership team intend to continue
s to increase diversity and inclusivity within NACA.

da Schiera reminded members that after seven years, she will be stepping off of the Executive
nittee. The positions of President, Vice-President, and Secretary position are permanent and
ed by NACA Bylaws. These positions are all open.

embership will be invited to future planning meetings where we plan out upcoming meetings
ss priorities.

ember can participate in NACA's work to advocate and improve our neighborhood however
and we can form subcommittees to address specific issues.

ers need to pay their dues in January to be able to vote for the officers.

er meeting will be a Candidate Forum for AISD At-Large Board Trustee Place 8 candidates

future meetings may include information about aggressive animal ordinances and maybe
ation about COVID Vaccination Rollout Plan by Binh Ly from Austin Public Health. Additiona
ng ideas are welcome.

Water management plans will be rolled-out and communicated to the community, in coordination with the city and civil engineers. Offsite stormwater will be routed through an on-site bioretention pond for water quality. The pond will allow for slower release than before the site was developed and should help with flood mitigation. That pond and the vault over the stadium and other engineering aspects of the facility are designed to be more than adequate to withstand a 500-year event.

Neighborhood associations will also be in real-time communication with the stadium command center so any issues can be addressed immediately. There will be signage to prohibit and discourage spectators from using neighborhoods for parking, etc. Event schedules will be shared in advance and Austin FC is interested in making sure that the impact on neighborhoods is all positive.

Although the loop of streets (Donnelly-Delta-Denton, near Metric by the KBVO TV station and across 4th Tap Brewing Co-op) seems a good place for Uber drop-offs, so far, there are concerns that it is too dangerous to cross the railroad tracks to the stadium grounds. As a result Capital Metro and Austin FC will probably be putting up fences to discourage that. Conversations are ongoing with Austin Transportation to make sure concerns like this are addressed. Austin FC wants to keep parking and transportation issues like this as close to the site as possible to minimize the number of pedestrians on surrounding streets.

Jordan commented that they were glad that Austin FC is trying to help out, as with the soccer field built at Wooldridge Park Schools. Jordan replied that Austin FC is ready to help with neighborhood clean-up days, and similar things. We can use resources from the stadium, like rollie carts. Projects such as these are all managed and run with the Community Impact Team from Austin FC.

Green pointed out that there will be a flood mitigation project coming soon from 4th Tap Brewing Co-op to a retaining pond across the street from the YMCA on Rundberg, and it may be that Austin FC should double-check to make sure that their drainage plans with the City of Austin have been coordinated with that project.

Michael Foster requested that Austin FC be aware of neighborhood impact issues, such as making sure googlemaps and waze apps avoid routing through quiet streets, and controlling impacts and lights blasting in neighborhoods.

Jordan said it will be an evolving situation that will involve adapting as time goes by. Austin FC wants a relationship whereby they are seen as a good neighbor and the neighborhoods can help by being the eyes and ears for issues and problems. Austin FC intends to also influence fan behavior proactively rather than having to deal with problems after the fact.

Announcements

and how should kids be returning to school, considering health, safety, and equity?

It's going to be a balancing act. I teach in person at UT, one of a few professors doing so, because we need a safety valve. There are students who have situations that require them to be on-site and we respect and honor those reasons. We have a small percentage of in-person courses as a "safety valve" with the majority of courses online to allow for a mostly vacant campus and slowing the spread of the virus. I think AISD needs to consider a similar approach.

What changes and improvements are you planning to make?

Let's talk about equity. All students, wherever they live in the city, should have access to advanced academic programs, career and technical offerings, and so on. We need to make sure dynamic programs are supported and have pipelines for that kind of programming from the feeder schools. If the city doesn't always see us and our needs in D3, and we need to draw attention to them.

Thank you and Ann Teich for your service on the school board. What kinds of additional unpaid work forces, etc. will D3 benefit from?

We want to see some reforms on how AISD runs task forces. It's part of a bigger picture of rebuilding so you can see the impact of your service and partnerships, rather than being witness to a display of empty show. The integration of the local community in the school can create a symbiotic relationship that benefits everybody, not just the school and school families. You can actually build a culture around that—math and small business lessons around a neighborhood food truck.

When asked for input and members talked about how much they like the notion of engaging the community to participate in the school and bringing teachers and students to be involved in the community. Appreciation was voiced for the Family Resource Centers and the Restorative Justice programs.

City Council, Place 4—Incumbent Greg Casar

We want to keep lifting up the voices of people in District 4, because the city has neglected it for a long time. We've been able to do hard stuff, like getting people from neighborhood involved, even having school students testify about traffic dangers in crossing Lamar. Now, we're seeing construction of a sidewalk and crossing lights. Now we're investing in the Cook Elementary playground and the West Creek Library renovation and more. I can be an advocate for the district, and for the city-wide issues like mass transit, affordable housing, protecting immigrant families, and saving lives during

very challenging issue because shelter capacity has been cut in half by COVID-19. The city has invested in permanent supportive housing for decades. So we are partnering with hotel owners to buy the unused hotels and get people into housing while providing the services that they need. We can be a leading city in the country to end homelessness. It seems hard now, because we see more people experiencing homelessness on the streets. But we can't think that jailing people and creating encampments and just moving them around is going to solve homelessness. We need to address the root issue.

How would you help employment and small businesses in District 4?

The City Council is voting on the SAVES resolution, which would pull money from everywhere, including the rainy day fund, to try to save as many of our local businesses as possible. A key part is having our local businesses be a part of the COVID relief effort, such as having them provide services when the school district could no longer do it. If you haven't been to the Highland Campus, it's going to be a real hub of small business development. The Workforce Solutions training center will be moving to District 4, just south of East Rundberg, so that people in our area will have a way to get trained for the job of the future.

Did you vote in 2016 and/or plan to vote in 2020?

I voted for Clinton, and I supported Bernie Sanders, but now I'm whole-heartedly supporting the Biden ticket.

Is there a middle ground where we can require a camp that is well-kept and not having trash sprawl everywhere?

Ultimately, the city is increasing its trash pick-up and its violet trash-bin program in order to try to address that. It's not possible to hold everybody accountable for following rules on keeping an encampment clean, so it's better to spend the money to make relationships with the homeless people and help them get permanent housing that takes care of the situation over the long term.

City Council, Place 4—Candidate Louis Herrin

I've lived in the district for almost 30 years. I'm a registered civil professional engineer. I think that the problems have gotten worse, not better, since the move to a 10-1 city council. I'm seeing increases

om, and paying for its cleaning and maintenance, and buying these hotels for too much. We to get with the State to help us with those experiencing homelessness who have mental ews. We need to discourage those who just want to be homeless. I'm for training and workin ussnesses for those who want to move away from being homeless.

would you do help employment and small businesses in District 4?

ave a lot of need for small business. I'd want to encourage small-business growth by making r for small business to start-up and work. That requires streamlining the City's permitting and v process. Small businesses are the backbone of the country and the city, so they need our ort.

did you vote in 2016 and/or plan to vote in 2020?

d for Trump because I could not stand the socialist agenda of the other party.

re a middle ground where we can require a camp that is well-kept and not having trash sprav where?

locking to see the trash piles 10 feet high when there's a clean-up. We can't let them keep ig. The city is trying. It won't be solved overnight, but it's a situation we need to work on. We p people who want to get off drugs and alcohol and are willing to get treatment. It won't worl who don't want to go.

ng adjourned at 8:18 pm by Melinda Schiera.