

Draft Minutes
SRCC GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING (www.srccatx.org)
Tuesday, October 15, 2024, 7:00 PM
Zoom Meeting; Click [here](#) to register
SRCC: *See the future. Shape the future.*

AGENDA

Sign up or renew your membership at www.srccatx.org. There is a 28-day holding period before you can make/second motions or vote. For questions: membership@srccatx.org. **If attending by Zoom, please register at least 24 hours in advance.**

1. 7:00 Welcome and President's Report

2. 7:05 Approve General Membership Meeting Minutes

Vote on motion to approve minutes. Meeting minutes available at: www.srccatx.org.

3. 7:10 Treasurer's Report

All reports available upon request: treasurer@srccatx.org

4. 7:15 Membership Report

Members must pay dues to participate in SRCC business and actions, such as voting and making motions. Try the subscription option for automatic annual renewals. *Presenter: Mary Janecek-Friedman, SRCC Membership (5 min)*

The membership chair reported that we currently have 255 members and that number will go up to 257 with the addition of a family that joined today.

5. 7:20 Reports from Standing Committee Chairs

a) Planning and Zoning; b) Historic Preservation; c) Finance; d) Mobility; e) Public Safety; f) Parks and Environment; g) Schools; h) Communications (10 min)

Historic Preservation: The vice president shared information regarding 409 E Monroe. The existing structure is now fenced. The house is in poor condition and there is trash on the property. Neighbors no longer can enter the property to pick up trash.

Finance: the Chair of Finance shared that the Executive Committee voted to support the motion below (Harper's Branch topic 8A below). In addition, it was reported that the gift (see topic 8B below) was withdrawn. Related information was presented in the minutes from the [9/17 General Membership Meeting](#).

Mobility: The chair reported slow progress in sign installation for the new parking district. Mobility committee member Wendy Price Todd attended, on behalf of the Blunn Creek Partnership, the FTA meeting for the NEPA process relating to proposed light rail. She requests the Fairview Park/Travis Heights Historic District register as an interested party to the Light Rail project. Another member asked about parking along Hillside Ave.

Public Safety: The chair has noticed that there are more folks walking to get to Congress Avenue due to the parking initiative. The chair also requested volunteers to help with monitoring the neighborhood. A neighbor shared information about an incident with trash and mailboxes along Hillside

Schools: The chair shared that the issue regarding Torchy's was brought before the City Council last week and the waiver was denied.

A neighbor pointed out that several organizations came behind SRCC's stance regarding Torchy's and suggested that organized power can be used in future issues to help with success with resolutions.

The school chair also shared information about public input sessions regarding the architectural plans for Travis High School:

Community Input Session to be held regarding the Travis Early College High School Rebuild

When: Wed Oct 23, 2024 5pm – 6pm (CDT)

Where: Zoom only: Register in advance:

<https://pagethink.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJlrcumpqD4iE9IKvUVqZ8whjuQRRzyEMazP>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

When: Wed Oct 23, 2024 6pm – 7pm (CDT)

Where: In Person only: William B. Travis High School; - cafeteria

Before the 10/23 meetings, Community Members on the Campus Architectural Team are offering two sessions to come and learn more about the campus plans and building designs. We will collect your input and comments and pass them along to the project management team if you are unable to attend the October 23 meeting.

Two dates are being offered at the Wildflower Church Community Room (Faith Presbyterian campus), 1314 E. Oltorf for **in-person meetings:**

- Wednesday, October 9, 7pm RSVP Registration link:

https://www.centraltexasinterfaith.org/travis_high_school_community_input

- Thursday, October 17, 7pm RSVP Registration link:

https://www.centraltexasinterfaith.org/travis_high_school_community_input_session

Communications: The chair shared that there will be no newsletter because we are lacking volunteers to help organize, edit, and print it.

6. 7:30 Reports from Area Coordinators and Group Representatives

a) TECHS CAT; b) ANC; c) SCC; d) EROC; e) SCWAB; f) St. Edward's **(10 min)**

EROC: Update on EROC general meeting 10/2/24: Focused on EROC's 3 main goals of Safety, Parks and pursuing the goal of a community center [Property east of SRCC Areas 6 & 7 has a very density (so many Multi Family properties) and has very high percentage of folks at or below 65% MFI]; George Morales – Pct 4 Constable - spoke about his experience in getting a community center built in Dove Springs and avenues of advocacy.

Parks: a) Guerro Park Stabilization Project—in final stages; Includes a new pedestrian bridge.

b) Working to complete the last leg of the Country Club Creek (CCC) Trail (Oltorf to across E Riverside) c) Heritage Oaks Park-trying to acquire the orphan lot along part of the south edge of the park

Update on the Presidium Development “River Park” (multi phase development along CCC between Pleasant Valley Rd & Crossing Place, on N side of E Riverside Dr): Will now include a 65000 sf entertainment venue in Ph 1 at Wickersham and Crossing Pl.

ANC: presented by Gayle Goff as alternate rep.

a) ANC members voted to pass the resolution for Parkland Dedication Fee Oversight (the resolution passed by SRCC at GM 9/17/24)

b) Robin Rather and Bill Bunch presented info on launch of a new online journal featuring in-depth, independent, diverse reporting: austinfreepress.org

c) There was much discussion on the fairly new zoning category: DB90. It can be used by any developers with no admin fee & gives developers ability to opt for additional 90' with minimal “affordable housing” & no compatibility limits. It flies thru Council on a consent agenda. It is much the same as the former “VMU2”, which was struck down because of failure to properly notify property owners and to allow them opportunity to oppose re-zoning on their property.

GENERAL BUSINESS ITEMS

7. 7:40 Planning and Zoning

A. 1703 Kenwood; report on HLC results at Oct. 2 meeting

B. Outdoor music at Soho House, 1011 South Congress

Presenter: Planning & Zoning, Anita Tschurr (5 min)

The P&Z Chair reported about the HLC meeting. Anita Tschurr & Robin Sanders attended. Attendees waited from 5:00 pm until 9:00 pm to speak. We brought up that the remodel was permit-less and did not follow HLC rules. Finally, homeowner's changes were approved by HLC. Not sure why. There was nothing to dissuade the representative from moving forward with construction.

Outdoor music at Soho House, [1011 South Congress](#): Some members reported not hearing music, and another liked the music. The pres asked members to report back if there is a desire to ask for a restrictive covenant similar to what we've used in similar cases. A member reported that special speakers are required.

Another member shared history about music venues. Previously the NA worked closely with the City to deal with music venues. The city had a spreadsheet documenting data regarding venues.

8. 7:45 Finance Committee

A. Harpers Branch Creek Greenbelt Matching Funds—The Finance Committee recommends that SRCC make \$500 available as matching funds to any contributions or grants received for improving the Harpers Branch Creek Greenbelt. Matching funds would come from the SRCC Capital Projects Account at APF, with the condition that the funds need to be matched by the end of May 2025. **VOTE EXPECTED.**

Motion: SRCC will make available from its Capital Projects Account at the Austin Parks Foundation \$500 to be used as matching funds for any donations or grants received for the purpose of improving the Harpers Branch Creek Greenbelt. These matching funds will only be available until the end of May 2025.

Motion presented by Sam Martin

Second: Mark Thompson

In favor: 18

Opposed: 1

Abstaining: 1

Motion passes.

The chair of the finance committee presented this topic to membership. The EC approved the initiative and it is being presented here, for transparency, as it relates to SRCC expenditures. A member asked if this money will be used to improve public or private land. The property may be undesignated, but it appears that it is public land via TCAD. In addition, a member asked if the area will become open to the public for hiking. The chair apologized that the neighbor, Justin Haynes, was not able to attend

tonight's meeting.

B. Advance Notification of Motions by SRCC—The Finance Committee discussed the straw poll regarding the Historical Preservation Committee's gift agreement taken at the September 17th General Membership meeting. Although it was not binding, the vote was not posted on the agenda and committee members felt that it was not consistent with best practices for meeting procedures. In previous years, any proposed motion was identified on the agenda so that members could be alerted in advance. The Finance Committee recommends that SRCC return to standard practice regarding notification of expected votes. **VOTE EXPECTED.**

Motion: SRCC will note on future agendas if a possible vote will be taken on an item of business, and except in unusual circumstances, SRCC will not vote on a motion that was not posted on the agenda.

Presenter: Finance, Sam Martin (10 min)

Motion presented by Sam Martin

Second: Gayle Goff

In favor: 19

Opposed: 0

Abstaining: 1

Motion passes

The chair of the finance committee referred to a straw poll that was taken at the 9/17 GM, and the committee was prepared to discuss the topic and provide a recommendation to the organization. This topic was not present on the agenda in advance of the vote. To help with clarity, the motion has been presented. A member discussed that the motion be amended, but a decision was made to keep the motion as worded here. A member tried to clarify confusion regarding the wording of the motion, as the wording of the motion has changed since the agenda for this meeting was shared with the EC originally.

9. 7:55 Schools Committee

Presentation regarding AISD Proposition A, VATRE (Voter approval tax rate)

Presenter: Schools, Gretchen Otto (5 Min)

The Chair of the Schools Committee shared a slideshow and discussed AISD Proposition A. For more information, you can consult [AISD](#). The proposition will increase taxes and the money will go to the state, which will then be shared with school districts. If not passed, AISD will have a 99,000,00 deficit, which will mean further cuts in programs. Details about the presentation can be found in the [slideshow](#) from the meeting.

The chair recommended everyone get out and vote. Early voting polls will open on October 21st. Those over 65 will not be affected by a tax rate change.

10. 8:00 Certificate of Appreciation for Ruth Casares

Present a Certificate of Appreciation to Ruth Casares for her dedication to and improvement of SRCC Newsletter

Presenter: Carol Martin (5 min)

A member shared that there has been a proposal to create a public plaza at Congress Avenue between Cesar Chavez and 11th Street. Two presentations open to the public will be held regarding the proposal.

<https://www.austintexas.gov/news/city-austin-seeks-public-review-proposed-plaza-congress-avenue>

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Early voting begins October 21

Upcoming meetings:

GM Dec 17

EC Dec 3 (Potentially in person)

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH: contact Tom Groce, SRCC Public Safety Chair at: tgroce71@gmail.com

If you have questions about using the Neighborhood ListServ:

<https://groups.io/g/SouthRiverAustin>

Check crime reports and statistics here:

https://www.krimelabb.com/basic/view/v_welcome.php

The next **General Membership** meeting is **December 17, 2024** (Zoom)

The next **Executive Committee** meeting is **December 3, 2024** (Nomadic Beerworks)

Frequently used acronyms:

ACF: Austin Community Fund

ANC: Austin Neighborhood Council

BoA: Board of Adjustment

CDC: Community Development Corporation

EROC: East Riverside/Oltorf Combined Contact Team
FLUM: Future Land Use Map
GSRC NPCT: Greater South River City Neighborhood Planning Contact Team
NCCD: Neighborhood Conservation Combining District
NHPA: National Historic Preservation Act
NPCT: Neighborhood Planning Contact Team
PC: Planning Commission
PUD: Planned Unit Development
SCC: South Central Coalition of neighborhood associations
SF: Single Family zoning category
TECHS CAT: Travis Early College High School
ZAP: Zoning and Platting

Minutes Prepared by Mary Friedman, membership@srccatx.org.