

NBCA Membership Meeting MINUTES

Feb 15, 2024 - Las Brisas Condos

Jan Minutes - Barb Welder made motion to approve, Barb Johnson 2nd – approved

Treasurer's Report is in packet but forgot to approve

Ron introduces **Board**, recognizes Board, recognizes Ralph Durden

Peter Zanoni our special guest. Ron: Peter is a friend of North Beach

TIRZ Rep Catherine Garcia – Community Rep on TIRZ Board

Peter introduces **At Large City Councilman Mike Pusley** – nearly 2 years on the Council. NB has been important to him. He brings things to Carrie's attention. He's running for County Commissioner.

Peter Zanoni – Let's run through some of the positive things about NB. In my five years here, I would say NB looks the best it has in 5 years. The city has been investing money in Bond programs every time we get a chance to.

We know that in our Bond 2024 Carrie showed me a couple of projects. The big project is our **drainage**. We have a realization: It's not just one problem to solve. It's tidal, ground water seeping up, rain. That problem is about to get solved. The city has \$14 million for the Linear Parkway that will essentially put a narrower canal designed to where the land will slope into the canal and the rain will drain into it, then drain into the Timon Wetlands at the north end. Eventually it will connect to the bay near the Aquarium. There is a 30%, 60% and 90% design phase. When we were at the 30% design, we brought it to the NB people, highly unusual. We got some good input. In another 30 days that 60% will be done and we'll bring it back to you. LAN Scott Harris is the lead on doing that. The project is funded for design and construction. It will have a meandering canal and pathway. We're looking at how to keep the water moving and avoiding mosquitos. Land owners will develop once they see it. MIG will be designing the parkway. It's the same company that designed the Surfside Park renovation project currently underway. The canal will help with ground seepage and rainwater. We'll eventually add natural berms to add tidal inundation to the solution – with boardwalks going over them. Planning pumps to remove water in the more developed areas near the Aquarium. Next few days we're expecting rain.

Surfside Park restroom \$6 million. When I first arrived, the NBCA Board wanted to remove the old bathhouses, but we decided to wait until we could build a new one and then demolish the old one. Picnic area, contact sensitive playground, parking behind the restroom, elevating the land. SpawGlass is the contractor, national company. Completion coming up in May-June (Summer 2024).

The city recently demolished the Kiwanis **Rec Center**. Don't know what we want to do with that land yet. City invested \$3 mil in the **Aquarium's** addition.

Eco Park \$100,000 Bond 2022 - we will work that into the Linear Canal design. Once the Linear Canal is 100% we're going to rebuild 2 roads (**Beach Ave and Gulf Spray Ave** - Bond 2018)
New Harbor Bridge – when the bridge is done the old bridge comes down. New bridge will have a separate hike and bike trail, 10 ft wide with belvedere at the top. People are going to want to walk, run, bike across it ... so at each end of the bridge there is a trailhead. On NB there is a trailhead that will have a parking lot, design features, signage directing you to the beach. Washington Coles will have improvements, so we want to make improvements here as well. We will treat the sidewalk.

Recently, Jesse CEO for the **Aquarium** said they want to do more for aesthetics in our area. Better landscaping, better signage, and asked if the city would be willing to help with the money. They would **take over maintenance** from Burleson to the Aquarium. The city would give them our money we use for basic mowing and they will do it. We'll have that conversion with them.

History Plaza – we have more work to do there. Carrie and Dr. Welder helped with that. Bond 2024 will have projects for roads and parks.

Carrie: It would be nice to have an NBCA member work with the city on developing the Harbor Bridge pedestrian trailhead on North Beach.

Barbara Welder: she's working on new historical markers and would like to put them in the History Plaza.

Carrie: We need an **entryway sign for the History Plaza**.

Peter: Maybe it could go on the **Bond 2024 program**.

We're working on the bond program and we'll show you our initial thoughts about what will go on that list. Then we'll take it back to Council.

Spring Break is coming up to make sure we're having adequate port-a-potties on the beach. Will have Mobile lifeguards on ATVs.

Election in Nov. Mayor and City Council, plus bond projects will be on the ballot.

Linear Canal will be a big change for real estate, with the new bridge and these corridors leading to the Aquarium, we'll do our part and make flooding less of a problem.

Closing – I am going to start focusing on **infill development in our city** – there are a lot of vacant lots on North Beach. It would look better if there is more to do and more to see here.

Introduces the Team – ACM Neiman Young, Assist Sony, Gabriel Hinojosa Public Works, Al Raymond Dev Services and his wife.

Fire suppression systems and stairway enclosures.

Mike Pusley – When I was first elected County Commissioner I came over to visit with Carrie and the others who lived here. The county has limited funding. You need to thank yourself because your activism and love of NB is what's making a difference here, putting these meetings together. You need to applaud yourself. I'm in tune with NB. I grew up here and my Dad used to come here and talked about it. I'll be here when you need my help. I have been a Board member of the Texas State Aquarium since 2010 or so. I'll be at the City Council until Dec 31, and we have a lot of great things to do.

Denise Scott made the chili and is giving me the signal.

Gene Thorton - I'm here representing **Blue Marlin Saloon** with Elliot and Lisa. **Chili Cook Off on March 16th** at Blue Marlin. All proceeds go to the Purple Door women's shelter.