

***HERITAGE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION  
GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING  
March 1, 2004***

**Meeting started about 7:05, led by Mikal Grimes, President**

**Façade on Washington Square**

Some neighborhood residents have wondered about the status of the property on 3006 Washington Square where several years ago the house burned down and only the façade is left. Steering Committee Member Jeff Webster said he talked to the city and inquired with the owners. Apparently, the city recently sent a notice to the owners and gave them 60 days to respond before the city demolishes the façade. However, the Historic Landmark Commission may want to preserve the façade as part of a new structure. The landowners have stated that they intend to rebuild as it was once they have funds. Jerry Canady suggested that the Association send the owners a letter expressing regret that the house burned down and offering the Association's assistance with matters with the city. Steering Committee Member Laurie Limbacher felt that was a good idea and that the steering committee should do that on behalf of the Association. She said she would also look into the matter with the city.

**Neighborhood Plan**

Steering Committee Members Laurie Limbacher and Al Godfrey gave an overview of the neighborhood plan and a status report. The neighborhood plan is on its way to the Planning Commission and City Council to consider for approval. Laurie reported that Mark Walters, city staff person working on our plan, said that the final plan may be posted as early as this week. Laurie said that it would be important for Neighborhood Association Members to attend upcoming the Planning Commission and City Council meetings to express support for the plan. The City Council appears to like the plan, which proposes increased density in the near-Guadalupe West Campus area.

**Recent Crimes in the Neighborhood**

Mikal Grimes reported that there have been a number of burglaries in the neighborhood, perhaps as many as a dozen since the beginning of the year. This is in addition to a sexual assault that occurred in the neighborhood in November 2003. The Neighborhood Association will hold a special General Membership Meeting on March 15, 2004 at the First English Lutheran Church on 30th and Whitis at 7:00 pm. Officer Michael Crumrine, our APD neighborhood rep, will answer questions about recent crime in the neighborhood and ways to prevent crime. There was discussion concerning the Neighborhood Association considering a Neighborhood Watch program.

**37<sup>th</sup> Street Rezoning**

A property owner on 609 E. 37<sup>th</sup> Street applied to the city to change the zoning of their property from LO to SF-4A to build two houses. On behalf of the Neighborhood

Association, the Steering Committee supported this change to increase residential property in the neighborhood. The proposed zoning change was approved by the Planning Commission and is on its way to the City Council. Mr. Frank Hunt, owner of property to the east of the lot, expressed concern that the Neighborhood Association did not seek his input on the zoning change. He said that the zoning change has affected his ability to develop his lot because he has to have a 25-ft offset from the property line now that it is residential. Laurie Limbacher explained that the Neighborhood Association did not initiate the rezoning case (the landowner did) and that the Steering Committee tried to meet with Mr. Hunt through the property's agent. However, the agent said that Mr. Hunt was not interested in meeting with the Steering Committee. Mr. Hunt said that that was not the case. Mr. Hunt wondered if the Neighborhood Association would support him in getting a variance so he could build within the 25 foot offset. Al Godfrey said that he would look into the zoning of Mr. Hunt's property and that the Steering Committee would consider supporting a variance request.

### **Keeping the neighborhood informed**

Martha Morgan expressed concern that the Steering Committee did not share information concerning the 37<sup>th</sup> Street rezoning case with the General Membership. Secretary Robert Mace noted that the 37<sup>th</sup> Street rezoning case was noted in the Steering Committee minutes and that the posting of the minutes on the neighborhood Web page were noted on the neighborhood listserv. Laurie Limbacher and Mikal Grimes noted that there is no intent of the Steering Committee to keep items from the General Membership. A discussion ensued on how to keep the neighborhood better informed. Ideas included (1) posting the meeting minutes directly in an email to the listserv so people don't have to visit a Web page to read the minutes, (2) designate a report writer among the Steering Committee members to send reports and updates to the general membership listserv, (3) more meetings, (4) block captains to get more emails, (5) signs to get more emails, (6) flyers to get more emails, and (7) a newsletter. Mikal reported that we have about 80 emails on the listserv and about 300 addresses in the neighborhood. Attendees agreed that we needed ways to get more email addresses and more involvement. Robert Mace said that he would post the minutes directly into emails to the listserv in addition to posting on the Web. Laurie Limbacher proposed that the Steering Committee appoint a report writer to convey items to the listserv and consider more General Membership meetings. Al Godfrey noted the considerable cost and effort required for a newsletter.

### **Increase Dues?**

Current dues for the Neighborhood Association are \$3 for individuals, \$5 for households, and \$10 for associate members (businesses and absentee owners accepted as members of the Association by vote of the Steering Committee). The dues have been this way for a long time and therefore may need to be raised to pay for additional meeting signs, work to support a historic designation for the neighborhood, work to become a neighborhood combining conservation district (NCCD), or to buy signs for a neighborhood watch. Al Godfrey made a motion that dues be raised to \$10 for individuals, \$15 for households, and \$15 for associate members for consideration at the next General Membership

meeting (a requirement of our bylaws). Doris Lowe and Betsy Greenberg seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

### **Latest on the Manley Property on Washington Square**

Al Godfrey reported that Mr. Manley may be interested in putting residential on his property on 3015 Washington Square. Mr. Manley talked to Al about plans he had worked up several months ago showing two single-family homes on the property, homes similar to the Zen Center across the street. Mr. Manley asked Al to design plans for the houses. Al said that he was concerned about a conflict of interest, but has worked up a budget for Mr. Manley's consideration while he sought the advice of the Neighborhood Association. Those in attendance seemed to be in support.

Meeting adjourned about 9:10 pm.

As noted by Robert E. Mace, Secretary, 3/01/04

Attendees that signed the sign-in sheet or were noted on the sign-in sheet:

Bill Canady  
Jerry Canady  
Lizzie Cain Clark  
Jay Farrell  
Al Godfrey, Steering Committee  
Betsy Greenberg  
Mikal Grimes, President  
Ann Heinen  
Barbara Hunt  
Frank Hunt  
Kevin Hunter  
Jolene Kiolbassa, Steering Committee  
Laurie Limbacher, Steering Committee  
Doris Lowe, Treasurer  
Robert Mace, Secretary  
Clifford J. May  
Ed Morgan  
Martha Morgan  
Wade Odell, Steering Committee  
Samantha Paxton  
Susan Van Haitsma  
Jeff Webster, Steering Committee  
Wendy Weiss  
Tish Williams