



# ALTA VISTA NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

P.O. Box 12174

San Antonio TX 78212

## General Assembly Minutes

May 26, 2021

Board members in attendance: Christina Wright, President, acting Treasurer; Andrea Alfaro, Vice President; Cheryl Dozier, Secretary; Matt Garcia and Corey Schultz, Directors-at-large.

Other Attendees: See page 2.

Meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. via Zoom.

The General Assembly approved the minutes from the March 31, 2021. Due to glitches with the Bricks R Us transactions Christina was not able to provide a funds status. She will post it as soon as she can.

### Old Business:

**Traffic Islands.** Christina said the cost of the traffic island landscaping is now covered by the Bricks R Us fund raiser and donations. The fund raiser will close on May 30<sup>th</sup>. She thanked Lawson Picasso for helping to pull weeds during a traffic island workday.

**Large Area Rezoning.** DSD is currently surveying properties to identify those with inaccurate zoning designations and will provide a list to AVNA. The AVNA LAR task force will compare it with its own list. Timeline is still to be determined. Once corrected, the information will be incorporated into the future Near North Sector Plan. Alta Vista will transition from the current Midtown to the Near North Sector Plan.

**Community Engagement.** Alta Vista is working with other neighborhoods to engage in a variety of forums to voice our concerns to the city, especially regarding property taxes. Other issues include street safety; preserving single family homes; the impact of multi-family homes on streets and parking; and infrastructure improvements.

**New Business:** None.

### Around the Room:

Christina said the Cultural Committee started work and has a couple of volunteers. The focus will be on neighborhood history, such as San Pedro Springs Park, and engaging with long-term residents. There is an upcoming dedication of a marker for the Buffalo Soldier campsite. She expects the Pat Clayworth Scholarship funds to be awarded in the Fall. They will be asking for AV participation in selecting recipients.

Counselman Trevino said there are resources available to help with storm damage. The shower trailers for the homeless are now mobile, reaching out to other areas of the city. An SAPD substation on N. St Mary's is coming soon. SAPD will be asking for public input over the summer. The city has allocated approximately 70% of its budget for sidewalk reconstruction. It will be seeking input on area priorities and will be providing an aerial map as a tool. There will be \$207K in available in a future bond for the entire city. Teresa Nino asked if the property owner will have input into the sidewalk initiative and he answered yes. The city has a multitude of options including going around trees. It has established a bond to preserve trees. Christina asked if it would help with removal of old trees at risk. He said it has helped people in the past and might be used in the future for safety and infrastructure preservation. He is asking for a CPS townhall to address frequent power outages due to infrastructure issues. There is a need for a new substation in this area. He also said the city will ask for input into an upcoming review the noise ordinance. Additionally, the council is reviewing the locations of food trucks to ensure they are operating safely.

Officer Maciel said he has been out talking to residents about public safety concerns and encouraging them to participate in the SAPD Zoom meetings. The 2021 crime statistics through April show larceny (porch thefts) is

the primary problem for our neighborhood. He emphasized the use of the 311 Mobile App to report problems and upload pictures, as well as see what others have reported.

Assistant Chief Flavin said he is one of two Assistant SAPD Chiefs. He said Officer Maciel has hit the ground running. Lawson Picasso said D1 echoed his comment. According to Chief McManus, community outreach is important. He will try to have a command officer at every neighborhood meeting. Assistant Chief Flavin encouraged participation in the remaining SAPD Citizens Engagement meetings. SAPD is reenergizing the Citizens on Patrol program. It was placed on hold due to the pandemic. They are scheduling classes and citizen ride-alongs. The Chief or Assistant Chiefs will be joining neighborhood patrols in the future. Andrea is taking names of interested neighbors and is working with Officer Zulaica, Central Substation, to schedule a class.

Chastity Estrello said she is handing over her responsibilities to Justin Calhoun. He provided a legislative update. He said Federal unemployment benefits will be end soon and people should reach out to Representative Bernal's office if they need financial assistance. They expect to be back in the office next month.

Anna Alicia Romero said they are still working virtually, but please reach out regarding state issues. May 31<sup>st</sup> is the last day of the legislative session. June 20<sup>th</sup> is the last day for Governor Abbott to sign bills. Senator Menendez will be holding a town hall soon. The Senator sponsored bills to allow seniors to graduate not passing the State Assessment and provide a scholarship for Texas students in the Armed Services and ROTC.

Christina thanked our legislators and their staffs for their efforts on our behalf during the legislative session.

Amber Perez provided a presentation on the Alamo Area Metropolitan Planning Organization. They are working short and long-range initiatives. There is a 4-year projection of funded projects. Sixty-nine have been submitted and they will be asking for public input on which ones should get funded. Anna Alicia Romero asked how the long-range plan links up with air quality efforts. Amber said she will get with the AAMPO air quality planner. Christina asked if the study would get to the neighborhood level. Amber said CoSA has already submitted an input and she will get back with her on that. She can be reached at [perez@alamoareampo.org](mailto:perez@alamoareampo.org).

Christina introduced Barbara Ankama Buford, D1 liaison to Neighborhood Associations.

Meeting adjourned at 8:21 p.m.

Approved by the General Assembly:

September 29, 2021

Recorded by:



Cheryl Dozier, AVNA Secretary

Other Attendees:

Elva Cardenas, Member

Barbara Ankama Buford, D1 liaison to  
Neighborhood Associations

Courtney Mumma, Member

Chastity Estrello, State Representative Bernal's  
office

Teresa Nino, Member

Justin Calhoun, State Representative Bernal's office

James Flavin, Asst Police Chief, SAPD

Anna Alicia Romero, State Senator Menendez's  
office

Ben Maciel, SAAFE Officer

Roberto Trevino, District 1 Councilman

Lawson Picasso, D1 Councilman Trevino's office

Amber Perez, Alamo Area Metropolitan Planning  
Organization