

**Osuna Park Neighborhood Association**  
**Minutes – General Meeting and Election of Board Members**  
**23 August 2007**

Meeting convened at 7:00pm in the Osuna School Cafetorium by President Laura Bernd. There were 30 people in attendance, with 27 of them members in good standing. Two new members signed up during the registration period before the meeting started.

We were welcomed by Rebecca Robertson, the new Principal of Osuna School. She is enthusiastic about the school and her new position, and about the donations OPNA has made to the school and its PTA in the past. The children assisted in a field trip by our most recent donation had written a large number of thank-you letters, and these were on display near the sign-up and display tables.

Business items on the night's agenda were moved to the end in favor of our guest speakers.

Barbara Taylor of the city's Capital Improvement Program office introduced a presentation on the Eubank Median Landscaping Project. The stretch of median on Eubank between Montgomery and Spain is scheduled for beautification beginning about November 2007 and finishing about four months later. She introduced Elizabeth Reardon, of the landscape architect firm Morrow, Reardon, Wilkinson, and Miller, Ltd, who will be designing the project. Liz set up a number of picture boards of the successful median designs in use elsewhere in the city, and explained the pros and cons of each, and the lessons learned from the success or failure of earlier designs. Some of her points included:

- The landscaping will not do much for noise reduction. To install enough plants to block some noise would then become a visibility hazard for drivers.
- Streetlight placement will not be changed.
- The section already landscaped from Spain to Academy will not be duplicated. That older design is a berm, and it doesn't hold rain water. All new designs are swales.
- Eubank will remain four lanes for at least a decade. It will not be expanded to six lanes until and unless the section between Academy and Paseo del Norte is also expanded to four lanes.
- Members pointed out the Lagrima de Oro has a turn lane northbound, but that Dona Marguerita and Gutierrez do not. Liz said she could not change the placement of the island curbs, but would take into account the possibility of future turn lanes and would not set plants there – only gravel.
- Eubank's southbound lanes will be cut to bring water and power into the median, and probably where the power line crosses the street north of Gutierrez and south of the storage units.

Liz then asked us to vote for the options to be used in this project along Eubank. She offered three designs currently on the approved list:

1. "Dry Streambed" with larger gravel for a river, small gravel to finish, and plants throughout
2. "Plant Pockets" with areas of plants interspersed among paved areas, like Montgomery
3. "Interwoven Plants" similar to #1 without the river effect

Members voted almost unanimously for #1, the Dry Streambed.

Finally, Liz offered a number of plants for members to choose. Voting went from unanimous to a very close split at times. The final choices were:

- Tree: Chinese pistache
- Tall Shrub: Vitex
- Medium Shrubs: Red yucca, Apache plume, and Blue Mist spirea
- Small Shrubs: Cherry sage and Cinquefoil
- Ground Cover: Verbena and Blue fescue

The presentations and voting took a little over an hour. Our two guests departed with our applause and our thanks. Much of the above information will be placed in the next newsletter.

After a short stretch break, the meeting resumed with election of the new OPNA Board members. The slate of candidates was presented, with four persons to fill the positions of members whose terms were expiring, and one person to fill the second year of a member who had to resign. No one was nominated from the floor. A motion carried to elect the slate by a single vote, and that vote followed immediately and was unanimous. Those elected were:

- Beverly Cuyler, Gary Hoe, Ellen Interlandi, and Patsy Stell (2 year terms)
- Barbara Rosazza (1 year)

The Treasurer's report indicated a balance of \$1109.84, with transactions being the receipt of membership dues and the expense of the recent Newsletter.

Edith Sheets told everyone about a service provided by the city's Solid Waste department for those who are unable to wheel the large trash barrels to the curb each Tuesday morning. You can call 311 and request a red triangle to put on your barrel. You just leave the filled barrel by your garage door or some place in plain sight from the street, and the trash collection workers will wheel it out for you, empty it, and then put it back. Edith thinks they also carry down your recycling bags too, but is not sure. The call to 311 for the triangle sticker should tell you, though.

The membership report stated we have 124 residential members and 4 business members currently. Of these 128, 95 have email and are on the Email Alert/Announcement List. The remainder are called by volunteers over the telephone. In 2007 so far, we had 13 new members, 36 members from 2006 who have not renewed, 3 who moved out of the neighborhood, and one death.

Laura and Penny responded to a member's question on speed bumps, and stated that Gutierrez and Lagrima de Oro are in line for speed bumps in about 6 to 8 years – the backlog is that great, and the resources are that small !! Osuna is a "major" residential street with lane markers and a higher speed limit that does not permit speed bump placement. La Barranca has been surveyed by the city and does not now have enough traffic to warrant any speed bumps yet.

Laura Bernd will remain on the OPNA Board for her second year, but announced her intention to resign as President after one year. The presidency then falls on the current vice president, Jackie Loftus, and the members present confirmed this by a vote of ratification as provided in the OPNA Bylaws. The other Board officers will be chosen by the Board at its first meeting after the elections.

There being no further business or presentations to make, members' attendance tickets were drawn for door prizes and the meeting adjourned at 8:38pm.

Respectfully submitted for the Board Secretary (position currently vacant until the elections),

Gary L. Hoe