

Dear NSCNA Member,

Our January meeting is a few days away, and the main topic will be elections of board members and officers. The Nominating Committee has release the nominees, and this letter includes a candidate statement from each. Hopefully, you will have a chance to learn about each candidate prior to the meeting. (The statements are listed alphabetically.)

With the new Bylaws that went into effect last year, the election procedure is slightly different: each board member position will have a separate vote. We also have a separate Election Committee will handle the details of the election. I think the new procedures will actually speed up the meeting, and to make sure everyone stays “entertained”, we will feature committee reports and like while waiting for any vote results.

I want to thank the Nominating Committee (Kevin Weir, chair, Ernie Garcia, Jerry Horn, and Betsy Todd) for their hard work these past few months. They found eleven folks willing to serve as officers or board members next year. The Nominating Committee released this statement:

The following is a list of applicant names for board positions that we, the nominating committee, received. This list is not a recommendation from the nominating committee. This list comprises the total list of names we received for people willing to serve after several people withdrew their names for consideration. The Nominating

Committee believes that its responsibility is to make a recommendation, using good judgment after evaluating options. In this case, there were no options to consider, no choices to be made. So, it's simply a compiled list of applicants. We received an 11th name today (1/7/09) to make one name for every position. Our goal was to complete our work before Christmas, but we were delayed by lack of volunteers to serve on the board. We extended our deadline and continued to work to find more volunteers. We appreciate the following people volunteering to serve our neighborhood.

Nominees for 2009 NSCNA Officers and Board of Directors

President- Jeff Russell	Pos. 1- Chip Rosenthal	Pos. 5- Alyssa Hedge
Vice President- Ken Moyer	Pos. 2- Cheri Hartman	Pos. 6- Sandy Perkins
Secretary- Claudell Migl	Pos. 3- Candy Ellerd	Pos. 7- Linda Oakes
Treasurer- Helene Maham	Pos. 4- Kelly Vaccaro	

Note that floor nominations are welcomed and encouraged. The Election Committee will ask for a floor nomination before each position is voted upon, and then candidates will be given equal time to speak at the meeting (in contested positions).

See you Sunday at 1pm in the Pillow Cafeteria,

Jeff Russell, President NSCNA

**Candy Ellard**

1. Where do you live, and how long have you lived in the neighborhood?

My husband and I have lived at 8304 Daleview Drive for 7 years.

2. What is your past involvement, if any, in NSCNA?

We are members of NSCNA, but not actively involved.

3. What things should be a priority for NSCNA?

Crime, traffic, maintaining the neighborhood's appearance. With the increase in development around our neighborhood, it is critical that the neighborhood association be involved with developers to ensure that homes/apartments that border the commercially developed area maintain their neighborhood appeal.

4. In which of NSCNA's on-going committees would you want to be involved?

Where I can best help.

5. What do you want the membership to know about you?

Not only do we live in this neighborhood, my husband and I work at Pillow Elementary (we are both teachers).

**Cheri Hartman**

1. Where do you live, and how long have you lived in the neighborhood?

8604 Millway Drive, about a block from Pillow

I've lived in the neighborhood for seven years and in Austin for ten years.

2. What is your past involvement, if any, in NSCNA?

Development Committee, Secretary - active 2008

Media Committee, Member and Writer - active 2008

Organized the Pillow Playgroup, a kid-centered meet-up on Saturday mornings

3. What things should be a priority for NSCNA?

I see three top priorities:

Bring the neighborhood together to rediscover fun and become a community.

Significantly increase new membership.

Increase neighbor-to-neighbor communication to spread awareness of news that impacts our neighborhood.

Other important priorities for me include:

Carefully monitoring development within and adjacent to the neighborhood.

Using our grass-roots voices and collective efforts to promote family-friendly growth and development.

Ensuring that the neighborhood has a clear and consistent voice in city affairs.

4. In which of NSCNA's on-going committees would you want to be involved?

I'm currently involved in the Development and Media Committees, and although I am also very interested in the Membership Committee, it might be difficult to juggle the responsibilities of three committees. I would consider shuffling my current committee focuses to devote more energy to the Membership Committee if it seemed appropriate.

5. What do you want the membership to know about you?

I'm deeply committed to my family and to helping people work together to make this neighborhood a better place. I've lived in the neighborhood with my husband, Jeff, since 2002. After my son Beck was born last year I decided to get involved in the neighborhood with the goal of turning a typical city subdivision into a community for our family.

When I was young, I knew all of my neighbors (if not by name, then at least by their dogs!), but after Beck was born I realized how many of my neighbors were strangers, how I was living in a house on my street but not living in my neighborhood. I'm an artist and a volunteer and an avid reader. My husband loves poker and Macs and writes for a local company. Did any of my neighbors know this? And did I know what made them unique? I realized that I didn't.

Our fascinating modern distractions make it harder today to feel a sense of community, and this is largely why I'm running for a position on the board. Fostering positive local development and promoting our voice in city affairs are important issues-- and I'm actively involved in them now-- but ultimately it all comes down to family, friends, neighbors and community. Let's find our common interests and have fun living alongside one another.

**Alyssa Hedge**

1. Where do you live, and how long have you lived in the neighborhood?

8705 Millway Dr. We have lived in the neighborhood since May of 2001, so almost 7 years.

2. What is your past involvement, if any, in NSCNA?

I spent four years on the board in various capacities. The most visible being the production and distribution of our

newsletter. I also initiated and ran the project that resulted in 50 trees being planted around Pillow.

3. What things should be a priority for NSCNA?

I think the priority for NSCNA should be a.) keeping an eye on development as it seems there will be much in our future, b.) keeping an eye on crime so we can continue to keep our community safe, c.) continuing to work together to strengthen our community through projects and activities d.) cultivating more volunteers and trying to build an active membership. I would love to find projects that the neighborhood is interested in, locate the expertise, funds and then execute them.

One idea is composting and vegetable gardens. With times being tough, it is a great time to compost and have a veggie garden. Compost is great for the environment, lessens trash going to landfills, allows people to have smaller trash cans, saving \$\$ on their waste bill, and makes fantastic dirt for gardens. And what to do with all that great dirt?

Build and grow a veggie garden. Again, great for the environment, eat local, and save money. It would be neat to do this with a neighbor and grow different crops. Then you could share the harvest and end up with a greater variety.

I would love to find those interested, find some folks who can help us learn what we need to do these things and how to do them. Then maybe find a way that we can all work together to help each other get them set up.

I would also love to have more family events. I thought the Movie in the Park was brilliant and also a great way to increase membership.

4. In which of NSCNA's on-going committees would you want to be involved?

Can I say all? I would probably go where the help is most needed, but mainly am interested in Development, Social, Membership and Traffic.

5. What do you want the membership to know about you?

That I love where I live and never plan to move. Therefore I have a lot of interest in making sure this neighborhood stays as great as it is! I would love to return to the board bringing my energy and passion to serve this great community!

### **Helene Maham**

1. Where do you live, and how long have you lived in the neighborhood?

Dallas and I live at 8711 Melshire Dr. since 1972. We raised 3 sons who went to Pillow, Burnet/Martin and

Anderson. We have been members of NSCNA since its beginning.

2. What is your past involvement, if any, in NSCNA? Treasurer for 2 years; delivered flyers/newsletters to 2 streets for years; helped with the 4th of July Parade for several years and attended City of Austin Planning Commission and Council Meetings in support of NSCNA objectives.

3. What things should be a priority for NSCNA?

I believe that the Association should be active in traffic, safety and development within our given area and look out for the best for our neighborhood.

4. In which of NSCNA's on-going committees would you want to be involved?

I have been Treasurer for 2 years and wish to run for Treasurer for 2009. During the past 2 years I, with the help of the Secretary, reinstated our Charter. Before my being Treasurer appropriate State and Federal Returns were not filed. We are now current in Income and Franchise Tax Returns. We never had a Budget until the past 2 years. I have furnished printed Income and Expense Statements at Board and General Meetings. I corrected our Tax Identification Number (TIN) with the bank. Due to past officers using an incorrect TIN number, our association is out over \$940 because the bank sent taxes withheld to the IRS. I have contacted the IRS trying to get a refund of these taxes since we are a nonprofit association. To date IRS has not responded. I would like to be treasurer one more year and see if I can get this refund for the association.

### **Claudell Migl**

1. Where do you live, and how long have you lived in the neighborhood?

8710 Melshire Dr. for 38 1/2 years.

2. What is your past involvement, if any, in NSCNA?

Block captain, helped with 4th of July activities, organized garage sale, held block parties for National Night Out and secretary of association for 2 years.

3. What things should be a priority for NSCNA?

- Diligently work to restrict cut-thru traffic through neighborhood.
- Encourage neighbors to participate in crime watch to keep crime down.
- Continue activities like 4th of July parade, neighborhood garage sales and National Night Out block parties.

4. In which of NSCNA's on-going committees would you want to be involved?

Secretary position is a time consuming position but would consider garage sale committee

5. What do you want the membership to know about you?

Have been in the neighborhood for 38 1/2 years; active association member since its inception. Have 2 sons who attended Pillow, Burnet Jr. High and Anderson High School -- involved with PTA's and booster club -- helped organized first Halloween Carnival at Pillow. Interested in well-being and safety of neighborhood and want association to be of service to people in the area.

### **Ken Moyer**

1. Where do you live, and how long have you lived in the neighborhood?

2702 Kerrybrook Lane since 1969.

2. What is your past involvement, if any, in NSCNA?

Board for 2008, Block captain for several years, worked on July 4th Parade 2008, Served on Traffic committee, 2006, 2007, 2008.

3. What things should be a priority for NSCNA?

Continue to publish newsletter, keep abreast of building and development in our immediate neighborhood, and work with the City on Traffic Issues related to main streets.

4. In which of NSCNA's on-going committees would you want to be involved?

Traffic and 4th of July activities (Social)

5. What do you want the membership to know about you?

My wife Bonnie and I have lived at 2702 Kerrybrook Lane since 1969. I have been a member of the North Shoal Creek neighborhood association for most of that time.

I have enjoyed serving on the board this year and was pleased to be involved with the 4th of July activities and to continue to serve on the traffic committee. Past service included Block Captain for Kerrybrook Lane for several years and hosting National Night Out events for my block. Previous neighborhood service included being an active member of the Pillow PTA, and working on behalf of the neighborhood in the past, including the successful effort to keep Holiday Inn from building a multi-story hotel on the property now occupied by Town North Nissan and for the past three years, actively serving on the NSCNA Traffic Committee.

I am willing to serve as vice-president of the NSCNA for 2009. If elected I will continue my service on the Traffic Committee as well as bring my advertising and marketing

experience to help with the newsletter. My professional background includes 13 years in Radio Broadcasting in Austin, as well as 27 years in Advertising, Marketing and Printing.

### **Lynda Oakes**

1. Where do you live, and how long have you lived in the neighborhood?

19 years at 3006 Crosscreek Drive.

2. What is your past involvement, if any, in NSCNA?

Served as Secretary of NSCNA 1992-1994

3. What things should be a priority for NSCNA?

Top priorities for NSCNA should be development, traffic and safety issues in the Northwest Austin area.

4. In which of NSCNA's on-going committees would you want to be involved?

I am most interested in Development, Media, Safety, Beautification. However, I am willing to help on any committee that needs assistance.

5. What do you want the membership to know about you?

It is really important that the APD, city planners, developers and the other associations in Northwest Austin know that we have a proactive team of residents who are concerned and informed about issues that affect all Austin neighborhoods. We should also always do our best to keep Austin weird and to understand how that affects our quality of life.

### **Sandy Perkins**

1. Where do you live, and how long have you lived in the neighborhood?

I bought my home on Millway 11 years ago. I am a 2nd generation resident of our neighborhood having lived here 35 years now! I attended Burnet Middle School and Anderson High School with many of my neighbors' children.

2. What is your past involvement, if any, in NSCNA?

As soon as I became a homeowner I began attending some of the General Meetings - (during those times the crowd was sometimes only 6 to 10 people!) Through the years, I have gone door to door with fellow members doing membership drives to encourage neighbors to join our association. I'm so happy to see how much involvement we now have! I began chairing the Social Committee 3 years ago and have brought you the July 4th Parade for the last 3 years as well as our first ever Movie Night. For the past two years I have been the co-chair of the media committee and the editor of the Newsletter. I have also

volunteered for the Beautification Committee for part of this year.

3. What things should be a priority for NSCNA? Safety is my main concern for the neighborhood and I would like to see us return to having the National Night Out block parties to get to know more of our neighbors so we can all help keep an eye out for each other.

4. In which of NSCNA's on-going committees would you want to be involved?

I have enjoyed working on the Media Committee, and I have learned so much about how to use the software for the Newsletter as well as editing, layout, print media and design. I am proud that I have personally brought in over \$12K in ad sales in the past 2 years. I have enjoyed getting to know many of our neighbor's and surrounding business owners who have chosen to promote their businesses by advertising with us. I hope in the coming years we will be able to fund many more neighborhood events and opportunities to socialize with our neighbors.

5. What do you want the membership to know about you? As many of you already know, I market the area as a Realtor - soon celebrating my 20<sup>th</sup> year with Coldwell Banker. I have a BA in Art from The University of Texas, class of 88 and I'm hoping this year to take some art classes with my daughter and begin to paint once again.

### **Chip Rosenthal**

1. Where do you live, and how long have you lived in the neighborhood?

8313 Franwood Ln. I will have lived in this neighborhood five years as of January 2009. My wife, Juliette Kernion, has been at this address for seven years, since August 2001.

2. What is your past involvement, if any, in NSCNA?

- I currently am a member of the Development Committee.
- I participated in the meetings and discussions relating to the Village Shopping Center development project.
- I researched the sign variance request for the Village Shopping Center.
- I currently am working on a mechanism to distribute and share notifications from the City. The current status is that emails are being distributed to Development Committee members, paper notices are being scanned.

- I previously served on the Safety Committee.
- I am a "Block Captain" for my street.

3. What things should be a priority for NSCNA?

I believe the primary objective for the neighborhood association should be to preserve our property values and protect our quality of life.

This means there are a number of issues that are relevant to our association: personal and property safety, traffic, development, environment, and beautification.

There are two areas of primary interest to me where I'd like to contribute:

Development – Our neighborhood will be under a lot of development pressure when an economic recovery occurs. Major new development activity is all around us (The Domain, north Lamar, Crestview Station). Plus, portions of our neighborhood have been designed for VMU overlay status, which could bring significant density (and all that entails). This development pressure represents both risk and opportunity. I would like to see our NA take a very active role in working with the City and developers to ensure future development is to our benefit.

Community and Communication – I strongly believe in openness and consensus. I think anything we can do to communicate important information and issues to our neighbors would be beneficial. I'd like to see an effort to bring even more neighbors into our work.

4. In which of NSCNA's on-going committees would you want to be involved?

Primary interested in Development and Media.

5. What do you want the membership to know about you? I have lived in Austin since 1990 and have been active in community issues.

In 1997 I helped lead the successful effort to keep the city from closing the Riverside Drive Branch Library. That effort led to the approval of bonds the following year to pay for the replacement of three storefront branch libraries: Twin Oaks (South Austin), Riverside Drive (succeeded by Ruiz), and our very own North Village Branch Library.

I was a board member for Responsible Growth for Northcross through January 2008.

I currently chair the City of Austin Community Technology and Telecommunications Commission. Our commission provides advice to the Austin City Council on matters related to regulated communications and

community technology. I was originally a consensus appointee, reappointed by Jennifer Kim, and currently serving under Randi Shade. Through this position, I have had opportunity to work directly with the mayor's office and nearly every councilmember.

### **Jeff Russell**

1. Where do you live, and how long have you lived in the neighborhood?

8206 Sandalwood Cove since 1993.

2. What is your past involvement, if any, in NSCNA?

I started by participating on a committee, then become a board member (back when the first 11 volunteers *were* the board), and finally served as president last year. I participate because I care about our neighborhood.

3. What things should be a priority for NSCNA?

During my involvement, membership has skyrocketed, and I think a continued priority should be to promote events (and committees) that encourage neighbors to participate. This can take the form of our annual July 4<sup>th</sup> Parade, which takes many people to plan, execute, and attend. It can also be something like the Development Committee in which members regularly meet to discuss local projects.

4. In which of NSCNA's on-going committees would you want to be involved?

As president, I have tried to (and will continue to) keep our association and committees open to participation by anyone interested. I think a long-term, successful neighborhood association needs to be run by a diverse group of volunteers—not one or two folks taking on all jobs. (By the way, thanks to those of you who *did* do that during the lean years.) I think meetings should be fun, featuring guest speakers on general interest topics.

5. What do you want the membership to know about you?

On a personal note, I am an electrical engineer with experience designing embedded systems. Before my (temporary?) break in my high-tech career, I worked in a big (blue) corporate environment, as well as a successful startup company. Currently, I am the stay-at-home parent, and we look forward to being part of the next generation of families raising kids in our neighborhood. I am thankful to have met so many neighbors at meetings, in committees, and serving on the board--though I am also glad to have met several folks on morning bagel walks to Einstein's!

### **Kelly Vaccaro**

1. Where do you live, and how long have you lived in the neighborhood?

Penny Ln, 1.5 years

2. What is your past involvement, if any, in NSCNA?

I became a member in May of 2008.

3. What things should be a priority for NSCNA?

Creating a sense of community, keeping the area safe, and promoting balanced development.

4. In which of NSCNA's on-going committees would you want to be involved?

Beautification or membership

5. What do you want the membership to know about you?

I love to read, so I'm really excited our neighborhood is going to get a brand new library in just a few months!