**NACA MONTHLY MEETING**

Thursday May 17, 2014

North Austin Community Recreation Center

1000 West Rundberg Lane

**Introductions:**

Melinda Scheira called the meeting to order at 7:05pm

**Announcements**

Melinda will be applying for the Love Your Block Grant for new and replacement reflective Neighborhood Crime Watch signs in the neighborhood. She passed a sign up sheet to identify signs that need to be replaced.

The April meeting minutes were distributed and approved with one correction.

Chris Soriano gave an update on the construction of the Jaime Padron Elementary School. The school should be finished on July 14, 2014. He stated there will be a short school zone; a red light pedestrian crossing and two entrances (one on Rundberg and Metric). The school will accommodate 700 students; 350 from Cook Elementary, 300 from Wooldridge Elementary and 50 from McBee Elem.

Kevin Owens discussed revitalizing the Yard of the Month program. Judging criteria include; overall appearance, neatness and upkeep of the property; unique landscaping and gardens, water conservation efforts; pruning of trees and shrubs.

Officer Frank Wilson discussed issues in the neighborhood. Apartment outreach has continued on Northgate and Colony Creek to develop trust between residents and police. The meetings with residents occur on a quarterly basis. This is now hotspot three in the Restore Rundberg Initiative.

Officer Wilson also discussed budget requests addressing the shortage of officers. In cities of comparable size, there are two officers per 1000 residents. Currently in Austin there is shortage of 250 officers. District Reps typically spend the equivalent of one month per year on special events in the city. The best way to support the police department is to be active at civic and council meetings.

Walking mobile beats are being assigned to the three hotspot areas to engage and speak with residents.

Carol Pazera gave an update on the Rundberg extension from Metric to Burnet. There is still uncertainty when the project will begin due to a reallocation of funds to another project. The City Council will decide June 12th on the school zone location. She stated that Gary Schatz, City of Austin Assistant Traffic Director, said there are no plans to restrict truck traffic along Rundberg..

Margaret Valenti with City Neighborhood Planning Department discussed the Austin Community Tree Program. NACA is eligible this year. She asked for volunteers to assist implement the program in NACA. Volunteers will receive training to identify what properties can have tree and how many. Residential and commercial properties are eligible. There are two walk events scheduled in the neighborhood on Sept 27th and Nov 8th. NACA has been divided into several sector and she asked for sector leaders to help coordinate volunteers to cover their section of the neighborhood.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30pm.