

City of Georgetown, Texas
San Jose Neighborhood Steering Committee

Minutes

Monday, May 3, 2021 at 5:30 p.m.

The meeting was held in the Friends Room of the Georgetown Public Library and broadcast virtually at the below address:

<https://georgetowntx.zoom.us/j/92480386865>

Or Telephone:

888 475 4499 (Toll Free) or 833 548 0276 (Toll Free) or 833 548 0282 (Toll Free) or
877 853 5257 (Toll Free)

Webinar ID: 924 8038 6865

Steering Committee Members Present: Terry Pagan, Miguel Ferguson, Short Valdez, Christina Calixtro, Linda Barton, Beth Akins, Marcos Gonzales, Vrn Thomas, Liliana Vargas, Jesse Valdez,

Steering Committee Members: Paola Chairez

Staff Present: Sofia Nelson, Planning Director; Britin Bostick, Downtown and Historic Planner, Cesar Acosta, Long Range Planner, Susan Watkins, Housing and Neighborhood Program Manager, Nat Waggoner, Long Range Planning Manager

Nat Waggoner called the meeting to order at 5:30pm.

Agenda

The presentation included introducing the consulting team, discussing the scope of work, timeline, proposed deliverables, and committee members' participation and expectations. The project team conducted activities to gain a baseline understanding of the S.C. members' thoughts on their community and expectations of the project process and outcomes of the plan. Listed are samples of the questions and responses given:

1. What are your Goals & Expectations for this project?

- a. *I expect to have house prices and taxes be stabilized to the neighborhood's incomes. I would like safety with sidewalks and traffic.*
- b. *Share and celebrate the history of the neighborhood and residents.*
- c. *To have a collective vision for San Jose and a tangible goal to reach that vision.*

2. What do you like the most about your neighborhood?

- a. *Family*
 - b. *History/Culture*
 - c. *Neighbors*
- 3. What do you like the least about your neighborhood?**
- a. *Increasing property taxes*
 - b. *Traffic/Speeding/Parking*
 - c. *The misconception that there is a lot of crime*
- 4. Outreach Ranking** – What outreach methods S.C. members thought were most effective for their neighborhood
- 1) *Mailouts*
 - 2) *Flyers in local businesses and public spaces*
 - 3) *Email*
 - 4) *Through local Organizations*
 - 5) *Social Media*
 - 6) *Website*
 - 7) *TV & Radio*
- 5. Community Engagement Ranking** – What engagement styles S.C. members thought were most effective for their neighborhood
- 1) *Open House Meeting*
 - 2) *Focus Groups*
 - 3) *Local Event Kiosk*
 - 4) *Online Survey*
 - 5) *Website*
- 6. S.W.O.T. Analysis Activity**
- 1) *Strengths*
 - i. *San Jose Park*
 - ii. *The people that makeup the neighborhood*
 - iii. *The history of the neighborhood*
 - iv. *The culture of the neighborhood Location*
 - 2) *Weakness*
 - i. *The trust factor between Hispanic residents and the city - They don't want to ask for help since they feel like they might get deported*
 - ii. *Clouded Titles - a massive issue in the neighborhood*
 - 3) *Opportunities*
 - i. *There is an opportunity to celebrate the culture through events. Fiesta San Jose.*
 - ii. *Underutilized Railroad Track*

- iii. Educate the homeowner on how to appeal property taxes, clear titles, and write wills to transfer to family members properly.

4) *Threat*

- i. Affordability
- ii. 22nd St and S Pine St – the drainage will get blocked by debris, and then the water gets backed up along that corridor. Lots of drainage around the rail corridor.
- iii. Assessments – banks and realtors define San Jose as Old Town. This may contribute to even higher taxes.

Steering Committee members were given a take-home assignment to identify community assets on a map provided to them.

Nat Waggoner closed the meeting at 8:00 pm.

_____, Chair

Attest, _____, Vice Chair