

MAHNCKE PARK

NEIGHBORHOOD
ASSOCIATION
ESTABLISHED 1979



SEPTEMBER 2023

THIS MONTH'S MEETING

This month's meeting on Tuesday, Sept. 19 will feature local author Lewis F. Fisher, who will discuss his recent book, Brackenridge, San Antonio's Acclaimed Urban Park. We encourage all neighbors to attend this informative presentation.

**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 7pm
LION'S FIELD CENTER, 2809 BROADWAY**

BRACKENRIDGE PARK PROJECT APPROVED

San Antonio City Council approved awarding a \$3.5M construction contract last month for the first phase of the Brackenridge Park improvement project, which was part of the voter-approved 2017 bond package. The first phase will include repair of river retaining walls, stabilization of the pump house foundation, and reconstruction of a large staircase to the river. The project has drawn criticism for its plan to cut down 48 trees, including "heritage trees" with trunk diameters greater than 24".

MAHNCKE PARK COMMUNITY GARDEN

Located in the 300 block of Funston Place directly across the street from Mahncke Park, our neighborhood community garden is a treasure that is tirelessly tended by loyal volunteers. All neighbors are welcome to visit and experience this peaceful, lovely spot. And if you would like to join a work day or an upcoming event, you are most welcome to do so.

September 9, Saturday, 9am

Garden Work Day. We will focus on mixing compost.

October 1, Sunday, 10am

Fall Equinox Drum Circle. Come feel the beat!

October 3, Tuesday, 6pm-8pm

Neighbors Together (strengthening relationships between police and communities)

Persons interested in one of the 19 raised garden beds may add their name to the waiting list. Send request with contact info to mppcgarden78209@gmail.com

PHOTOGRAPHING SAN ANTONIO

Al Rendon is a San Antonio native and a former resident on Allensworth Street. This month, he is returning to our neighborhood as the Witte Museum displays 61 of his photos from September 2 through January 7 in a show called Mi Cultura – Bringing Shadows into the Light. On Tuesday, September 19 from 4-6pm, Rendon will be signing a catalog of the show. Also, on Sunday, November 5 a panel discussion regarding his work will be held from 2-4pm.

The Witte Museum is free every Tuesday from 3-7pm.

MAHNCKE PARK PALETA SOCIAL

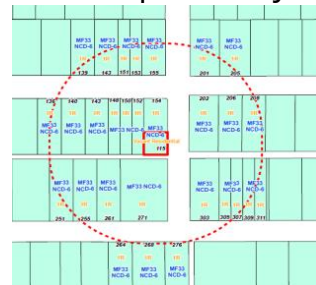
On Saturday, September 9 at 6pm there will be a Mahncke Park Paleta (Popsicle) Social, which will gather in Mahncke Park across the street from Lamar Elementary School, 201 Parland Place. Bring a neighbor and blanket/chair for a delightful evening in the park. Delicious, free paletas will be provided. What a lovely way to say farewell to summer!

PARKTOBER FEST, SEPTEMBER 24, 2-5PM, FREE

The Brackenridge Park Conservancy is hosting Parktober Fest on Sunday afternoon, September 24 at the Koehler & Cypress Pavilions near the zoo entrance. This free event celebrates San Antonio's German biergarten heritage and will feature complimentary samples from local craft breweries, music by the Beethoven Mannerchor, and a collection of vintage Pearl Brewing Company memorabilia. Food and drink will also be available for purchase. What a lovely way to greet autumn!

ZONING CHANGE NOTICES, PART 1

When a property owner requests a zoning change or variance from the City's Unified Development Code or the Neighborhood Conservation District, the City mails a notice to owners of property within 200' of the subject property and the MPNA. The notice describes the proposed change and date of the hearing regarding the proposed change. The notice may include a map with subject property (sample below).



The notice will ask the addressee to respond "in favor" or "in opposition" to the proposed change. At the hearing regarding the proposed change, the number of responses in favor & in opposition will be announced and are considered as part of the commission/board's decisionmaking – so it is important to reply.

In response to the recent variance request at 115 Milton St. MPNA board member Susan Geery suggests notifying the MPNA (sometimes the City fails to do so). Also, go by the subject property, then talk to neighbors about their opinion of the proposed change. If you have questions, email the MPNA. An MPNA board member or Land Use Committee member may be able to explain consequences of proposed changes. Most importantly, REPLY, either by returning the notice or by phone, per directions in the notice.

ZONING CHANGE NOTICES, PART 2

Challenge. When City notices announcing proposed zoning changes are received by nearby property owners, there are only a few days in which to respond before the hearing date.

Solution. MPNA Board is forming an ad hoc team to be responsible for informing neighbors of zoning change notices. Team members will make sure nearby neighbors have received & understand notices. Goal is 2 volunteers per street to conduct outreach. If interested, please email the MPNA board at info@mahnckepark.org

Note. This is not a replacement for the Land Use Committee but an outreach team to help make sure notices are understood and hopefully returned.

ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT: 115 MILTON ST.

The application submitted by the property owner of 115 Milton Street to the City seeking multiple variances from the Mahncke Park Conservation District is "on pause." The case was set to be considered by the Zoning Board of Adjustment on August 7, but was pulled from the agenda. Nevertheless, construction continues the new three story, 2-unit structure located on the west side of Milton St. between Claremont Ave. and Natalen St.

In response to an email from the MPNA requesting status of the case, a City of San Antonio representative replied, "As of right now, the case is on pause, pending the decision of the applicant. The applicant informed me that they were in the process of altering plans, which may eliminate the need for the variances. If they are still required to obtain one with the altered plans, notices will be sent out and the process starts over again."

CITY COUNCIL INFORMATION

Mr. Jalen McKee-Rodriguez is the District 2 City Councilman and his district includes Mahncke Park.

Main Office, City Hall, Military Plaza, 210-207-7278
Constituent Office, 2805 E. Commerce, 210-207-0950

Mahncke Park residents may contact Maria Castro directly with concerns. Maria.castro@sanantonio.gov

MPNA NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The following persons will serve on a nominating committee with a goal to identify seven nominees for the 2024 Mahncke Park Neighborhood Association (MPNA) Board of Directors.

- Stephen Amberg, Allensworth Street
- George Grimes, Parland Place
- Liz Kish, Natalen Avenue
- Ruth Rodriguez, Thorman Place

MPNA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Ruth Rodriguez, Thorman Place, President
- Liz Kish, Natalen Avenue, Vice President
- Josh Godwin, Allensworth Street, Treasurer
- Camis Milam, Davis Court, Secretary
- Steve Amberg Allensworth Street
- Chris Castillo, Queen Anne Court
- Susan Geery, Natalen Avenue
- Email info@mahnckepark.org

PUBLICATION NOTE

The printing of this newsletter is supported by the Circle School, 217 Pershing Ave. thecircleschool.org

SAN ANTONIO NEIGHBORS TOGETHER

Formerly Night Out Against Crime, SA Neighbors Together is set for October 3. Plan a gathering for your street - cookout, cookie exchange, karaoke or stop by and visit those gathering at the Mahncke Park Community Garden.

SAN ANTONIO POLICE DEPARTMENT

SAP Officer Juan Hernandez patrols our neighborhood. Officer Juan Hernandez' duty hours are M-F, 7am-3pm. He regularly attends the MPNA's monthly meetings and provides information regarding illegal activity. Contact him regarding concerns or to request a "patrol by" of your property while out of town.

Juan.hernandez3@sanantonio.gov

210-218-6939, cell, 210-207-7413, Central Substation

SAN ANTONIO CODE COMPLIANCE

The Code Enforcement Officer for our area of San Antonio is Cynthia Santana. She regularly attends the MPNA's monthly meetings and is responsive to concerns from within our neighborhood.

Cynthia.Santana@sanantonio.gov

210-394-2544, Development Services Dept.

LION'S FIELD CENTER – 2809 BROADWAY

Lion's Field Center is operated by the SA Parks Department and hosts a variety of classes, including art, music, and exercise. Call 210-207-5380 to learn more.

NEWSLETTER EDITORS

- Carlynn Ricks
- Bruce Martin

IT IS EASY TO PAY YOUR ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP

The adjacent QR code to MPNA PayPal enables you to pay electronically. If you prefer to mail a check, use the form at bottom of page. Please pay dues before November meeting. Thank you.



2023 MAHNCKE PARK NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP	
Membership is open to homeowners, renters, property owners, businesses or anyone having an interest in our area. Dues are \$10 per household & \$5 for retired neighbors per year. Non-resident dues are \$20 to help cover postage costs.	
Name	
Address	
City, State, zip code	
Email address	
Phone	
Type membership	Regular___, Retired___, Nonresident___
Mail completed form & payment to: MPNA, PO BOX 6752, SAN ANTONIO, TX 78209	