

## **ELDRIDGE/WEST OAKS Super Neighborhood Council Meeting Draft Minutes April 13, 2011**

The meeting of the Eldridge/West Oaks Super Neighborhood Council (EWOSNC) was called to order at 7:05 PM by President Doug Parish.

**I. Speaker** –Mark Kirschke of Council Member Oliver Pennington’s office.

Mr. Kirschke spoke about the proposed redistricting plan. He said that the Hispanic population is growing and that district C now has more Hispanics. Whites have been moved to district J from A and that Latinos have moved to J and that district J now has become a minority opportunity district which is required in the Voting Rights Act of 1965. District G has lost 80,000 people.

Mark also said that any interested parties can formally suggest a redistricting plan by May 6 at 4:15 p.m. at City Hall. There is a kiosk there but appointments have to be made with Margret Wallace. He said that when addressing Margret Wallace to refer to Super Neighborhood name. Her email is [margret.wallace@houston.tx.gov](mailto:margret.wallace@houston.tx.gov).

He also suggested that when new council candidates have been announced that we should invite some of them to make presentations at our meetings.

A question was put to Mark. “Do the council members have to live in their districts? He said, yes.

Mr. Kirschke also announced that Rebuild Houston has passed and that there are four components to the proposal. He said that there have been some complaints that some smaller structures might pay the same taxes as bigger ones but he said no, that is not the case.

He said that Council member Pennington wants to know how funds will be distributed and that it should not be political.

He said that current CIP funds are for the first five years. He said that Mr. Pennington wants to see a 10 year plan and how the funds will be distributed.

He also said that all projects will be available on line.

Also, the 2012 budget is 135 mil dollars short and that the Mayor has requested cuts. He stressed that this year will be tough.

Mark also said that HPD has signed a 5 year contract, that they will get no raises in the first two years, will get 3% in 4 and 5 years.

The city has also gone to Cigna Insurance Company.

Also Mr. Kirschke said that a new 311 will be available in September and that hopefully it will be better when on line.

There will be color coded status of requests and a person assigned to each request. When the request has been done the code will be green.

Some bills that have made it to the Senate are of interest to HOAs.

One bill will require that there are mandatory installment payments and another bill would require expedited foreclosures.

Bill SB238 would prohibit HOAs from prohibiting home owners to putting solar panels on homes.

He said that now is the time for bill advocacy and that these bills still have to pass the House and signed by the Governor.

## **II. Guest Introductions**

No guests this month.

## **III. Old Business**

**A. Approve March minutes**— Minutes were approved.

### **B. Committee reports:**

**1. Security (Bob Sumicek)** Bob Sumicek was not present, no report was given.

**2. SNAP/Infrastructure (Judy Thompson)** Ms. Thompson announced that she checked the SNAP website to see status of some reports that we've requested and that there will be additional trees planted on Eldridge. Also the overlay on Dairy Ashford was not approved but rather concrete panels. Mr. Kirschke said that the time frame for this is this summer.

Concrete patch repairs by Westpark and Synott are scheduled for July, 2011.

Judy also said that mulching was supposed to be done by March 31 but she has not seen anything yet.

The bridge repair in Briar Village was not done yet and that she will put a new request in but that it's a CIP item.

**3. Beautification (Virgie Manning)** Ms. Manning announced that she will be resigning from her post and that Diane Guilleman will now take her place.

Ms. Manning stated that she's given a list to Mr. Pennington's office on graffiti, grass cuttings, dumping and that she will report series of new graffiti. She said that someone has tried to cover some graffiti but you can still see the letters underneath. She will try and resolve this.

She also reported that the closed Exxon by Westheimer Rd. and Hwy 6 is a bad eyesore. She wants to take pictures and send them to the Exxon Company.

Mark Kirschke said to talk to Catherine Flowers about it.

There was a suggestion for Maria Galitos to invite the West Oaks Mall owners to a meeting to discuss some issues in that area.

4. **Flooding and Drainage Committee (Billie Long)** Harris County Flood Control is trying to get a list for a study they are conducting on specific homes, addresses that have gotten flooded. The officer to contact is Jack Smart.

5. **Legislative (Doug Parrish)** No report

6. **Speakers Committee (Maria Galitos)** No speaker next month.

Next Meeting – Wednesday, May 11, 2011 – at 7:00 pm (AC Classroom of Eagle's Trace Retirement Community).