

Minutes for the meeting of July 8, 2015

- I. Call to Order - 7:05 p.m.
- II. Speakers: None
- III. Announcements: Districts F & G, City, Metro. IV.

Dillon Osborne from Councilman Nguyen's office brought greetings. He reported that some of the SNAP projects are getting started. The public works department is behind due to the recent flooding issues. The sidewalk project on Westpark is beginning. Unfortunately, the soliciting issues have suffered a blow. There is a 2011 court case that prohibits any changes at this time. Since this is a cause of importance to our group more information and change will be sought after. Mandie Sample will be forthcoming with a survey of sorts. When that is made available, we will be notified. Johnny Lozano added that Chief Maddie Provost of HPD has been extremely helpful with our concerns about various street soliciting persons. Mr. Osborne added that there was a CIP meeting that will bring approximately one hundred seventy five million in projects. More on this will be coming soon.

Deanna Harrington from Representative Jim Murphy's office brought greetings and remarked that Jim is planning to attend our next meeting. Ms. Harrington gave us a four page handout summarizing recent happenings and issues. You can be added to their email for this eblast news by contacting them at Deanna.harrington@house.state.tx.us or you can like his Facebook page to obtain more information.

IV. Old Business

- A. Approve Minutes from the June meeting. A motion was made and seconded to approve minutes from previous meeting. It was unanimously approved.

President Doug Parrish reminded us that Tom Mikus is still helping with our website from a distance. Bob Andrew agreed to aid us in a few months time when he has cleared some of his other commitments. He has vast experience with professional website development. We look forward to this new addition to our group.

B. Committee Reports:

1. Beautification (Diane & Vergie) - Vergie reported on two projects. First she reminded us of the Houston Bike Ways meeting is to be held July 20, 2015 at 6: 00 P.M. Secondly, Vergie also suggested the division of the beautification committee into sections as homeowner neighborhoods could easily manage their own area thus making the work run smoothly. She offered a signup sheet to the group looking for volunteers. She suggests four sections to start.

2. SNAP (Judy Thompson) - Judy thanked Dillon Osborne for his dedication in serving our group. There should be more information with SNAP projects at the September meeting. Traffic intersection changes along Briar Forest at Highway 6 have been completed making two southbound turning lanes. Currently there is a similar two lane left turn project in progress at Enclave at Eldridge southbound. Both of these should help alleviate some traffic.

3. Security (Johnny Lozano) - Johnny reported that most crime was down except murder was up in his recent check of statistics. Business break in events were also elevated probably due to summer recess with teens. Discussions were made about curfews in the area. Those stated were 11 p.m. on school nights and midnight on weekends. Many were surprised and dismayed by this fact. This curfew applies only to those under eighteen years of age. Johnny gave praise and thanks to Sharon for the Neighborhood Watch and to Dillon for the lighting in Eagles Trace. On a separate issue, he noted that local halfway houses are some cause for concern. He reported that lack of proper supervision seems to be at the root of the difficulty. City of Houston does not license them, the state does. Most agreed that surprise inspection visits are more of what is needed not scheduled ones. He encourages all to help each other and to speak up, particularly with other superneighborhoods. More on that issue is needed. It was reported that there is a new homeless encampment behind the 99 cent store on Westheimer. Johnny also recommended that we work personally with other superneighborhoods and to share information particularly after Mandy Samples upcoming meeting. He also was furthering the idea of becoming a 5013C or other appropriate designation so that we could fundraise and seek action as a SN to address the problems and concerns of our SN.

Amanda Edwards, a guest for the evening, as well as a political candidate, clarified some of the tax exempt questions. She was welcomed and asked to briefly tell about herself and her candidacy for City of Houston At Large Position 4 in the fall. She gave a history of her education and standing within the community. The group asked some questions regarding debates or other forums. Ms. Edwards stated that there were none scheduled at this time. She would love our vote and support. Open seats for the City of Houston at this time are:

Mayor	City Comptroller	#1 at large position	#4 at large position
District G	District H		

4. Flooding (Billie Long) - Nothing significant to report. He noted that the draining and watershed projects worked pretty much as expected. With a 500 year event as we had in May, especially after previous weeks of heavy rains, precipitated the May floods. He recanted that the overall design of the City is to flood the streets not the homes and establishments. That plan generally seems to work except for extreme rains. No plan or watershed project can accommodate twelve inches in only a few hours. He also stated that highest point within Harris County is in the North West area at one hundred fifty feet.

5. Homeless (Jack O'Connor) - None, most covered in earlier discussions

V. New Business:

A. Announcements: No August meeting.

Attendee Bob Andrew stated that the Texas State Legislature vote on the International Business development area that had many of us concerned a month or so back, failed in the vote.

B. Adjournment at 8:10 p.m.

C. Next Meeting is September 9, 2015

Respectfully Submitted, Sherry Lamb Co-Secretary