

Minutes from the November 12, 2014 Meeting

Eldridge/WestOaks Super Neighborhood Houston, TX
www.sneldridgewestoaks.org

I. Call to Order at 7:04 p.m.

II. Speakers: none

III. Announcements: Districts F & G, City, Metro.

Mark Kirschke brought greetings and reported on SNAP upcoming meetings. He reminded us that each superneighborhood is allowed 25 items. See attached form. Judy Thompson is our coordinator for those forms. Generally, these items can be road work items like 1 or 2 concrete panel replacements. These items are for smaller issues. If issues are not repaired, the public works department is pushing them into the calendar for maintenance and work to be done in the future. The deadline for these SNAP items will be January 12. Ronda Sauter from the City of Houston is the contact person for these forms. If we are unable to reach her (some changes within the city since the elections), please contact Mark for more information.

Regarding homeless issues, there was a meeting with Maddie Provost of HPD. This is the local captain's superior officer. Ms. Provost seems quite willing to work with us. There is now a short term proposal to offer \$25,000.00 from G and \$25,000.00 F districts to offer solutions with community overtime funds for officers to attack the problems. The Long term proposal is to work on an ordinance change. Several strategies are being discussed. Other various cities and their programming are being investigated. Additionally, a public service announcements campaign is a possible plan. Superneighborhood stakeholders are welcomed to aid in creation and launch of this plan. We as SN members can help change the mindset of our citizens as to how persons on the street are treated. Oliver Pennington and Mark Kirschke are adaptive to ideas and input. Measuring success for this plan is unsure but all attempts for change are positive outcomes. Mandy Chapman is also a contact person for ideas and assistance and will be sought out for this project which will also further the "buy in" of the City of Houston and Council members. Some key talking points so far are "civility zones". Ideas are welcome of course.

Plans are in the works for the Dairy Ashford esplanade tree work. This was sent to snap. The general wish is the good maintenance will be the best route. Trees don't need to be removed just well pruned and mulched with a plan for future upkeep and driver safety. Other plans such as the Lakes of Parkway matching grant have not had final plan or approval. Street lights issues can be forwarded to Judy Thompson. There is a City of Houston Survey. Safe Sidewalks can also be on the form. See

Judy for more information or questions on that issue. It seems as though one side of the street will have sidewalks but no particular concern is given to putting sidewalks on both sides of the street. Many in the group find this not pleasing particularly on heavy travelled routes. The form will be an attachment. Also attached is the matrix to better explain the types of work done by the various COH departments.

Margarita Dunlap from Metro brought greetings and a brief update on the various events promoted by Metro. This month is celebrate citizenship month. Events planned can be attended by the public for a fee of \$20.00. See more information at www.houstongreeters.org. There will be a progressive dinner, free day passes, entertainment, performers, food and more. This is a great way to get to know and promote the businesses and establishments in the area. There will be an announcement attached.

Routes 81 and 82 will be quick routes. The Energy Corridor plans are on their website. The Reimagining plan is beginning the putting in place of some changes. Look for those changes soon.

IV. Old Business

A. Approve Minutes from previous meeting

A motion was made seconded and approving the minutes from previous meeting.

B. Committee Reports:

1. Beautification (Diane & Virgie) – none at this time

2. 311/CIP (Judy Thompson) – Judy handles our snap items for District F. Dillon Osborne will handle district G. The main items are the concrete panel replacements now that Rebuild Houston has been instituted. We will continue to gather information about problems in our area. Members are encouraged to forward items in our target area to Judy Thompson. She wants items in her hands by January 1 so she can prepare our list of 25 and prioritize if we exceed the 25 item limit. District G has the same requests. Judy Thompson can be reached by email at: judythompson@gmail.com

3. Security (Johnny Lozano) – no report at this time. However about the SN long range plan to increase involvement for SN17, Johnny reported that funds are being sought for billboards. He offered praise to Oliver Pennington's plan to add overtime funds for police regarding our specific issues. We need to all encourage our HOAs to joint and be involved. Ideas are welcomed as to helping maintain connections with Home Owner Associations particularly since most officers of HOAs serve one year terms. This makes communications scattered at best. We need more people! Encourage and talk up our group.

4. Flooding (Billie Long) – October 29th, there was a Corp of Engineers Public meeting about the Addicks and Barker Reservoirs. The highlights included the history of and the planned work for Barker. There will be a new outlet gate. This was the highest

priority in the risk factors for the reservoir and downstream City of Houston. The well attended meeting also offered information about the scheduled location of gate work as “slightly north “ of the existing gate for construction of the new and larger gate. The work is expected to begin in March of 2015 with conclusion slated for 2017. This will increase the flow to 4,000 feet per minute. That is about double the current amount. The meeting did not address the detention/retention issues for the natural areas downstream such as the Piney Point area. There were no graphs or charts showing flow regarding any other areas. Billy reminded us that the “core” of the Barker slurry wall has been strengthened adding to the overall structure improvement. There has also been work with concrete at the ends “spillways” to help with mitigation. The corp is aware of the Fort Bend flow. There is no word on any particular study or findings.

Members did voice concerns about the Clodine ditch and addition flow from Fort Bend County into the reservoir and the lack of a study to consider these potential hazards.

5. Homeless (Jack O'Connor) – none at this time

6. Webmaster (Tom Mikus) – We are still looking for a new webmaster, however Warren Murdock and Doug Parrish have agreed to help, learn, and handle things until a permanent replacement is found.

V. New Business:

A motion was made, seconded and approved to remove the December meeting. This is the first reading as it is a bylaw change. The second and final reading will be at the January meeting to make final changes to the bylaws.

A. Announcements

Sandy Myers from HCC was contacted and gave information to us regarding the cancellation of use of the land on Westheimer just west of Eldridge for the new technology heavy campus. The plan is now slated to move those facilities to the Hayes Road campus. Reasons given for this change were increased funding to build in that area. We are saddened and disappointed to not see this productive land use plan take place.

B. Adjournment at 8:23 p.m.

Next Meeting is January 14, 2015 (meeting and annual meeting)

Respectfully Submitted,

Sherry Lamb – Co-Secretary and Delegate from St. John Paul II Catholic School