

Minutes from the meeting of FEBRUARY 8, 2017 - Super Neighborhood 17

- I. **Call to Order at 7:06 p.m.**
- II. **There were no guest speakers**
- III. **Government Announcements:**

Mark Kirschke — District G representative:

Mr. Kirschke noted that this is the time of year that low-income housing projects are being proposed. There is one project proposed in District G; it is located at Westheimer and Voss. The project is being supported by the surrounding residents/businesses. He is not aware of the number of projects, if any, proposed in District F.

Mr. Kirschke also noted that Terry Hershey Park is closed for construction on the north side between Beltway 8 and Kirkwood, and constables are writing trespassing tickets to individuals who ignore the "closed" signage.

The annual CIP meetings are being planned. For District G, the meeting is scheduled for March 7, 2017, at 7:00 pm. The City is still trying to finalize the facility for the meeting. Public works employees will be at the meeting from 6:00 pm to its end (around 8:30).

Steve Costello's S.W.A.T. project was discussed. The acronym stands for Storm Water Action Team. The City's council has committed \$10 million dollars to fix storm/drainage issues that are quickly fixed for approximately \$100,000 (those costing \$350,000 to \$1 million are still CIPs). Two of the S.W.A.T. projects were identified in District G: (1) 1209 S. Dairy Ashford — outfall to Terry Hershey Park that needs repair, and (2) 614 Woodbend Lane — storm sewer line has eroded, causing other problems/cave-ins. Also, from these funds, the City has agreed to address issues with "private" culverts (those running under driveways) previously expected to be repaired by homeowners. The projects chosen so far are expected to take about one-fourth of the proposed S.W.A.T. budget.

Councilmember Travis purchased 200 Level 4 bullet-proof vests for HPD, to protect officers. The vests are designed to stop a rifle round. Because of the budget challenges facing the City, the vests could not be included in the City's operating budget for this year.

Councilmember Travis is also looking into how other cities handle roadside memorials on public roadways. He asked the Mayor to look into a roadside memorial ordinance after the makeshift memorial to Officer Richard Martin (killed at Britoak and

Kirkwood by a perpetrator in an HPD chase) was recently destroyed. They are asking memorials be erected for police officers and first responders.

An attendee asked if the road work at Eldridge and Memorial was in connection with the Memorial work from Kirkwood to Eldridge. Mr. Kirschke said it was; the crew was available and rather than lose their time, they were put to work doing the deepest work first on this end as opposed to the Kirkwood end. The discussion reflected that under Clark Martinson's plans for the Energy Corridor, that portion of the intersection (northeast) will hopefully become a park.

Another attendee asked if Councilmember Travis's office can help get warning signs regarding the traffic light at Eagle's Trace and Highway 6. Mr. Kirschke will ask if anything further can be done, because there are warning signs regarding the traffic light.

Rhonda Sauter — Dept. of Neighborhoods:

Ms. Sauter noted that her office is busy working on the CIP meetings for the Districts. District F is having its CIP meeting on February 21, 2017, at 6:30 pm, at the Alief Community Center. Public works employees will be available at 6:00 pm.

Ms. Sauter introduced Rene Ruiz. He will be attending the SN 17 meetings in the future as a new Community Liaison. He has experience servicing our area as an animal services representative. Mr. Ruiz's phone number is 832-393-0939 and his email is rene.ruiz@houstontx.gov.

An attendee asked about the role of the Department of Neighborhoods under Mayor Turner. Ms. Sauter explained that Mayor Turner is implementing the department as it was initially intended and it was important to her that the core function remain as it was initially established — citizen's assistance.

Ms. Sauter explained that her office has also been tasked with updating the HOA/Civic Club lists the City has on file.

Rashad Cave — Dept. of Neighborhoods:

Mr. Cave re-introduced himself to the SN. He has been working with Diane Guillerman regarding the graffiti and trash behind the businesses at Highway 6 and Westheimer: Conn's and the 99Cent Store. He has made visits to the businesses and is keeping an eye on the area.

His email address is Rashad.Cave@houstontx.gov.

There were numerous comments from the attendees regarding potholes along Eldridge, particularly those closer to Westheimer. It was suggested to report them to 311.

An attendee noted that motorcycle police are stationed around Barbara Bush Elementary to ticket speeders and those running stop signs.

IV. Old Business:

A. January minutes were approved.

B. Committee Reports:

Beautification/Parks and Trails: Virgie – stated that if there are trails, amenities, or parks needed in your area, please make a list and give it to her. She will approach the City, County or will try and obtain it through a CIP.

SNAP: Judy Thompson – noted the CIP meetings are approaching. Please survey your area and if there are any CIPs you think are needed, contact her. They are re-submitting old CIPs that have not been addressed. Provide new CIPS requests to her quickly as the CIP meetings are fast approaching.

Security: J. Lozano – stated all types of crime are going down except burglaries of motor vehicles. The murder rate was higher last year. Violent crimes are not going up.

An attendee suggested that the new Captain of the Westside Command Station be asked to speak. He spoke at a meeting she attended last month and thought he was interesting and expressed interest in the community.

Homeless: J. Lozano – noted the homeless problem is again increasing. They are still trying to break up the camps cropping up.

No other committee reports were available.

V. New Business:

There was no new business.

Ms. Yeglin will approach the Captain of the Westside Command Station to speak at next month's SN meeting.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:17 pm. Next meeting is March 8, 2017.