

Minutes from the meeting of January 154, 2016 – Super Neighborhood 17

I. Call to Order – 7:03 p.m.

II. Speakers: None

III. Announcements:

A. District G – Greg Travis –

Councilmember Greg Travis brought greetings and introduced his staff: Sally Alcorn (not present), Kathleen Osborne, and Mark Kirschke. He updated the group on the Mayor Turner's pothole project. He encouraged us to tell all the residents to call 311 to report potholes. Additionally, he wants to continue the tradition from Mr. Pennington to use part of the service fund that he has control over given to police for our local panhandler issue.

Another issue he noted was the possibility of development of a track of land at approximately 1700-1900 of Highway 6 on the east side of the street near the Fisherman restaurant. This is a proposed lower income housing complex. Mark Kirschke shared the changes in the points system regarding properties of this type. In the old way, points were given and could be taken away as locals made opposition against the plan. The new plan allots points only with the local elected official says yes. Mark reassured us that they will not sign off on these types of projects unless the residents are in favor, knowing that we as a super neighborhood generally don't support this type of land development. Travis won't vote yes, nor will Jim Murphy knowing our feelings regarding this project. The development is slated to have 129 units with 116 of those low income tenants 60% of the median income. The legal packet regarding this project will be given to Diane Guillerman as our sn17 legal counsel. The deadline for the proposal is March 1. We need to make our position know before that deadline and proceed.

More from Mark was give regarding the pothole repair program. Holes of 5 foot by 5 foot or smaller are called into to 311. Larger problems are relegated to CIP for concrete panel replacement. If you see larger problems, do call Greg Travis' office. He has access to \$500,000 for issues of this nature. He plans for some of the funds for parks, some for the police presence previously discussed and a great deal for panel replacements.

The Memorial to Kirkwood repair/re-do has been approved by the City Council and is on hold waiting for the neighborhood public meeting.

He reminded us that CIP projects are going in a little later due to the elections, but will be submitted by March 3rd. This meeting will probably be held at Revere or Stratford schools.

The group inquired at to the EPA sewage issues facing the City of Houston. It is a capacity issue. Mark agreed to ask the City Attorney for more information.

B. District F – Van Huyhh-

Mr. Huyhh brought greetings on behalf of Dr. Steve Le. His team wanted us to understand their passion to serve the area with short term and long term strategies. Mr. Huyhh is an investment professional and his wife is a pharmacist. Dr. Le is a family doctor. Please do call their office. His office wants to make sure the constituency is the priority. He encourages the use of 311 also.

Another issue of concern is the crime in the area. His team will plan to meet with HPD and the local Captain at the Westside Station. Crime prevention and awareness are a priority. Car crime is also a problem. He suggests that citizens “not fight back” as these perpetrators are well armed. After hearing about the panhandler issues, his office wants to work as a team. He will forward the salient points of our meeting to Dr. Le.

Mr. Huyhh remarked that Former councilman Nguyen was not very cooperative with the transition since elections.

Dr. Le supports the expansion of the International Business District. He was not aware of our position on this matter. Mr. Huyhh will discuss with our members and Dr. Le to forward our feelings about the expansion.

He wants to educate the community to not give to panhandlers.

He wishes to talk with our group members about pocket parks and how F and G can work together.

Councilmember at large – Mike Knox -

Mr. Knox greeted the group. He wants us to know that he is one of the six council persons that represent us (five at large and one for our district.) He looks forward to working with us.

C. City – none at this time

D. Metro – Margarita Dunlap –

Ms. Dunlap brought greetings and distributed flyers to the group. She stated that Metro is listening to the public and will be adding enhancements and modifications to the new system routes. She will be bringing some “ONE CARDS” for the group at a future meeting. These cards will help with thievery by allowing for loading funds onto the cards. This will also speed up entering the bus. Fees are \$1.25 one way and \$2.50 round trip.

E. State – none at this time

F. SN Alliance – Steve Ashy recently elected Secretary – Steve discussed mobilityhouston.org and the “coffees” that Kathy Tipton and others plan for the neighborhoods. He will gather information and work with our group to participate in these “coffees” so our voices can be heard.

IV. Old Business

A. Approve Minutes from previous meeting. – Motion made, seconded, and approved to accept minutes from previous meeting.

B. Committee Reports:

1. Beautification/Parks & Trails (Virgie)

- a. Lot near Fire House on Dairy Ashford needs clean up. Mark stated that was sold to a private person and is not eligible for city pressure.
- b. Lot at dead end street 10100 Meadowbriar needs garbage clean up. This has been sitting out for several weeks. Mark asked for information be sent to him so he could expedite that clean up promptly.
- c. Parks and trails near the levy inside Bush Park have issues of concern. Mark asked that he will forward the issue to Parks Department.

2. 311 (Judy Thompson) – no report at this time

3. Security(Johnny Lozano) –

Johnny stated that there was no security meeting in December. There is a meeting planned with Maddy Provost for a ride along to highlight areas of concern coming up soon. He is hoping to push for a city wide plan on panhandling. Dylan Osborne and Mark Kirschke looked at other cities regarding this issue to bring ideas to our group. He noted that great strides had been made with the truly homeless versus the panhandlers. Greg Travis noted that if the Mayor does not put an item on the agenda, it will not be discussed, but he did hope to bring our concerns to the Mayor’s attention. Greg was hopeful and noted that the Mayor seems very approachable and willing to listen.

Van Huyhh stated that there was a significant homeless children issue within his district.

4. Flooding (Billie Long): no report at this time
5. Homeless (Jack O'Conner) – no report at this time

V. New Business: None

- A. Announcements: The annual meeting will commence after adjournment.
- B. Adjournment: at 8:31 p.m.

Annual Meeting:

- I. Call to order at 8:33 p.m.
- II. Election of Treasurer and VP - President Doug Parish verified that a majority of stakeholders were present. Nominations were made for Johnny Lozano for Vice President. Johnny Lozano was unanimously elected. Nominations were made for Judy Thompson for Treasurer. Judy Thompson was unanimously elected.
- III. Other business - Bob Andrew, Ashford Park Section 6 Delegate, Is our new webmaster. He will be working with Tom Mikus to evaluate the site fully before taking over the position. He has quite a few ideas on utilization of the site and its features that he will share after the evaluation.

IV. Adjournment

Next Meeting is Wednesday, February 10, 2016