

## Minutes from the meeting of June 13, 2018 Super Neighborhood 17

- I. Call to order at 7:00 p.m. Quorum was established.
- II. President O’Conner thanked everyone, including delegates and the many visitors for attending. He also welcomed City of Houston and State of Texas personnel, and County Commissioner Steve Radack. Everyone in attendance was asked to introduce themselves.

- III. **Speakers**

**HPD Representative** - The first speaker was Officer Parkinson from HPD. The Officer provided statistics on crime in the area. General crime stats were down in this area over all, year to date: no murders or sexual assaults, 14 assaults (family related), 8 robberies (in apartments and commercial areas), burglaries up 33% (29 located at apartments, nine elderly victims), burglary of a building – up 17%, and burglary of motor vehicles – up 12 %. He urged everyone to park their cars in the garage or, at the very least, in the driveway and to lock all vehicles. If there is a laptop sitting on the seat, windows can be broken in 2 seconds, and the laptop is gone. He stated the many homeless people are not homeless, as every bit of money given to them is used for alcohol or crack pipe. 80% of panhandlers have criminal records.

**Commissioner Steve Radack, Pct 3,** was introduced by President O’Conner. He noted that the Commissioner was elected in 1988 and prior to that he was with HPD, than a County Constable. Commissioner Radack provided a synopsis of the County personnel. He noted there are 5 County Commissioners, County Sheriff, and County Treasurer. All revenue is derived from property taxes, toll roads, and ad valorem taxes. Mr. Radack noted the County budget is \$5 ½ billion dollars; the hospital district receives 90% of that and the jail receives \$2 ½ billion dollars. He then proceeded to talk about the devastation caused by Harvey and noted the US Army Corp of Engineers is responsible for the dams and that the Harris County Flood Control District has no control. At this time, the County has no idea how much the State or Federal Govt. will provide to repair the damage and to instigate new flood control projects but that all the governments must work together. He urged everyone to obtain flood insurance, whether in a flood zone or not, as it is very inexpensive. He noted less than 20% of homeowners have the insurance. He strongly supports the bond issue to be voted on in August. The first project would be the south side of Buffalo Bayou and secondly, to build a new detention pond. He observed “that what Dallas flushed five days ago, we are now drinking that water.” Questions from the audience had been submitted prior to the meeting, and the first question/observation concerned the County and bail bond issues which are presently in court. Commissioner Radack noted that many of the “poor” do have bond money, but have chosen to not use their own funds as he believes there has to be sanctions. “We cannot be the big bucket anymore.” Another question concerned the actual funding and the Corp of Engineers. He noted their goal is “do not flood downtown.” The County needs \$45 billion dollars to fix all the flooding issues and all the funds cannot be provided by the State.

**Margarita Dunlap - METRO representative,** reminded all that Metro has a summer program of “Kids Ride Free”- just go online and register.

City of Houston, District F, Torrance Atkinson-Lively, was introduced and he quickly announced that any problems or questions concerning heavy trash in the district would be addressed by Councilmember Le's office.

IV. Old Business – Approved minutes from the May, 2018 meeting.

V. Committee Reports

Flooding Issues Nick Kornuta - no update at this time.

Public Safety /Homeless – President O'Conner – noted that Neighborhood Protection has helped remove the old bus behind the Walgreens at the corner of Westheimer and HWY 6, that was being used by numerous homeless people

Beautification – President O'Conner asked for a volunteer to head this committee. John Lozano suggested Cindy Yeglin and she consented.

Membership, Rhonda Kelley – Rhonda asked everyone to be sure to sign in each time they attend a meeting. She updated the audience on her efforts to obtain the HOA President's name and phone number for each neighborhood in SN17. This is so that President O'Conner could attend HOA meetings to introduce HOA boards to the importance of SN17 in hopes of getting them all to send a delegate to SN17.

VI. New Business

Michael Huffmaster, from SN 18 and the Super Neighborhood Alliance President, reminded all to attend the June 23 meeting at Tallowood Baptist Church, being held by Councilmember Travis, from District G. The meeting was to explain what Chapter 19 concerning flood control entailed and new construction.

VII Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.