

General Membership Meeting Minutes

Call to Order: Meeting began at 7:05 PM with 27 members and neighbors in attendance.

Speakers and Guests

Guest Speaker(s): Council Member Ellen Cohen, District C

Ms. Cohen explained her role as Mayor Pro Tem which requires her to carry on as the Mayor, when the Mayor is out of town or indisposed.

She reviewed the 16-member Council make up and further explained the characteristics of District C, which she represents. The major issues facing the COH and progress to-date are as follows:

Pension/Budget – The Texas Senate and House Bills were passed and the bill is heading to a Conference Committee. The budget is pending, depending on the outcome of this bill.

Repealing the Revenue Cap – The COH has a revenue cap and it is the intention to place the issue on the November 2017 ballot to repeal the existing cap.

Pot Holes – Over 89,000 potholes have been filled.

Homeless – The speaker indicated that the number of homeless have fallen from 6,000 to 1,500. The current emphasis is to find long term housing for the homeless.

Council Service District Fund - \$1 million was allocated from the General Fund for each District to expedite projects in the District as directed by the Councilmember. By dollar value, the expenditures were for Traffic (speed bumps), HPD overtime, Animal Control, Parks/Lighting, After School Programs and Public Art (traffic control boxes). Included will be a roadway overlay in the Timbergrove area.

Questions Pre-Submitted – The speaker indicated that she was waiting on responses from the COH PWE Department concerning the questions that were previously submitted to her office. One of the questions was concerning the Chemical Feed Station, with the answer pending at this time.

Randall Beaman asked the question about the need for a traffic signal at West 20th Street and T.C. Jester Boulevard. The speaker responded that the residents should send a formal request to the Councilmember's Office requesting a traffic study. In addition, there was a question concerning the condition of West 19th and 20th Streets between T.C. Jester and North Durham. The Council Member indicated that she was aware that many streets in her District are in need of attention.

Her presentation concluded at 7:35 PM.

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Announcements for Sinclair Elementary - Traci announced that there was an on-going magazine drive and the School is registered with Kroger for charitable donations. There have been some concerns about the parking and pickup traffic related to the school. Residents having issues or comments should contact her.

There was a drawing for \$25 gift card from Buchanan Nursery, donated by Jeff and Darlene Wayt.

Jack Valinski, City of Houston, addressed the meeting concerning heavy trash and other neighborhood violations.

Officer's Reports

Secretary's Report 3/14/2017 -Following review of the minutes a motion was made by Darlene Wayt which was seconded by Dale Dugas and approved by a show of hands.

Treasurer's Report – Sandra Crook reviewed the attached financial reports, with a motion by Jennifer Vickers to approve the reports with a second by Randall Beaman. By a show of hands the motion was approved.

Committee Reports

Activities - The next scheduled event is the Fourth of July social to be at 4:00 PM that day.

Beautification – No report.

Block Captains – No report.

Deed Restriction Enforcement - Traci is still working on the issue about no sidewalks on Lindyann.

Design Review Committee – There is a call for volunteers for the committee, which had three (3) members and optimally the committee would have five (5) members.

Environmental Affairs -Darlene reviewed the attached report prepared by Lorraine Cherry.

Membership – Gary reviewed his report. There are plans for a mid-year mailing and other efforts to boost membership numbers and encouraged members to share ideas of how to increase participation. Gary will be stepping down from being the chairman of the committee and a replacement is being sought.

Neighborhood Security – Dale spoke that donations for neighborhood security are down since last year and a meeting is planned to meet and increase donations to the fund.

Programs – No report.

