

**Woodland Heights Civic Association**  
General Meeting  
February 11, 2003

- Meeting was called to order by Margaret Dower at 7:30 pm. A sign up sheet of all in attendance is attached.
- Pledge of allegiance was recited by all.

HPD Officer Gorski:

- Distributed crime statistics for our area for January.
- Again encouraged residents to remove all visible valuables from their cars at night, to deter recent rash of burglary of motor vehicles.

Margaret Dower, President:

- Board elections to be held at general meeting in March. Nominating committee composed of Arthur Mournian, Kathleen Boyd, Jennifer Ostlind, Anne Goldsmith, and Sharon Greiff. Contact any of them if you or someone you know might like to be on the board.
- Saturday February 22 from 8:00am to 12:00pm – semi-annual park cleanup at White Oak Park. Trash bags and dumpsters will be provided. All residents encouraged to attend.
- Centerpoint Energy has offered to donate \$1,000 worth of trees to our neighborhood and mulch for all the trees on the Norhill esplanade.

Arthur Mournian, Resident:

- Put together an abridged version of the disaster preparedness information from FEMA website (in case of biological terrorism or other attacks). Copies available on the table.

Amy Teare, Deed Restrictions VP:

- Currently monitoring 8 properties with permitted construction. No plans were submitted for review this month.
- All residents should keep their eyes open for new construction/remodels in the neighborhood and notify the deed restrictions committee.

Tom Jersa, Security VP:

- PIP meeting next Wednesday 2/19/03
- Start thinking about hosting National Night Out party in August to meet your neighbors.

Florence Clark & Elliott Johnstone, Home and Garden Tour Chairpersons:

- Event is March 29 & 30<sup>th</sup>. 6 homes (4 small, 2 large) have been chosen, spread throughout the neighborhood, 3 gardens, and 2 bonus gardens at Travis and Hogg schools. Ticket price will be \$15 for all properties.
- Free Metro trolleys to run the tour route between homes.
- Woodland Park and Norhill esplanade will be sites of ticket sales.
- Lots of volunteers still needed
- Volunteers for day-of-event should be able to commit to a 2 1/2 hour shift on either Saturday or Sunday.
- People from outside the neighborhood are also welcomed on committees. Residents encouraged to ask their friends, family, co-workers, etc.

Todd, Houston Can Academy:

- Non-profit public high school for at-risk students and dropouts at 2301 Main Street, downtown. Charter school opened in 1998. Currently 400 students enrolled. School day only 4 hours long (8:00-12:00 or 1:00-5:00) so can hold a job or care for child. Still 23 credits required for degree.
- 76% of funds come from state of Texas, federal grants, etc. Remainder comes from private donations and fundraising.
- Cars for Kids program – donate old cars (working or not) to be auctioned off to raise funds.

Richard Arlington, Crime Stoppers:

- Crime Stoppers started in 1976 in Albuquerque, NM and brought to Houston, TX in 1980.
- 40 person board of directors.
- Charitable organization which raises money to pay rewards for tips which help solve area crimes.
- Most of the money raised comes from the criminals themselves, who are ordered to pay as part of plea bargains. By law, 80% of these court funds have to be spent on rewards, not administration.
- Have annual gala and golf tournament to raise additional funds for salaries, advertising, and other administrative expenses.
- 10 Police officers under Police Chief assigned to Crime Stoppers detail.
- If you call into the tip line, a trained police officer answers the phone. After taking the tip, it is researched and referred to the appropriate police division. If the tip leads to an arrest, person providing the tip eligible for reward upon grand jury indictment. A Crime Stoppers committee determines the dollar amount of the reward. Then once a week, these cash awards are left at a designated bank for pickup by the tipster, with a claim number. This ensures the reward payout is anonymous. Records are then destroyed.
- Website is [www.crime-stoppers.org](http://www.crime-stoppers.org)

Motion was made and seconded to adjourn at 8:45