

General Meeting Minutes Woodland Heights Civic Association

November 11, 2003

Zion Lutheran Church

The General Meeting was called to order by Margaret Dower, President, at 7:30 pm. The Sign-In Sheet reflected seventeen attendees.

HPD Officer Jasso:

Officer Jasso was not present but did provide the crime statistics for our area for October 2003. The statistics show 6 Burglary/Motor Vehicle, 1 residential burglary, 3 auto thefts, and 1 robbery in the 3300 block of Michaux.

Announcements/Reminders

Margaret Dower, President, attended the recent **Houston Voters Against Flooding** meeting. Revised flood maps have not yet been distributed.

WHCA received an invitation for the November 17, **2003 Spark Park Dedication Ceremony** at Travis Elementary. Margaret Dower will attend on the Association's behalf.

The goal of project *Keep Houston Beautiful* "**Team Up to Clean Up**" is to clean city parks before the upcoming Super Bowl and the Marathon. Jennifer Ostlind with Green Spaces will hold her annual clean up in January. Individuals interested in participating should contact Margaret Dower.

Guest – **Adrian Garcia** and **Diana Davila Martinez** had indicated they would attend; however, both candidates arrived too late to address the meeting.

Jill Whitten with **Green Space Committee** (GSC) gave an update on their goal to reserve more green space in and around the Woodland Heights area. GSC is concentrating on the White Oak seasonal wet lands area by King Biscuit, Freed Park, and the Wrightwood Street properties. One of their goals is to link the green space treasures. Current plans include meeting with a landscape architect to establish a master plan. The plan will reflect the art and nature style which will provide both natural habitat for woodland creatures and a setting for sculpture and other works of art. **Dawn Shumway** added that there are approximately 92 acres of park land in our immediate area.

Elliott Johnstone gave an update regarding the upcoming **2004 Woodland Heights Home Tour** scheduled to occur Saturday & Sunday, March 27th and 28th, 2004. Elliott reports that the Home Tour will now always be scheduled for the last weekend in March. The major focus is on underwriters who helped make last year's event such a success. Potential underwriters include the many realtors who market houses in our area. The Planning Committee is also considering a free neighborhood picnic the Friday before the Home Tour to be held at Norhill Esplanade. A copy of the Planning Committee's report is attached to these minutes.

Officer Reports

Sharon Grieff, Treasurer, reports our balance to be \$18,130.48.

In addition, a report regarding **Prevailing Lot Size** applications revealed 24.1% of our neighborhood has received lot protection approval and another 26.3% is in progress or pending approval. This results in approximately 50% of our neighborhood as either approved or pending lot protection. Hector Rodriguez with Planning & Development will review future applications once each three weeks due to budget constraints.

Information relative to the **Curbside Tree** project will be available in either the December 2003 or the January 2004 newsletter. Discussions are ongoing regarding a possible replacement vendor.

LITH is scheduled for Saturday, December 13, 2003 on Bayland and Woodland Streets between 6 pm and 9 pm. Porches and Porch Entertainment are still needed as well as volunteers for Parade Luminaria and Pre-Sale Luminaria assembly. Aunt Mike's has offered to display LITH T-shirts for sale at an upcoming event of about 800 people. T-shirts will be \$17.00 for adults and \$8.00 for children. Residential Decorations will be judged Thursday and Friday night.

Vicky, Bettis, Recording Secretary, reported total membership at \$11,972.00 for the 2003/2004 year. Membership stands at 20.43% of the neighborhood.

As the October General Meeting was used as a District H Candidate Forum, no official minutes were submitted for approval. A description of the October Forum is available on the website.

Tony Maluski, Vice President – Infrastructure, reported that the Civic Association was the target of a lawsuit by First Baptist Church of Houston Heights with respect to deed restrictions. It was the Church's position that the property is not subject to the existing Woodson Place deed restrictions. The lawsuit has been settled and dismissed with only the Church's property held not subject to the restrictions, with the restrictions in the remainder of the subdivision unaffected, and with the Association incurring approximately \$7,000.00 in its own attorney's fees. No monetary settlement was paid by the Association to the Church.

Cookies were provided by Ken Stefano.

A drawing was held and Willie Mae Krause won a Woodland Heights T-Shirt.

Motion was made and seconded to adjourn at 8:30.

Respectfully Submitted

Vicky Bettis, Recording Secretary

2004 Woodland Heights Home Tour

Saturday & Sunday, March 27 & 28, 2004

Everyone,

As an update, just wanted everyone to know that Louise Moss has agreed to be the Head House Captain; Joan Berthelson, Pat Schafer and Deborah Dunten have agreed to split the responsibilities for the Underwriter/Sponsors/Donors; and Dawn Shumway has agreed to be the Captain for picking all the houses; Mario & Judy DeOssio are going to be Cashier Captains and Deborah Dunten has agreed to take on the task of being web communication coordinator.

A very hardy thanks to each of them for taking on these jobs!!

We are still looking for your input as to who in the neighborhood we might approach to head up various committees. **The Committees that still need to be filled are:**

1. **Cookies** - seek donations from area residents for homemade cookies & package cookies
2. **(6) House Captain Docents** - write script for house, locate & coordinate docents for the individual houses selected
3. **Flowers & Decorations** - locate local florists, coordinate with homeowners about the flowers
4. **Merchandise Sales** - collect various t-shirts, note cards & deliver to sale sites
5. **Picnic** - procure food supplies for Neighborhood Picnic on Friday before home tour & coordinate volunteers
6. **Publicity** - get pictures of houses selected for the tour, draft press releases, contact media, prepare news articles, work with Printing & Design Captain for all printed matter
7. **Printing & Design** - find volunteer graphic designer, get various posters, tickets, etc. printed
8. **Signage** - get signs for floral arrangements, house sponsors, trolley stops, etc.
9. **Ticket Sales** - pre-sale & distribution of tickets prior to event, pick up tickets & deliver to event sites
10. **Transportation** - arrange for Metro trolleys, prepare route map for METRO, write script, find & train trolley docents
11. **Operations Management** - arrange regular & heavy trash & street sweeping with City of Houston, order comfort stations (port-a-potties), place & pick up tables/trash, etc. on the days of the event

The next planning committee will be at my house on

Thursday, November 20th,
2003 at 7:00 p.m.

My address is: 1019 Euclid St. (pink cottage).

Phone: 713-880-5960 (h)

Please come and give us your input/suggestions/comments/ so we can plan the next successful home tour. Also, if you can't come, please let us know.

See you next on the 20th!

Co-Chairs: Elliott Johnstone (713) 216-1437 (w) & Florence Clark (713) 863-8237 (h)