

Agenda

Lazybrook Civic Club of Houston

Sep 27, 2022: Meeting held at Lifebrook Church

Meeting Called to order 7:01pm by Kurt Swafford; 29 residents in attendance

Meeting Minutes: Last Meeting – May 24, 2022 (in-person and on Zoom) - approved

Special Meeting Guests/Presenters:

- Chris Saldana – Harris County Pct 4 Project Manager – Road construction update
 - Work started early September in Brooktree/Brookmere area – addressing concerns related to ADA ramps, sidewalk repairs, replacement of panels, repair of sewer inlets
 - Sidewalk work has started on Millwood
 - All work should be completed in about 3 months; Total approx. \$4 million work in the neighborhood
 - Residents should get a door hanger and contact from contractor if/when work will interfere with driveway access – may last 3-7 days for some people
 - If there are any problems, contact Chris directly at csaldana@hcp4.net
 - (18th between Ella to Seamist, panel replacement by the City has also begun)
- Sharon Fletcher – Deputy Chief of Staff from City Councilmember Abbie Kamin’s office
 - Gun Buyback Event, 10/8/22 – 8am – 12pm, 11050 Harwin Dr. at the METRO Park & Ride for safe disposal of unwanted guns. For more information, go to: <https://www.houstontx.gov/mayor/press/2022/second-gun-buyback-program.html>
 - Association of Pickleball Professionals (APP) Pickleball Tournament to be hosted at Memorial Park from 10/19/22 – 10/23/22. For more information, go to: <https://www.houstontx.gov/events/pickleball-houston-open.html>
 - Rain barrel “giveaway” – \$10 to purchase 11/12/22 from 10am – 2pm at Boy Scouts of America on TCJester – more information will be sent out via their newsletter: <https://www.houstontx.gov/council/c/newsletter-signup.html>
 - Dept of Neighborhoods matching grants program up to \$5K for beautification project – applications due 11/4/22 -
 - Super Neighborhood 14 next meeting is scheduled for 10/13/22 – HPD will do special presentation on public safety
 - Please reach out via email or phone with any questions or concerns: districtc@houstontx.gov, 832.393.3004

Introductions:

- New Attendees - new neighbors on Millwood, Brooktree, Haverhill, Crystal Court in attendance – Welcome!

Announcements/ Events

- National Night Out – Tues October 4, 2022 – Megan Mooney (Nicole F interested for next year)
 - Neighborhood Wide Event! Sno-Cones, Giveaways from local restaurants and businesses, HPD, HFD and more!

Officer & Committee Reports:

President's Update & SNC-14 Report – Kurt Swafford

- 9/11/22 – SN14 event celebrated the new trail at Sinclair and raise awareness of difficulty with accessibility and transportation in the area (especially crossing 18th St) – get Lazybrook “on the map” for local officials and depts and what our needs are
 - Late August – Multi-Modal Transportation Forum held by Rep. Johnson’s office to discuss transportation concerns with various parties, agencies, etc. – a lot of need for safe access especially given rapid development of new housing
 - Need help and volunteers who are willing to work on these projects! Please contact Kurt Swafford if you are interested in helping:
kurt.swafford@gmail.com
- Currently working to apply for Safe Routes to School Grant to build out bike/hike trails in Lazybrook/Timbergrove area

Membership – Shelley White - we are at 57.3% of dues paid – need 18 more houses to pay to meet our goal; also extra donations help from people to make up the difference

Block Captains – Nicole Fuhrmann – Widdicomb has new block captains; Need a few more block captains – can serve with a co-captain

Treasurer's Report – Jennifer Ofsowitz – we are at a break-even point right now and that includes our special projects so we are “in the black” for the year

Deed Restrictions Enforcement – Kurt Swafford

- No significant movement on Section 7’s attempt to change deed restrictions
- TCJester home violating deed restrictions was taken to court by the City – appeal was found in neighborhood’s favor but homeowner will not remove the second story.

Beautification – Vennie Wolf and Renee Taylor

- 18th Street Brick Sign Repairs
 - Masonry has been done
 - Metal signs have been powder coated and are ready for pickup
- New esplanade signs have been installed at Ella/18th and TC Jester near Ella
 - we will add low-maintenance plantings too
- Full esplanade pruning of major trees (not small shrubs) TC Jester (Ella to 610) planned for this fall

Communications/Newsletter – Jessica Swafford

- New simplified format coming – January 2023 will be the final full printed newsletter
- Future focus will be on short flyers with more information in emails and on website

Security/COP – Joel DuBois – see newsletter for complete information; over summer we had 3 “vehicle thefts” (mostly on main streets in/out of the neighborhood)

New Business:

Capital Improvements Project Updates & Discussion

- Lazybrook Pedestrian Safety –Radar speed limit sign(s) on TC Jester
 - Kurt is working on Dept of Neighborhoods grant to get radar signs
- Cut-Thru Traffic Issue (Millwood, Watercrest)
 - Need volunteers to help with this project! See maps sent by Kurt r.e. problem areas
 - Need traffic studies completed and data from the community
 - Need people to show up to meetings at COH to show interest

- 2023 Dues Increase – Discussion and Vote
 - A small handful of neighbors have contributed substantially more than the required dues and that has allowed us to operate well and even save money; To have a healthy, balanced budget, we need to raise dues so that average annual revenue will allow us to keep up with increased costs of typical maintenance costs for the neighborhood (e.g. legal fees for deed restrictions, mosquito spray, landscaping/trash pickup on 18th St., PayPal fees, etc.)
 - Proposal: \$60 dues per year; \$40 discounted rate for resident(s) 65+ years of age
 - Proposed change to Article VII Sec 1 of bylaws would be effective Jan 2023
 - Requires 2 successive votes (September and November Meetings)
 - Motion approved unanimously; No opposition; No abstentions
 - Second vote will proceed at the November meeting
- Concern from Timbergrove neighbor about sales happening every 3 weeks around 2500 block of TC Jester – yard sale of furniture that seems to be a traffic hazard - we do not have any restrictive covenants about yard sales in Lazybrook
- No news from the Foodarama property but we expect it to be some form of housing development

Door Prizes – Pat Koteris – provided by local businesses

Next Lazybrook Civic Club Meeting - Tuesday November 29, 2022

Adjournment – 8:06pm