

Meeting Minutes

Lazybrook Civic Club of Houston

November 29, 2022

Meeting Called to order – 7:02pm; 32 members present, representing quorum per Bylaws

Meeting Minutes: Last Meeting – Sep 27, 2022 (in-person) – posted to the website (<https://www.lazybrook.org/meeting-minutes/>) after last meeting - approved

Introduction/Roll Call:

- New member, Fernando Luna – Brookmere

Announcements/ Events

- Holiday Decorating Contest 2022
 - Must be dues paying resident to be eligible for awards
 - Judging to be on 12/14/22
- Mom's Club Hayride to be announced via website and social media

Officer & Committee Reports:

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

- Road work underway – \$5million committed; Estimated about 25% completed in Lazybrook – still another 4-6 months anticipated. Total replacements on Watercrest and Sea King so these take the longest; Next sections should move faster
 - For any concerns about damage to yards/property please contact Chris Saldana (csaldana@hcp4.net) with Commissioner Cagle's office; If you don't get a response, let Kurt know so he can follow up
 - Newly-elected Commissioner Leslie Briones will take over Precinct 4 in January 2023 – she has committed to continuing the work once she takes office
- HPD reports on crime rates for our area are about the same for 2021 and 2022 – mostly non-violent crimes other than domestic violence-related crimes
 - Report all crimes even if they are minor – call non-emergency number ((713) 884-3131) or fill out a report online (https://www.houstontx.gov/police/online_report.htm)
- Capital Improvements Project study is underway to examine the intersection at 18th St & TC Jester (by Discount Tire) for traffic management options

Membership – Kurt Swafford (Chair Shelley White not present)

- 59.2% of households have paid their 2022 dues to date
- 2022 Goal: 60%
- Average donation is about \$60/household over dues, however, this is mostly accounted for by large donations from a few homes

Block Captains – Kurt Swafford (Chair Nicole Fuhrmann not present)

- We still need 1600 Haverhill and Sea King block captains; Please contact Nicole Fuhrmann if you are interested in helping: blockcaptain@lazybrook.org

Treasurer's Report – Jennifer Ofsowitz

- We have had about \$1200 new dues paid since last meeting
- Total expenses for the year are at about \$35000 due to various beautification projects that are one-time only expenses vs typical recurring (e.g., newsletter printing, lawn services, etc.)

Deed Restrictions Enforcement – Kurt Swafford

- Erin Hoffman is the newly appointed committee chair
- No news other than 1411 W TC Jester which is still in violation of court order – Kurt continues to address this with the City attorney

Beautification – Kurt Swafford; Chairs Vennie Wolf (stepping down) and Renee Taylor

- 18th Street Brick Sign Repairs - 100% Completed
- Full esplanade pruning TC Jester (Ella to 610) - Completed
- Need volunteers to help with upkeep – please contact beautification@lazybrook.org to help!

Communications/Newsletter – Kurt Swafford (Chair Jessica Swafford not present)

- January 2023 will be the last full newsletter to honor advertising commitments
- New simplified format will be one-page flyers to provide reminders for LCC meetings and for dues reminders or other important news
- More emphasis and information on emails & website

Security/COP – Kurt Swafford (Chair Joel DuBois not present)

- 5 people have signed up for a COP training – working to arrange with HPD
- Need more COP volunteers

New Business:

2023 Dues Increase – Discussion and Vote

- Proposed change to Article VII Sec 1 of bylaws would be effective Jan 2023
 - Proposal \$60 per fiscal year, with \$40 discounted rate for resident(s) 65+ years of age
 - Increased dues to help with maintenance of the beautification projects completed this year as well as mosquito spraying, lawn care, etc.
 - Increasing the dues allows for a balanced annual budget as well as a little additional in case of unexpected projects, legal costs, etc.
 - First vote required per Bylaws passed unanimously at September meeting
 - Requires 2nd successive vote this date
 - Discussion: concerns raised regarding cost and effectiveness of mosquito spraying
 - Vote requested on mosquito spraying to be held at January 2023 meeting
 - LCC will not sign a new contract until this is decided by a vote of membership present at the next meeting
 - People who are interested should attend the January meeting
 - If vote is in favor of continued mosquito spraying, there will need to be a new committee to investigate options and negotiate contracts and vendor
 - Vote: Bylaws Sc 1, Art 7 to be amended January 1, 2023 to raise dues to \$60 per household for fiscal year (with senior discount if paying by check only due to PayPal fees)
 - No opposition, no abstentions - Motion passes unanimously by members present

Discussion regarding features offered by our current bank to facilitate payment of dues without additional expense to LCC or members (e.g., Venmo, Zelle, etc.)

Discussion r.e. former Foodarama property at 18th St. & Ella

- The property has not sold to date
- The Gas station/Papa Genos building is a separate property and it has not sold either
- There have been multiple inquiries but both properties will likely need to be sold in order to be developed

2023 Executive Board Members (1yr terms as per bylaws)

- 2022 Board members have committed to remaining in the positions with the exception of Ernest Furhmann who has stepped down from Vice President position.
- Current board members were reviewed in the meeting and no members made additional nominations for currently-filled positions.
- Taylor Jeude volunteered for the role of Vice President.
- Final slate of candidates for LCC 2023 Executive Board:

- President – Kurt Swafford
- Treasurer – Jennifer Ofsowitz
- Corresponding Secretary – Pat Koterak
- Vice President – Taylor Jeude
- Recording Secretary – Megan Mooney
- Preceding President – Ben Dolan (exp. Nov 2023)

Vote to approve slate of candidates as listed above: – no opposition; no abstentions; passes unanimously

Adjournment – 8:10pm

Next Lazybrook Civic Club Meeting - Tuesday January 24, 2023