

## Lazybrook Civic Club of Houston Regular Meeting

May 23, 2023

Meeting Held in-person at LifeBrook Church w/ Teams Broadcast

Meeting Called to order – 7:07pm

Last Meeting – Mar 28, 2023 (in-person + online) – minutes posted to website – approved unanimously

### Introduction/Roll Call:

- No new residents

### Special Guests - Amanda Edwards – former Houston City Council, Candidate for Houston Mayor 2023

- For more information on Houston Mayoral Candidates, please seek out resources such as the League of Women Voters, the Houston Chronicle, Mayoral Forums
- The filing deadline is not until late July/August so that's when we'll know the final candidate list

### Announcements/ Events

- LB Mom's Club needs new leadership – If you are interested, please contact Erin at [moms@lazybrook.org](mailto:moms@lazybrook.org)
- National Night Out will be Tuesday, October 3
  - Contact Megan Mooney at [meganmooney@sbcglobal.net](mailto:meganmooney@sbcglobal.net) to help
  - If you or someone you know owns a business that may be able to provide donations of food or drinks to serve, prizes to give away, etc. please let Megan know! Businesses that donate will receive free advertising via our newsletter, emails, and social media.

### Officer & Committee Reports:

- President's Update & Super Neighborhood-14 Report – Kurt Swafford
  - SN-14: Area mixed-use trails grant efforts ongoing with TXDOT in partnership with County Precinct 4 to get hike & bike trails in the area to connect Lazybrook, Timbergrove, etc.
  - Meeting w/ State Sen John Whitmire on April 29 (LCC+TMNA+TMCC+SN14)
    - Kurt pitched infrastructure improvements including improved pedestrian walkways to provide safer walkways around Lazybrook area
- Membership – Kurt Swafford (Shelley absent)
  - We are currently at 39% of household dues paid.
  - Please pay your dues if you have not already: <https://www.lazybrook.org/membership/>
- Block Captains – Nicole Fuhrmann
  - Katharine Ligon is the new block captain for Salford
  - We have vacant positions for block captains on W. T.C. Jester, Widdicomb, Sea King, and Haverhill
    - Responsibilities are minimal (e.g., handing out periodic newsletter flyers).
    - Please contact Nicole to volunteer: [blockcaptain@lazybrook.org](mailto:blockcaptain@lazybrook.org)
- Treasurer's Report – Jennifer Ofsowitz
  - For first 4 months we expected that we would have had about \$5000 more in revenue from dues; Expenses were about \$2000 less than expected
    - Net profit is about \$15,000 YTD
  - Budget is written with expectation that dues decline over the course of the year so expenses later in the year are paid by dues collected early
  - Please pay your dues if you have not already: <https://www.lazybrook.org/membership/>

- Deed Restrictions Enforcement – Erin Hoffman
  - No new applications
  - Still working on compliance enforcement of court order on the house on TC Jester with illegal 2<sup>nd</sup> story
- Beautification – Jessica Swafford
  - TXDOT Irrigation TC Jester @ 610 Sign/Trees has been pulled by TXDOT
  - City removed dead trees from esplanade at TC Jester and Lazybrook Dr
    - If you see any problems along that esplanade call 311 (e.g., dead trees, illegal dumping)
  - Next regular quarterly sign/landscape cleanup will be in June
    - New plan for signup for volunteers to help with weeding, etc. – watch Facebook page
  - LCC is applying to get the esplanade on TC Jester between Brooktree and Lazybrook completely replanted with new solid trees by Trees for Houston (<https://www.treesforhouston.org/>)
- Communications/Newsletter – Jessica Swafford
  - We are using our website and emails more!
  - Sign up for email updates: <http://www.lazybrook.org/emails/>
- Security/COP – Joel DuBois
  - COPS registered a little over 40 patrol hrs since the last LCC meeting
    - Have had 2 reported events inside the neighborhood
      - Aggravated assault (Sea Queen)
      - Automobile burglary & theft (Lazybrook)
    - Increased incidents along 18<sup>th</sup> St businesses and apartments
    - If something happens, report to HPD – their patrols are based on number of reports/area
      - For non-emergency situations, you can use this form: [https://www.houstontx.gov/police/online\\_report.htm](https://www.houstontx.gov/police/online_report.htm)
    - Safety Tips:
      - If you can, park car in garage
      - If you leave a car in driveway, don't leave a garage door opener inside

## **New Business:**

- Mosquito Updated Program Plan 2023
  - The City Health Dept. received a complaint about the new program that was approved to place larvicide in gutters thus that program has been suspended
    - The vendor is appealing the complaint/ordinance with the City
  - The committee is working on revised plan to resume the previous fogging program
    - Kurt will send out an announcement of the planned schedule once it is approved by Executive Committee
    - Pricing will be approximately the same as last year's costs
  - A vote to continue/discontinue the mosquito program will be held at the November meeting
- Lazybrook/Timbergrove Constable Patrol - spearheaded by Timbergrove Manner Civic Club (TMCC)
  - For complete information and/or to subscribe, please see website: <http://www.lazybrook.org/constable/>
  - The plan will provide for a full-time (40hrs/wk) dedicated Harris County Precinct 1 officer patrol in our area starting in October 2023
    - This is a one-year contract (annual cost ~\$92,000/yr) paid jointly by TMCC and LCC
    - This will be one person that we will get to know/recognize as their entire job is to patrol our area. In other words, this is a full-time job, not an off-duty officer working a second job
    - Shift(s) to be determined but will likely cover the daytime hours (Heights-area has people at night that will help respond during our off-hours)
    - These are authorized law enforcement authorized to arrest, take reports, etc.

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- Subscription Information:
  - \$300/household/yr, paid directly to TMCC; \$200/year for people ages 65+ or income restricted
  - Benefits of a household subscription:
    - First response for 911 calls; also available for non-emergency response
    - Quick emergency response (Response time is 2-5 minutes during their time; During off-shift hours patrol from other areas will respond)
    - Response to house alarms
    - Vacation watch – the officer will come by your house 2x/day while you're away
    - Yard signs
    - Direct line to the officers
    - Assistance with crime reports
    - A home security survey for subscribers
    - Possible self-defense class
- Instructions on how to sign up will be coming soon via, email, Facebook, newsletter etc...
- If we get more subscribers than necessary to pay for the minimum contract, we will increase shifts and/or patrol officers
- This is a one-year contract only. If it works well, we will renew in October 2024

### **Open Forum – Questions & Discussion**

- Jordan with Councilmember Alcorn's office attending
  - Councilmember Alcorn recently formed a task force including members from Mayor's office to work on investments in infrastructure (esp. sidewalks)
    - She will share the request that was made to Sen Whitmire with Councilmember Alcorn as well
  - City Council is currently in the budgeting process – they are specifically working on 911 call center staffing shortage
  - Jordan will follow up on the concerns about the mosquito spraying/larvicide in storm drains
- Resident on Lazybrook was approached by stranger in her driveway at 10pm who was probably watching her unload car and/or neighbor's garage open – please keep a watch out to help protect our neighbors.

**Adjournment – 8:32**

**Next Lazybrook Civic Club Meeting - Tuesday Sep 26, 2023**