



Museum Park Neighborhood Association
General Meeting
Clayton Library Carriage House
August 3, 2016
6:00 pm

MINUTES

President's Report: Greg Quintero

- The meeting was called to order at 6:06 pm.
- Approximately 45 people were present and a quorum of members was ascertained by show of hands.

Vice President Report: Sandy Stevens had no report.

Secretary's Report: Janet Fayle had no report.

Treasurer's Report: Cynthia Tang was not present. President Greg Quintero displayed the report and made the following comments:

- The Treasurer's report is available on the MPNA website under Membership, Documents and Reports.
- The current balance is \$14,938.91.
- Maintenance of the esplanade end caps may require obtaining sponsorships for the end caps or the establishment of a maintenance fund to cover the expense.

Parliamentarian Report: Armin Porter was not present and no report was given.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Membership Committee: Barbara McGuffey

- First time attendees were asked to stand and introduce themselves.
- The first time attendees were asked how they learned of the meeting and all said their information came from the esplanade signs.

Community Engagement Committee: Cindy Woods

- Upcoming activities were announced:
 - "Meet and Greet" at Barnaby's Café after tonight's meeting with an appetizer and glass of wine provided by the Café.
 - September 17: MPNA Night at Miller Theater
 - October 4: National Night Out
 - November: Event at Bodega's
 - December 5: Holiday Dinner at Lucille's.

These dates and events are posted on the MPNA Website. More details will be available closer to the dates of the events.

- There will be no General Meetings in October or December.
- A drawing was held for new and renewing MPNA members. The prizes were donated by the Museum of Fine Arts and the Holocaust Museum.

Quality of Life Committee: Kathleen O'Reilly

- The Homeless Initiative introduced on July 13 is continuing. A recent Safety and Security meeting of the Museum Park Super Neighborhood was attended by the leaders of the Coalition for the Homeless; Houston Health Department, Museum of Fine Arts, METRO and METRO Transit Police, South Main Baptist Church, Houston Parks Department, Houston Southeast, Houston Police Department, Harris County Precinct 7 Constables, Midtown Management District, and the Mayor's office for Homeless Initiatives along with Council

Member Dwight Boykins all of whom recognize there is a problem. The minutes of this meeting are posted on the Museum Park Super Neighborhood website. It is particularly important to have a relationship with all of these groups and to know whom to call when confronting this huge issue.

- We are waiting to get the Livable Center Study draft from the consulting team of Houston Southeast, Hermann Park Conservancy and the City of Houston among others. We are working with a landscaping group from A&M which will focus on grant opportunities for LCS.

Safety and Security Committee: Open Position

- Greg Quintero reported that we continue to wait to hear about whether or not there will be police funding for overtime pay for officers to hold training sessions for the neighborhood COP program. There is a group of neighbors ready to be trained. We will keep everyone informed.
- It is extremely important to be aware of your surroundings at all times and to report any incidents to the police.

Preservation Committee: Kim Mickelson

- Currently gathering stories and photos, including aerial photos, in order to put together a neighborhood history.
- Encouraging identification and registration of homes and buildings for the National Historic Registry and encouraging the revitalization of these structures in order for the neighborhood to retain its atmosphere.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND DISCUSSION

- Greg Quintero announced that the Board will not post on nor respond to posts on NextDoor. All information will be posted on the MPNA website: *museumparkna.org*.
- Sean Murphy. Former president of Museum Park Neighborhood Association
 - Announced that the expansion of 288 from Hwy 59 will place 4 lanes in the center of the highway and will destroy the trees which are planted there. The retention or replacement of these trees should be encouraged.
 - He is part of a group who had a productive meeting with the developers of Museo Plaza. Southmore would be widened by one lane and a sidewalk which would necessitate the removal of the oak trees. However, the project implementation is probably 5 years away as no funding is in place for all of the planned buildings. No traffic impact study has been. The closing of Palm Street will likely be a moot point. Over the long term we should keep our minds open.
- Barbara McGuffey stated that the MPNA Board has a fiduciary responsibility to its members and the neighborhood to formulate the best outcomes for activities within Museum Park. She hopes the membership sees that the Board is doing the best it can to fulfill that responsibility.
- An announcement was made that on August 12, 13, and 14 South Main Baptist Church would present the play "Mary Poppins" at the MATCH theater (Midtown Arts and Theatre Center) at 3400 Main St.
- A question was raised about what the MPNA should do about the homeless situation in our neighborhood which has created an unsafe environment.
 - Kathleen O'Reilly responded by saying that Mayor Turner wants a holistic response – not just pushing the problem from one neighborhood to another. Feeding the homeless at parks is now illegal. The city knows we are here and will offer suggestions.
 - Rather than giving money or food to the homeless it would be a better idea to divert the money to a homeless service which could do more to provide a solution to the problem.

Adjournment at 6:47 pm.

Respectfully submitted

Janet Fayle

Secretary, Museum Park Neighborhood Association

August 6, 2016