

MUSEUM PARK GENERAL MEETING MINUTES  
Wednesday, July 5, 2017 Clayton Library Carriage House

1. President's Report – Sandy Stevens

- a. The General Meeting was called to order at 6:07 pm by the President and a quorum of members was present.
- b. US-59 encampment update
  - The roll out of the City's ordinance has been slower than hoped.
    - ACLU filed suit against the City re: encampment & panhandling ordinances
  - Current status & moving forward
    - MPSN has requested 24/7 patrolling at the encampment site from HPD.
    - MPSN has requested, through Houston Southeast (HouSE), increased patrolling of the area by Precinct 7 Constables.
    - MPSN has made a similar request to the Midtown Management District (MMD) as the site is right at the intersection of HouSE and MMD.
    - MPSN requested coordinated patrols of all HPD, HouSE & MMD.
    - MMD has provided dumpsters at the site.
    - Sandy spoke with an environmental inspector at the City's Health Department regarding human waste.
    - MPNA has established an email address to collate reports that residents make to 311, HPD. The hope is that this will be a short-term effort, to better address concerns, until a tenable solution is reached.
      - [Healthandsafety@museumparkna.org](mailto:Healthandsafety@museumparkna.org)
      - Include any relevant photos, case #s, details, etc.
  - Kim Mickelson spoke as VP, but also in light of her experience as a city attorney.
    - There will be a panel discussion at the August meeting featuring Kim, HPD Sgt. Farquhar, Marc Eichenbaum (CoH), Marilyn Brown (Houston Coalition for the Homeless).
    - The City is constrained by the Constitution & Bill of Rights
    - Being homeless is not a crime.
    - Texas does not allow citizens to sue municipalities.
    - The US DOJ has recognized anti-encampment ordinances as legal ONLY IF other public camping space is available or if there are sufficient shelter beds for all.
    - Urges residents to keep reporting to authorities. It is essential to make complaints—otherwise, based on statistics it will look like crime/health concerns are not occurring.
    - Armin Porter noted the ability to run reports on the 311 app (there is a 'Report' button).
  - Southmore update
    - Regarding the onsite park
      - The Southmore is in negotiations with a restaurant. If/when this proceeds, the park will be open to the public during business hours.
    - Regarding the esplanade repairs
      - New trees have been planted as mitigation for the damage to and removal of the large palm tree as well as damage to the esplanade including soil and grass.

2. Vice-President's Report: No report

3. Secretary's Report – Sara Gladden

- a. June minutes are on the website for your review.
- b. A link to the Agenda & Minutes section of the website will be included on future meeting reminder emails.

4. Treasurer's Report –No report

5. Parliamentarian Report – No Report

6. Committee Reports

a. Membership Chair – Barbara McGuffey

- New members recognized
- If you are not a member, please consider joining. Everyone is welcome on committees.
- Sandy recognizes Chris Erickson for volunteering to serve as a liaison to area businesses for issues related to the US59 encampment.

b. Community Engagement Chair – on Cindy Woods' behalf

- October 3: National Night Out. Details forthcoming; please consider volunteering.
- November 10: MPNA outing at Miller Outdoor Theatre; details are forthcoming.

c. Quality of Life and Infrastructure – No report

d. Safety and Security – No report

e. Preservation – No report

7. New Business and Announcements

a. There was discussion related to construction in the neighborhood.

- Holocaust Museum will begin demolition and rebuilding in the coming months. Further details will be presented at a future meeting.
- Please email President and QoL Chair with any concerns related to construction—damage, ordinance, etc.

8. Meeting adjourned at 7:08pm