

WAIC and Westbury Super Neighborhood Meeting

The WAIC and Westbury Super Neighborhood meeting was held at the Southwest HPD station community room on January 17. The following motions passed:

- * Accept the November 2023 meeting minutes.
- * Contribute \$100 to Anderson Elementary School for a bearded dragon.
- * Approve the proposed 2024 WAIC Budget – but amend to increase the amount budgeted for Anderson Elementary from \$1,000 to \$1,500.
- * Revert back to the usual 9:30 AM meeting time for February meeting, place to be determined.

A proposed budget for 2024 was discussed for the WAIC and approved. The city has a new program pending that the Westbury Super Neighborhood could apply for this spring. Some funds will be moved to a CD for higher interest rate. Find out if the WAIC can get QuickBooks at a lower cost since it is a non-profit.

There was a lot of discussion about meeting place and time. The current date (3rd Wed) and time (9:30 am) conflicts with weekly city council meetings and if move future meetings to the new city library it does not open until noon on Wednesdays. Discuss again next month.

Public Safety: Discussion about problems at certain commercial addresses, The Constables are monitoring two sites on West Bellfort with ongoing problems that back up to residential properties. Discussion that the Constables are not authorized to use the city Trespass Certificate process that HPD can use. Constables continue to do traffic stops for speeding and DWI. Constable Heap is retiring at end of 2024, and his replacement will be elected. Chapman and Edmondson wrote letters to Harris County Commissioners in December to protest proposed large price increases to the constable program, and the large increases have been taken off the agenda for now. An after-hours bar is operating on SPO. Public Safety technology and programs: Discussion about Flock Cameras and Traffic Speed Indicators. Flock cameras have a contract with the City and its license plate readers notify law enforcement (both HPD and Precinct 5 Constables) whenever there is a “hit” on a vehicle that is linked to crime. Discussion that a traffic signal at West Bellfort at Burdine would reduce speeding and improve pedestrian safety, Discussion that speed limits are lower in some neighborhoods than in Westbury and what is the process to set those speed limits.

Other Topics: Westbury Community Garden pending projects and fundraising. 311 reports submitted in the Westbury area. TIRZ 20. Pending events in Westbury and at allied community partners. Trails – update that ground has been broken on the trail to connect the intersection of Chimney Rock/West Bellfort to Willow Waterhole. Status of building site on Gasmer (former Shell research center). Precinct 4 is taking public comments for proposed renovation of Bayland Park and Community Center. A technical assistance grant has been awarded by federal government to develop a grant proposal for the former Ruffino landfill site as regional detention for Keegan’s Bayou. Westbury Pool is re-opening this summer.

WAIC Motions Passed in 2024

Jan.: Contribute \$100 to Anderson for bearded dragon	
Jan.: Approve 2024 budget, incr. Anderson to \$1500 ann	Done
Feb.: Paint two traffic control boxes, at Burdine/W.Bellfort & Willowbend/W.Bellfort. WAIC covers excess over \$3500 (covered by DON grant)	Only got 1 done \$3800, DON reimb'd \$3800
Mar.: <\$500 to WCC for Keep Westbury Beautiful Day	Pd \$458.11 4/17
Mar.: \$1000 to Friends of WHS (unrestricted)	Pd \$1000 4/10
Apr.: <\$500 for Anderson Spring Fest (bounce houses)	Pd \$285.90 5/30
Apr.: Pay for Survey Monkey 2023 & 2024 (amount ?) Actual cost for one year \$498.88	Pd 498.88 8/22
Apr.: \$623.52 for 3-yr. Renewal of website	?
Apr.: Ascend email marketing for website \$129.90	Cancelled Sub.
May: Create a committee for Deck the Halls Parage	Done
May: \$2500 for WHS Soccer Fields	Pd \$2500 5/28
May: Vote of No Confidence in Mike Miles and HISD Board of Managers, requesting investigation.....	B.Edmondson wrote letter
June: Accept Gold Rose bid to mow trails \$425/mow 3X a year. (\$3000-grants, \$2000-unrestricted) up to \$5000	Pd \$425 9/24
June: Donate \$1500 to Company On Stage	Pd \$1500 6/26
Aug.: Pay Survey Monkey \$498.88	(see Apr above)
Aug.: \$500 addl to Anderson for attendance incentives	Pd \$500 8/21
Aug.: Draft letter to HISD: why Anderson left out of bond	S.Shafer wrote
Sep.: \$560 for Anderson bounce house rental	Pd \$560 11/15
Oct.: \$500 to WCC for encourage people to join PayHOA	Pd \$500 11/18
Oct.: \$600 to stipend to neighbors who water new swales	
Oct.: \$500 to WHS Booster Club for pizza oven	Pd \$500 10/16
Oct.: Add C.Chapman to WAIC Board as presidential appointee	Done

**Westbury Area Improvement Corporation (WAIC) Board Meeting & Westbury
Super Neighborhood #37 Monthly Meeting February 21, 2024 9:30 AM**

Meeting at Anderson ES 5727 Ludington

Attendees: David Roschke, Becky Edmondson, Susan Shafer, Debbie Gordon, Marcia Hartman, Katie Shelton, Skip Reeder, Mary White, Victoria Hernandez, Stephen Polnaszek, Cece Scott, Gloria Rodriguez, Cindy Chapman, Alice Lee, Brian Pendleton.

Call to Order & Welcome 9:30 am & Introductions and Visitors, if any: Three representatives from At-Large Council positions in attendance. Gloria Rodriguez, Constituent Services for Julian Ramirez. Cece Scott from Councilwoman Plummer's office and Katie Shelton with Councilwoman Alcorn's office. Today the council is discussing appointment of a new Metro chairperson and many new vehicles for HPD, including crime unit, anti-gang, bomb squad, 18 speed trailers, mounted patrol, dive team and delivery vans. All the resolutions for affordable housing are being discussed today. 4 drop-off sites for composting: Sunnyside, Acres Homes, Kashmere and Alief. Alice Lee: Her office is engaging the public in projects, one being Bayland Park. Innovation and sustainability are important in Precinct 4. Former HISD Trustee Anne Sung heading these projects. Looking at adding wildflowers to some parks to reduce mowing. Public safety is important to Commissioner Briones. Mobility funds, flood control and resilience are also important. All about sharing resources. Will probably have 6 listening tours this year. Please get involved with Burnett Bayland surveys. Will probably do another call for infrastructure projects this year. Briones had a good meeting with Mayor Whitmire, looking for ways to partner with the city. Partnerships can take place more quickly and make permitting process faster with Public Works. Stephen mentioned that the groundbreaking for Sharpstown Trail will be Monday at 3:00.

Speaker: Mary White from Anderson Elementary with NES presentation. There will be some systematic changes, more staff, and more intervention. The academic landscape will change. School did not have a choice. Wholesale system of reform to improve outcomes for underserved students. Puts high quality instruction above all else with differentiated instruction. Global experiences will be offered to some students with DYAD, which will replace ancillary classes. Salaries will be different vs. non-NES schools. New job roles are teacher apprentices, learning coaches, and copy clerks. Teacher apprentices must have a bachelor's degree and will move on to become a teacher within two years. Must have the desire to complete the necessary certification requirements to become a teacher. They learn from a single expert teacher or team of teachers. Learn LSAE Model. Learning Coach has associate's degree. They support and guide students when they work independently or in small groups in the Team Centers and provide general support for English and Math. Copy clerk has a high school diploma. They make sure teachers have needed materials and copies for all lessons and support teacher preparation. LSAE stands for Learning, Securing/Secured, Accelerated and Enrichment. It includes direct instruction and differentiated learning. 90 minute lessons. 40-45 minutes of direct grade level instruction. 10 minute demonstration of learning. 35 minutes of small group instruction. All core classes should have a Demonstration of Learning at end of the lesson. (DOL) Pre-K-2 will continue with early childhood model.

Non-negotiables: Standard based (teaching TEKS) instruction at grade level. Check for understanding every four minutes, Do Now activity as students arrive. Students are reading, writing, and discussing 90% of the time. Use a digital timer to keep the pace of lesson. DOL begins 40-45 minutes into the lesson. L and S reteach to close gaps for about 35 minutes. Example was used about ecosystems: "You don't want to spend 20 minutes talking about the pond when you still haven't discussed the lake and the ocean, etc." Art of Thinking is a class designed to teach students (3-5) HOW to think, not WHAT to think. Discern what is real and what is not. Problem solving and questioning skills. Teachers must have a deep understanding of information literacy. Global experiences for Grade 7-8 students. DYAD includes fitness, music and fine arts, 21st century media and hands-on science. One coordinator for every 5 schools. Global experiences offer domestic and international travel at no cost for those who demonstrate commitment to their academic and social responsibilities. NES salaries between 70-90K per year depending on experience and subject area. Can find salaries on website in Proposed Salary Table. Teachers have already completed Intent to Return forms. This will determine which teachers will remain and who will move to non-NES schools. By March 28, contracts will be complete.

Secretary: Minutes from January 2024: Please accept the minutes as presented. Minutes accepted with no changes. Thanks to Cindy for taking January minutes.

Treasurer's report: Provided by email. Check submitted to Anderson EI for bearded dragon purchase.

Old Business:

Friends of WHS Gala: April 27

Meeting location for March: Possibly Westbury Baptist

New business:

Dept. of Neighborhood Grant application: Want to repaint the traffic control box at Burdine and Chimney Rock with space theme in honor of Dr. Shannon Walker & the new library named for her. Applying to repaint the original mini mural traffic control box at Willowbend and West Belfort that has faded. Marcia moved to have two Traffic Control Central boxes at Burdine and Chimney Rock and Willowbend and West Belfort painted. Seconded by Skip. Passed unanimously. Cost at \$3500 per box but could go over. Cindy moved to authorize spending any excess in addition to what the grant covers. Skip seconded. Passed unanimously. Cece will take it on and coordinate. The Mayor's Office of Cultural Affairs will have to approve. All three at large positions will send a letter of support.

Tonight at Civic Club meeting, there will be a presentation about traffic light @ Burdine and West Belfort. HPD will give an update.

Westbury High School will be an NES designated school next year. Westbury Magnet program safe for next year. Gala is April 27 at Braeburn Country Club.

Stephen spoke about the meeting with TXDOT regarding underground boxes along northbound feeder along 288. When water drains out, where is it going and will it add to flooding along Braes Bayou? Eliza Paul was chief speaker. Harris County Flood Control was not made aware to conduct any kind of hydraulic study and has now been brought into the loop. Council member Plummer asked important questions along with others. There will be a follow-up meeting to answer the questions. Sheila Jackson Lee put a temporary hold on the project.

Veronica: HPD will have their first Spanish PIP meeting on Feb. 28th at 7 pm @ Southwest Multi-Service Center. Will try to do it quarterly at different locations. March 9 will be the 3rd annual March on Crime from 10:00-12:00 and will end at Bayland Park with a resource fair.

Discussed speed limit signs and solutions for funding. Alice will look into some funding options.

Everybody is out of Spring Valley Apartments but City Council will have to vote on environmental study and hopefully demolition will start within 2 months. Trash has been dumped on the site. Will increase patrols.

Debbie says the garden will meet with Precinct 1 about grants and possible funding opportunities. New community outreach project is Gardening at Home with Heights of Post Oak Apts. Will give a 10 gallon tomato plant, soil, fertilizer and follow up with people who take the class. Project is really taking off. Class will be Sunday at 3:00. Jr. League is doing a documentary called Sowing the Seeds of Compassion and WCG will be featured. Plant it Forward has a new Sudanese community group taking over one field. Cece reached out to various groups who might want to participate in the garden, such as providing seeds and sharing seeds. Might be able to make it a beautification project.

Cindy asked if there is a way the garden could qualify for agricultural water rate instead of residential rate. They don't currently use enough water to qualify.

Parker Elementary will be doing an art car (truck) in honor of Shannon Walker with a space theme.

Alice Lee, Chief of Staff at Precinct 4, offered contact information.

alee@hcp4.net 832-927-4444 Office

832-942-1504 Cell

David moved to adjourn @ 11:25. Marcia seconded.

Upcoming events:

WCC Board Meeting: Wed, Feb 21 @ 7 PM Westbury Baptist Church at 10425 Hillcroft, Game Room

PIP Meeting: Tuesday, Feb 27 @ 7 PM 13097 Nitida

March 10: Daylight savings begins

March 11: Ramadan

March 20: WAIC meeting

March 31: Easter



**Westbury Area Improvement Corporation (WAIC) Board Meeting & Westbury
Super Neighborhood #37 Monthly Meeting March 20, 2024 9:30 AM**
Meeting at Westbury Baptist Church 10425 Hillcroft Room D 103

Call to Order & Welcome 9:30 am & Introductions and Visitors, if any: Meeting called to order at 9:30. Cindy acknowledged Becky's interview in the Houston Chronicle about the constable program. Discussed article and merits of the program.

Attendees: Melvin Hopkins, Skip Reeder, Stephen Polnaszek, Cindy Chapman, Marcia Hartman, Becky Edmonson, David Roschke, Cappy Selig, Debbie Gordon, Susan Shafer, Veronica Hernandez, Brian Pendleton, Sheri Cortez,

Speaker : Melvin Hopkins with City of Houston. District K has a "HOT Team." Other council members have them as well, but ours works differently. Processes go beyond illegal dumping. After being in code enforcement for 25 years, Melvin knew more was needed. Just removing debris doesn't fix it because it returns. Discovered that people don't go far to dump. They go maybe a mile or two away. Began educating people on illegal dumping and where to dump. Also learned that residential illegal dumpers have immaculate properties. Different types: residential, commercial, criminal, and business elements. Trend right now is the criminal side. Know one individual who was dumping on Braewick. Will install a camera. Can be a felony depending on what they dump. Many in District K have been prosecuted. There are hefty fines and possible jail time. We have cameras that read license plates. Will install lights. The good thing about District K is that the word is out that you will get caught. They know residents are watching so they shift to isolated areas. Visited tire shops in area and tire dumping has slowed down. Call in illegal dumping to 311 and send reference number to Melvin. Team is pretty quick to pick up. District K is proactive. HOT team drives around and reports potholes, streetlight problems. They also remove bandit signs and inform violators. They work on special events like shred days, Keep Houston Beautiful and turkey giveaway. They also handle water main breaks. Developed a process to get potholes filled more quickly. Stephen mentioned people putting personal trash in cans at Willow Park. Building rapport with people on the ground is how things are accomplished.

Secretary: Minutes from February 2024. Susan asked that the minutes be accepted as presented. Stephen said there needs to be a comma rather than a period after Ramirez. Minutes accepted with correction.

Treasurer's report: Attached. Will reissue check to Anderson for bearded dragon because the original person is no longer there. The CD was renewed and large one comes up for renewal on April 26.

Old Business:

Friends of WHS Gala: April 27.

Dept. of Neighborhoods grant application: Received neighborhood grant for \$7000 to repaint signal boxes. Signed agreement with studio and moving forward. There will be a protective

covering to extend life of the paint. There is a signal box at Parker EL at Atwell and Willowbend which would be a great option. Discussed other options for multi-year landscaping and beautification projects such as bridge panels, etc.

New business: April 6 is Keep Westbury Beautiful Day. WAIC has budget of up to \$500 for materials and plants. Skip moved and Marcia seconded the motion to spend up to \$500 for Keep Westbury Beautiful Day. Passed unanimously.

Westbury High School Gala: Honoring Martha Castex Tatum and Jeri Brown. Cindy moved to give an unrestricted gift of \$1000 to Friends of Westbury High School. Cappy seconded. Passed unanimously.

Strategic planning: Since we have received additional money, we need to strategically think about needs in the area rather than just funding projects as they come up. Becky shared the document "Westbury Revitalization Strategies." Mentioned how Westbury Square has been a goal for 30 years. Need community buy-in and to bring people in as the Willow Waterhole did. Discussed going door-to-door and introducing our organization to business owners. The Revitalization Committee has created a business survey. Becky suggested getting business contacts from BOMD and Sheri said she can get business contacts if we let her know the zone. David suggested that we involve students with a design charrette. Skip said he could follow through with his UH contact. Stephen suggested checking to see if TIRZ 20 already has plans that include Westbury Square.

Around the table:

Anderson EI: Jorge said STAAR testing will be in April and is now electronic. School will be receiving additional technology funding as part of NES. Non-NES schools may lose some funding. Anderson has ongoing issues with the foundation and HVAC.

Veronica: There will be a Spanish PIP meeting at Southwest Substation to help get people more involved and report crime. Also asked for dates to schedule another drive-around.

Cindy: SNA delegates. Becky and Cindy will be primary and Marcia will be the alternate.

Brian: Precinct 4 has a survey about Bayland Community Center and Park which should be turned in by the end of the month. Also discussed the name of Burnett Bayland and need for name change or clarification.

Debbie: Westbury Community Garden has had a meeting with Precinct 1 and will continue to meet with them. Tomato tasting is June 1. Herb class is going well.

Sheri: There is an upcoming Environmental Educational Seminar to make business and apartment owners aware of all Texas environmental laws and local regulations about sewage, working gates, etc. It will be April 17 at TranStar on Katy Freeway. More details on HPD Facebook page.

Stephen: Will have a meeting with Precinct 1 regarding trails and NTTSW. There will be a Birds, Blooms, and Bikes Event on Saturday, April 13. Houston- Galveston Area Council will hold a Regional Conservation Initiative event on April 25 @ 9:00 a.m.

Skip: Discussed Houston One Voice and EPA Technology Grant.

Upcoming events:

WCC Board Meeting: Wed, March 20 at 7 PM. Westbury Baptist Church at 10425 Hillcroft,
Game Room

PIP meeting: Tuesday, March 26 at 7 PM. Address is 13097 Nitida.

Keep Houston Beautiful Day: April 6, 9 AM to Noon, Rain or Shine

Who: Everyone is welcome! Where: Westbury Park @ 5630 Stillbrooke.

Adjourned: 11:38 a.m.

**Westbury Area Improvement Corporation (WAIC) Board Meeting & Westbury
Super Neighborhood #37 Monthly Meeting April 17, 2024 9:30 AM**

Meeting at Westbury Baptist Church 10425 Hillcroft Room D 103

Attendees: Kyle Scott, Brian Pendleton, Stephen Polnasek, Cindy Chapman, Marcia Hartman, Becky Edmondson, Kathryn Noser, Susan Shafer, Debbie Gordon, Veronica Hernandez, Treasure Mouton, Greg Norwood.

Call to Order & Welcome 9:30 am & Introductions and Visitors, if any: Meeting called to order at 9:31 a.m.

Speaker : Kyle Scott is a candidate for Harris County Appraisal District Board of Directors. Currently, the board is composed of 7 appointed members. SB 2 turned into Proposition 4, which increased homestead exemption from 40K to 100K. It also increased the HCAD board by three elected members and removed one appointed board member. Mr. Scott is running in Position 2. Election is May 4 and early voting is April 22-30. Closest early voting is at Bayland Park. Three responsibilities: They hire and fire the chief appraiser, approve contracts of \$50,000 or more, and 2 of 3 elected board members are needed to appoint Appraisal Review Board members. This is a county-wide race with 14 people running for 3 positions. Non-partisan race. Served on Lone Star College board and is a former teacher. Interested in budget. Process to dispute taxes has not improved while the budget has increased. Becky discussed how the process is hurting homeowners in flood zones who want to remodel their homes. FEMA will release the new flood plain map in six months. Anything in 500 year zone will be in 100 year zone. Commercial developers receive tax abatement but there is no audit to see if they comply. Also a problem with gentrification.

Secretary: Minutes from March 2024: Susan asked that the minutes be accepted as presented. Accepted unanimously.

Treasurer's report: Marcia asked that the treasurer's report be accepted as presented. Accepted unanimously.

Old Business:

Friends of WHS Gala is on April 27.

Strategic planning

Hillcroft Linear Park

Super Neighborhood grant update

Anderson Elementary has Spring Fest event on May 10. International Day is May 6. Requesting money for bounce houses. Marcia moved to donate up to \$500 for 2 bounce houses. Kathryn seconded. Approved unanimously.

Becky mentioned her interview about the constable program and Chronicle headline: "800 Pound Gorilla." Maya Shay did a story for ABC 13 about the Spring Hill Apartments and delayed demolition.

Precinct 4 will be at the garden for the Tomato Tasting in June. Debbie made a presentation to Precinct 1 about master plan for garden. Becky asked if precincts could possibly work together on Hillcroft Linear Park. Stephen mentioned that proposed Renwick trail is also in both

precincts so they are beginning to start conversations. Brian and Greg discussed providing current contacts for their precincts.

Update on Grant: We did receive \$7,500 for the mini murals on the signal boxes. There are also administrative costs for the Super Neighborhood for purchases from July of 2023 to July of 2024.

We cannot open a bank account for Super Neighborhood because it doesn't have a federal ID. Proposed reimbursement for Survey Monkey. (Used for revitalization) Looking for reimbursement for last July and approval for the 2024 renewal. Kathryn moved for approval of payment of 2023 and 2024 Survey Monkey subscriptions. Marcia seconded. Approved unanimously.

Website is on a 3 year auto-renewal. Cindy moved to approve \$623.52 for a 3 year renewal of 2024 website. Seconded by Kathryn. Approved unanimously.

Becky was charged for Ascend which is email marketing for the website. Kathryn moved to approve reimbursement of \$129.90 for email marketing. Seconded by Marcia. Approved unanimously.

Discussed marketing/branding through nametags, lanyards, etc. Anything else we want to do will need to be approved by WAIC in May.

Discussed options for creating a Super Neighborhood logo. Looking for free and inexpensive options. Asked Stephen what marketing they use for Neighborhood to Trails. He mentioned using Avery for business cards. Kathryn will be researching advertising, including retractable banners.

Discussed giveaways for National Night Out.

General discussion of neighborhood schools becoming NES schools.

Bill Burhans was able to find the contractor to remove concrete and rebar they placed on Westbury High School soccer field site 7 years ago. They will move forward with debris removal. WAIC will work with Friends of Westbury High School toward raising funds for the soccer field. (Goal \$60,000.) Discussed possibility of naming rights for anyone who comes up with half that amount. Also discussed World Cup and other possible funding sources for soccer fields. Maybe Harris County Sports Authority, Houston Dash and Dynamo, or US Soccer Foundation.

New business:

Super Neighborhood initiative – approve expenses. (See above.)

Westbury Super Neighborhood list of proposed community improvements – As part of revitalization, it would be useful to have a list of goals so we know what we need for schools, traffic lights, garden, etc. What are short-term and long-term, expensive and inexpensive items? Stephen talked about making sure we are not timid and communicate our needs so that they can be documented on a list. Becky has asked for an official sit-down with Martha Castex Tatum. She will be at a meet and greet April 18 from noon to 1:00 p.m. (Teotihuacan Restaurant on Bellfort.)

Kendra Scott Give Back Event is May 5 from 4:00-6:00 p.m at Highland Village Store. 20% of proceeds come back to WAIC.

Around the table:

Debbie: Westbury Community Garden met with Precinct 1 and had a successful meeting. They are advancing in the process of talking about the management plan. They have been advised to not be shy about what they need. May 18 is Bee Education onsite with honey products for sale. June 1 is Tomato

Tasting. Discussed challenges at the garden, including apartments. Cindy mentioned problems at the Friendly Store and need to report suspicious activity. There was a shooting on Dunlap on Sunday. Debbie will send electronic fliers about Bee Day and Tomato Tasting.

Kathryn: Just closed The Stranger and Little Mermaid. Next round of shows opens May 17-18: Meteor Shower and Treasure Island. Still in discussions with Gasmer Redevelopment Project and had a meeting with TIRZ.

Stephen: Birds, Blooms, and Bikes Event. 45-50 people showed up. Had hoped to have more new attendees. There is a debate this evening between the two candidates for John Whitmire's former seat at St. Stephens Episcopal Church, 1805 West Alabama. 6:30 -7:30.

Cindy: Keep Westbury Beautiful Day was a great event. Bellaire High students participated. Getting harder and harder to get involvement. Thanked WAIC for voting to reimburse up to \$500. 66% percent increase in constable contract for 3 deputies. Constables help out with mental health crises, stolen cars. Constantly stopping people with guns or drugs. This service frees HPD to respond to other calls. There are not enough businesses to contribute in order to make a difference in funding.

Veronica will send 311 report.

Brian: Precinct 4 will have another listening tour on May 4, from 9:00 to 10:30. Thanks to all who contributed to the Bayland survey. Look for community engagement sessions in the fall.

Greg: There will be a workshop on April 30 at 1:30 p.m. at Cavalcade Community Center to teach people how to protest their property taxes. May 15 is the deadline to protest. Cindy was excited to see that Precinct 1 is trying to get grant funding for Hillcroft Linear Trail.

Congressman Al Green has expressed interest in trails. Commissioner Ellis is working on a revamp of the environmental education program.

Becky: Talked about Precinct 4 and Precinct 1 trails (unimproved) that lead to Willow Waterhole. Area is currently mowed by an 80 year-old volunteer and we are looking for someone to mow along Harris County drainage easement and Willow Water Hole Bayou. Discussed funding for mowing and trails in general.

Veronica said they will provide a Super Neighborhood map. Also, Dawn Buckingham with the Land Office is discussing funding for reimbursement for relocation assistance.

Susan mentioned that Shannon Walker rode in the Parker Art Car in the Houston Art Car Parade.

Upcoming events:

WCC Board Meeting: Wed, April 17 at 7 p.m at Westbury Baptist Church. 10425 Hillcroft, Game Room.

Westbury High School Gala: April 27 at Braeburn Country Club.

Kendra Scott: May 5 Give Back Event 4-6 p.m.

**Westbury Area Improvement Corporation (WAIC) Board Meeting & Westbury
Super Neighborhood #37 Monthly Meeting May 15, 2024 9:30 AM**
Meeting at Westbury Baptist Church 10425 Hillcroft Room D 103

Attendees: Becky Edmondson, Skip Reeder, Bill Burhans, Stephen Polnaszek, Kathryn Noser, Marcia Hartman, Debbie Gordon, Veronica Hernandez, Brian Pendleton, Susan Shafer, Stephanie Taylor, Katie Rutherford, Amy Williamson, Shawn Thierry.

Call to Order & Welcome 9:30 am & Introductions and Visitors, if any: Meeting called to order at 9:34 a.m.

Speaker: Bring Back the Deck the Halls Parade presentation. Stephanie Taylor, Katie Rutherford and Amy Williamson. Stephanie is associate director of leader development at Rice University. Katie is a Westbury resident since 2014 and assistant county attorney and counsel for Harris Health System. Amy is HR director for a real estate company. All are Westbury residents and have children in HISD. Want to honor relationships that the parade fostered within the community. Have met to gather ideas and create a timeline. Realized they needed a partner in gathering sponsorships, parade permit, etc. Have drafted permit to the city and a parade route. Working on how to share the message and create marketing strategy. Route is shorter than the previous parade route so that it can start small and grow again. Date is Dec. 14 at 6:00 p.m. Specifically want to fall under our umbrella as a 501(c)(3). They would be a committee under the WAIC. They would obtain a special event insurance policy. They have a sponsorship plan in place so they aren't asking for funding at this time. Idea is to keep it as a neighborhood parade and keep route under a mile so they don't have to get the full permit. Skip asked for their specific purpose. Stephen questioned whether this proposal would include other groups or if it would be specifically for this event. Would it bring neighborhood events back into the purvey of WAIC and have a member on our board? Commented that we should be specifically adding the Deck the Halls Parade Committee as a distinct entity rather than imposing all events on that group of volunteers. They could serve as a prototype for adding other distinct committees for other events over time. Kathryn moved to create a committee for the Deck the Halls Parade event. Marcia seconded and approved unanimously.

Secretary: Susan presented minutes from April 2024 and asked that the minutes be accepted as received. Approved.

Treasurer's report: \$100,000 CD rolled over in May. Marcia was told by HISD spokesperson that she could not write a check to an individual so she ended up paying for Anderson Elementary bounce houses and will be reimbursed per prior approval.

Old Business:

Thank you from the Friends of WHS. Gala was on April 27. Becky thanked WAIC for the donation. Event netted \$15,000. College readiness group is no longer an entity, so it is uncertain who Friends of Westbury High School will work with. Signs were installed at Willow WaterHole honoring Rita Woodward and Edith Smith.

Soccer Fields at Westbury HS: 2012 bond was supposed to include a soccer field but it did not happen. Contractor dumped rubble where the soccer field was supposed to be. Area was filled with concrete and rebar. Bill convinced original contractor to agree to remove the rubble. Kathleen Ownby (director of SPARK) found \$47,000 and has a contact who can help design and build the soccer field. Grading and leveling work will begin today. Actual cost will be \$67,000. Requested \$15,000 from Brays Oaks Management District but they don't meet until June 2. Have asked for money from Friends of Levitt Pavilion. Need to raise \$5,000 to close the gap. Will also need to pay for hydro-seeding. Have received a \$1,025 donation for the soccer field. Marcia moved to donate \$2,500 for soccer field. Skip seconded. Approved unanimously.

Shawn Thierry spoke about HISD's decision to terminate 75 principals based on a new rubric. She testified on that issue. Some in District 146 had already been terminated. That decision was reversed. Went back to advocate for wraparound specialists. Very surprised that the new board is in lockstep with the superintendent. She is writing a letter to Mike Morath about the latest monetary scandal and funds diverted to Miles' charter schools in Colorado. The legislature has authority to demand a hearing on this. Suggested WAIC consider a resolution of no confidence as an organization and ask for an investigation. She co-authored a bill to change the language in the original bill which required the takeover. The legislature can pre-file a bill to change the law. Stephen suggested that a motion of no confidence be modified to be no confidence in specific target(s). Becky proposed a resolution stating no-confidence in Mr. Mike Miles and the HISD Board of Managers and to request an investigation into the allocation and use of state funds. Will also request clarification of rubric for employee termination and budget decisions. Kathryn moved. Seconded by Marcia. Approved unanimously.

Kendra Scott event: Not sure of results

New business:

Mini mural choices: Becky presented mini mural slides. Willowbend/West Belfort will have morning glories. Burdine and Chimney Rock is for the Shannon Walker Library. Discussed various renderings and how several include her likeness, which is not allowed because they cannot show a living person. Consensus was #3 rendering. 11603 Chimney Rock is the new address for the library.

HISD (see above)

Kathryn presented pricing on retractable banners. 33 X 81 is \$212.50 on VistaPrint. Includes base and cartridge. Stand included. 47 X 81 is \$221.00 at VistaPrint.

Promo items: Neoprene koozies, \$1.30 each for 500. 1000 for \$1.25 each with a \$50 setup fee.

Magnets: 2"X3.5" Cost is \$0.24 per 500 and \$0.20 per 1000.

5"X7" \$0.70 per 500 and \$0.60 per 1000.

House shaped magnet is \$0.81 per 500 and \$0.60 per 1000.

Becky inquired about flashlight lanyards.

Discussed having a logo contest.

Around the table:

Veronica: Will send 311 report. Will schedule another drive-around in the next two weeks. Veronica is with the Mayor's Assistance Office and checks for violations, illegal dumping, dangerous buildings. There are two open cases for the home that burned. Discussed interim HPD chief Satterwhite. There are still changes happening with different departments.

Department of Neighborhoods is presenting a budget workshop today.

Brian: Memorial Day Ceremony at Bear Creek Pioneers Park, May 27, 2024 @ 2:00 p.m.

Stephen discussed trails meeting with Precinct 1 and Precinct 4 and mentioned that this concerned efforts on behalf of the proposed Renwick Trail, a bit northwest of Westbury.

Bill mentioned the Donald Perkins Neighborhood Trail, formerly Kinder East. All 8 miles will be completed by the end of June. Will have 3 new parking lots at Willow Waterhole completed by the end of June. Doubling the size of Dryad parking lot. Becky will be receiving bids to mow along trails.

Shawn Thierry mentioned the runoff election is the day after Memorial Day.

Debbie discussed permitting for first phase of the driveway at the Westbury Community Garden. Have received a Department of Neighborhoods Grant for \$5,000, but permitting is being held up. Veronica asked for project number so she can try to expedite. Might need a memorandum of understanding that it is a designated green space and not to be used for housing.

Mentioned two events coming up. Current problem is marauding dog packs. A gardener was confronted by a dog growling and baring its teeth. She will try to get photos and talk to apartment manager.

Kathryn: Company On Stage: Shows opening this weekend are Meteor Shower and Young Audience series has Treasure Island which begins on Saturday, May 18. (3rd grade and up). 5720 Bellaire.

Becky: Mentioned city plan to close Burdine.

Marcia moved to adjourn and Kathryn seconded. Meeting adjourned at 11:31.

Calendar of Upcoming Events

* RunOff Elections for Nov. Senate SD15, House HD146. Tuesday, May 28 (Early voting 5/20-24)

World Bee Day on May 18 at the WCG 10:00-11:30.

Tomato Tasting on June 1 at the WCG 10:30 - 1230.

* Dr. Shannon Walker Library Grand Opening Celebration: Saturday, June 1 at 10 AM.

* Westbury Pool Reopens: Sat. May 25 and on Mon. May 30 for Memorial Day. Then it will be open weekends until June 11.

* WAIC and Westbury SNC#37: Wed, June 19 at 9:30 AM at Westbury Baptist Church. This was later changed and will be on Tuesday, June 18 at 10:00 at Shannon Walker Library.)

WCC Board Meeting: Wed, June 19 at 7 PM. Westbury Baptist Church.

Bayou City Community Market May 25, 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at Westbury Baptist Church. (2nd & 4th Saturday)

**Westbury Area Improvement Corporation (WAIC) Board Meeting & Westbury
Super Neighborhood #37 Monthly Meeting June 18, 2024 10:00 AM
Meeting at Shannon Walker Library 11630 Chimney Rock**

Attendees: Felicia Brisco, Leah Wolfthal, Kathryn Noser, Debbie Gordon, Bill Burhans, Stephen Polnaszek, Marcia Hartman, Becky Edmondson, Lucy McLaughlin, O.J. Thibeaux, Rhonda Holmes, Thyra Burks, Susan Shafer, Jorge Rivera, Brian Pendleton, Veronica Hernandez, Lizbeth Garza.

Call to Order & Introductions and Visitors, if any: Meeting called to order at 10:05 a.m. Introduced Felicia Briscoe and Leah Wolfthal. Felicia spoke of services at Shannon Walker Library and new short story generating machine, TechLink, recording studio, passport desk, etc. Everybody introduced themselves to the new visitors. Rhonda Holmes is with Judge Hidalgo's office.

Speaker: The library itself! Felicia took the board members on a comprehensive tour of the library and explained the various areas and services.

Secretary: Minutes from May 2024. Susan asked that the May minutes be accepted as presented. Marcia asked that the word purvey be corrected to say "purview." Minutes accepted as presented with correction.

Treasurer's report: Marcia presented the treasurer's report. Kendra Scott giveback event netted \$273.88.

Old Business:

Mini mural choices:

HISD:

New business:

Pct 5 Update:

HPD – SW and Gessner – Where is the dividing line? We have several houses that need DRT services.

We appreciate the work HPD S. Gessner Division did with Precinct 5 on Braewick burglaries.

Officer Thibeaux mentioned that he was a part of the ATV detail that worked those crimes.

Gold Rose Landscaping quote – trail mowing through 2024. To mow all the property will cost \$425 per visit. It will cost \$5,000 for the remainder of the season, but \$3,000 is through grants.

Bill said that Gold Rose is a respected local company already tied into the city. County only mows three times per year. Bill moved that WAIC accept proposal from Gold Rose at \$425 per visit with a cost of up to \$5,000. (\$3,000 provided by grants and \$2,000 from unrestricted funds.) Marcia seconded. Approved unanimously. Discussed honoring Al Potvin for his work in keeping the trails mowed.

Kathryn discussed Company Onstage fundraising campaign for season sponsors. This is the first year they have had to pay market rates for rent. Would love WAIC to come on board as a

season sponsor. Discussed being a \$1,500 sponsor. Marcia moved that we donate \$1,500 to Company Onstage to become a season sponsor. Seconded by Stephen. Passed unanimously.

Around the table:

Leah with Councilman Julian Ramirez's office: Budget passed last week. Collaborated to add a language access coordinator. Will fund a cadet class for HPD. Covid funding for mental health services will be running out, and council will be funding those services from surplus budget. Will work with administration to secure long-term funding for mental health. Additional funding to fix the backlog at the Forensic Science Center. Mentioned storm preparation. City contracting with a consultant to provide better communication regarding disasters. Susan mentioned TSU/UH grant, which addressed these issues as well as civic engagement.

Thyra Burks said Shawn Thierry sends her best wishes and said Rep. Thierry is still our representative through December.

Veronica: Asked Super Neighborhoods for by-laws so the city can study and provide more funding for projects. Mayor's Back to School Event is August 3rd.

Brian: Kids Cafe Summer Meal Program at community centers.

Jorge: Losing one AP. Wraparound specialist will serve multiple schools next year. Discussed the need for Anderson Elementary to receive a new building.

Kathryn moved to adjourn. Seconded by Debbie.

Adjourned at 11:44 a.m.

**Westbury Area Improvement Corporation (WAIC) Board Meeting & Westbury
Super Neighborhood #37 Monthly Meeting Tuesday, July 16, 2024 10:10 AM**
Meeting at Shannon Walker Library 11630 Chimney Rock

Attendees : Cindy Chapman, Thyra Burks, Andrew Burks, Leah Wolfthal, Jorge Rivera, Skip Reeder, Kathryn Noser, Debbie Gordon, Susan Shafer, Brian Pendleton, Stephen Polnaszek, Becky Edmondson, Jennifer Edmondson, Veronica Hernandez, Martha Castex-Tatum.

Call to Order & Welcome 10:10 am & Introductions and Visitors, if any: Meeting called to order at 10:10 a.m. Everybody introduced themselves.

Speaker : Discussion about grant from TSU/UH and focus groups about community engagement. Examples of how we were able to take some of those lessons learned from focus groups and apply them to Hurricane Beryl response. Jennifer Edmondson explained the outage maps that she created throughout the duration of the outage after Hurricane Beryl. This was in response to inaccuracy of the CenterPoint maps. Fire department did not get power until July 15. Why were they not prioritized? Fire department had to work out of another station for a couple of days. Had the fire department been prioritized, the library could have opened sooner as a cooling center. A built-in generator for the library was cut from the original plan because of funding. Adding a generator might be a project to pursue by obtaining a grant. Jennifer explained about areas being energized and nested outages. If you were energized but did not have power, you were not given a restoration date. Need to address fallen trees in the ditches. Can the county address this? (Flood control district) Map versions 6 and 7 showed the increased progress. Martha Castex-Tatum said that CenterPoint has owned their failure. She believes there will be a shift in how things are done. We need to have voices at the Public Utilities Commission meeting. CenterPoint knew people would be without power for 10 days and did not communicate that fact from the beginning. It would have made a difference in how people prepared and in decisions about evacuating. Jennifer shared the TSU/UH grant summary with Councilwoman Castex-Tatum. Mr. Burks mentioned price-gouging. County attorney has asked people to report price-gouging. Also discussed the need to send out an empathetic message to citizens about personal responsibility and the need for a plan if you are dependent on electricity for medical devices, etc. Houston was on the dirty side of the hurricane. Westbury was in the eyewall for an hour and twenty minutes. That is why we had so much damage in SW Houston. On a good note, Westbury had no structural flooding due to the various flood control components that have been completed.

Secretary: Minutes from June 2024. Susan asked that the minutes be accepted as presented. Minutes were accepted unanimously.

Treasurer's report: Distributed at the meeting. Garden had a small amount of activity with a monetary donation. Our \$50,000 CD comes up this week and we will roll it over.

Old Business:

Mini mural choices: Only one mural was painted in time to get the neighborhood grant. The Mayor's Office of Cultural Affairs is requesting professional grade photos.

Community Engagement Grant: (see above)

New business: Hurricane Beryl. (see above.)

Around the Table:

Debbie: Garden had substantial storm damage. Two trees down on Hillcroft easement right on the fence. Debbie put in a 311 request and received a call from the forestry department, and they will take care of everything. Also had a car crash into a fire hydrant which created street flooding.

Kathryn: Company On Stage has annual fundraiser this Saturday. Doors open at 7:00 p.m. at Bellaire location. Tickets are \$50 and \$75 for reserved seating. On Sunday, they will hold auditions for the first two shows of the season. First show is "When We Get Good Again." Kids' show is called "Dorothy Meets Alice" which is a mashup of The Wizard of Oz and Alice in Wonderland. They are partnering with another theater group called Pronoia Theater which performs improv shows. Will improv a horror movie each week. Thanks to WAIC for being a season sponsor.

Veronica: City has been busy with food and water distribution. Houston Food Bank has been at Southwest Multi-Service Center and the city is offering other services such as Medicaid renewal. Air conditioning will be replaced. Senior program has about 50 seniors. Alief has 1000 registered seniors. Back to School event is July 26th at Gulfton storefront, Mayor's Back to School Event is August 3rd at George R. Brown. Limited to 25,000 backpacks for the event. If you need backpacks for your schools, reach out to your council member. City has not been doing neighborhood enforcement because of storm debris. Some people take advantage of that. Becky asked if the county will be spraying for mosquitoes.

Cindy mentioned the Civic Club Meeting on July 17 at Westbury Baptist Church. Martha Castex-Tatum will be present. Jennifer worked on outage maps 6 hours each night. The Civic Club Office has water damage. Intersection at Belfort and Chimney Rock has traffic signal damage every time there is a storm. Cindy mentioned that those signals need to be on mast arms. Also discussed how maybe the city or county could provide small fans when they do food and water distribution. Or perhaps Reliant or CenterPoint could give them away.

Brian: County did distributions at Bayland. It was also a cooling center. Rescheduled soccer night with Dash and Dynamo at Burnett-Bayland from 6:30-8:30 this Thursday. Veronica said they were able to get soccer pitches at Burnett Bayland..

Leah: Discussed communication with constituents and mass-texting of constituents who don't receive the council newsletters. There is an existing system in place that the council offices should be able to use once they learn more about it..

Jorge: Minor exterior damage to Anderson Elementary.

Thyra: Will email Rep. Thierry with details of today's meeting and will let her know the need to attend the PUC (Public Utilities Commission) meeting.

Will reach out to Rep. Miles about possibly getting a bus to PUC meeting Susan mentioned the need for the public to email PUC in addition to complaining to CenterPoint.

Stephen commented that power wasn't just knocked out but was also shut off by CenterPoint.

Restoration progress sometimes depended on assessors going out and looking to see where the damage was. Some places could have had power sooner, but they were trying to mitigate secondary damage, such as fires, etc. Becky mentioned how labor-intensive the assessment process is.

Meeting adjourned: 12:00.

**Westbury Area Improvement Corporation (WAIC) Board Meeting & Westbury
Super Neighborhood #37 Monthly Meeting Tuesday, Aug 20, 2024 10:10 AM**
Meeting at Shannon Walker Library 11630 Chimney Rock

Call to Order & Welcome 10:10 am & Introductions and Visitors, if any: Meeting called to order at 10:11 a.m.

Attendees: Lucy McLaughlin, Cindy Chapman, Skip Reeder, Stephen Polnaszek, Jorge Rivera, Debbie Gordon, Lindsey Pollock, Mike Knox, Brian Pendleton, Becky Edmondson, Susan Shafer, Victoria Hernandez, Terrance Hall.

Speaker : Mike Knox, candidate for Harris County Sheriff. Former Houston police officer. And started the first gang unit. Later worked as a consultant. Served two terms as an at-large city council member. Interested in reforms for the jail. Explained that we spend a million dollars per week shipping inmates to other locations because we don't have enough guards. Cannot pass state jail commission inspections. Can't keep guards because it is a dangerous environment. Current sheriff recruiting from high schools. In the Texas Constitution, the first priority of the sheriff is to operate the county jail. Every person arrested from any agency goes through this jail. There are 2.5 deaths per month in the jail. 7,000 inmates in the jail right now and shipping out 3,000. Sheriff doesn't show up at jail commission hearings but sends representatives. Commissioner's Court has stepped in to fix the jail problem by forming a committee, but it isn't really their job. Some problems are caused by lack of adherence to existing policies. There is a failure of supervision.

Secretary: Susan asked that July 2024 minutes be approved as presented. Minutes approved.

Treasurer's report: In Marcia's absence, Becky reported that we renewed CDs for another 3 months. Received \$3,800 from mini-mural matching grant. Box at West Belfort and Willowbend has been painted white. Discussed pending and new grant programs from the Department of Neighborhoods for Super Neighborhoods. We can start discussion about what we could do with a new matching grant, such as subdivision signs. Cindy moved to pay Survey Monkey \$498.88. Skip seconded and motion passed unanimously.

Old Business: Survey monkey reimbursement: 498.88 (see above)
Spring Village Apartment update – funds for demolition approved by council Aug 14. Money approved for asbestos abatement, etc. Will hopefully see some progress soon.
Levitt Pavilion update: 6 years ago, Mayor Turner arranged to purchase 29 acres of old Shell facility for \$3.2 million. Purchased through Public Works. Old building is now full of mold, etc. Public works says it is a \$2.5 million cost to rehab. Working with TIRZ 20 and Public Works about putting in detention on 17 acres and 5 acres for Levitt Pavilion, City tearing down buildings on property but will leave derrick. We have a plan from Studio Red for the pavilion. Last part is figuring out what to do with that iconic 60's building. In January, a fund raiser was hired. This is the same company used to raise money for the Willow Water Hole. Liz Levitt has since passed away. It has been a 14 year process with the city.

New business: Future meetings on Tuesday at the library or Wednesday somewhere else? (Becky booked Sept /Oct at the library) Cindy moved to meet at the library and seconded by Skip. Unanimously approved.

CenterPoint focus group- Cindy. Martha Castex-Tatum gathered a group of people for this group. Purpose was that developers of outage map wanted input about the map app. Lindsey said they received plenty of feedback about the app. The app has many features but people mainly wanted to know when their power would be restored. CenterPoint has been responsive to neighborhoods. Castex-Tatum arranged a meeting with the CEO. Main issue was communication. Cindy said blue-green color scheme is hard to differentiate. Susan asked about a possible permanent generator for the library since it has become a cooling station. Good news was that there was no flooding in Westbury.

Trees: Stephen mentioned that Councilwoman Abbie Kaman is having a tree forum tonight at JCC at 6:00 p.m. Pine is one of the three most vulnerable trees. Lucy mentioned the 60 year lifespan of water oaks. Becky asked if Super Neighborhood 38 is thinking about trees and Stephen said that trees are one of their issues. Maybe Trees for Houston could help with planting some new trees. Watering is also an issue. Trees need to be put on our radar for the fall. Westbury Community Garden lost trees over the summer. Contacted Trees for Houston and their schedule is really full as far as helping with planting but they are having tree giveaways.

Around the table:

Debbie: Garden Board will discuss having a National Night Out at the garden. Will invite the apartment complex. May approach HEB or Kroger so they can have food. Spoke with Rachel with Plant it Forward Farms and they have hired a company to help with clean-up. Discussed providing a lease to Plant it Forward so they can apply for a grant. Should the lease with the city be renewed? Managed by BOMD and WAIC.

Stephen: Attended Fit Houston and Healthy City presentation by owner of Cool Cat Cycles. Also discussed city law since 2021 about pedestrian rights. He will send the slide deck to us. He asked her to make a presentation at the Neighborhood to Trails meeting. Cars are supposed to stop if a pedestrian sets foot in the street. Neighborhood to Trails is compiling a list of trail/road intersections that are dangerous to pedestrians and cyclists.

Jorge: 3rd week as NES school. Anderson partially implemented the curriculum last year. Wants WAIC to fund incentives for attendance for teachers and students. Asking for a donation. School is only lacking one teacher who should be there by the end of the month. Enrollment currently at 556. Changed zoning maps. Cindy moved to donate \$500.00 for attendance. Skip seconded. Approved unanimously. This will be a special project in addition to the \$1500 previously approved for annual Anderson expenditures.

Susan moved to draft a letter to the Board of Managers and Superintendent about why Anderson Elementary was not included in the bond to get a new building. Also, what were the criteria used to make the selections? Seconded by Skip. Approved unanimously.

Veronica; Backpacks and supplies for Anderson were provided by Gulfton HPD Storefront. AT@T was a sponsor. Becky reminded everyone that the southern part of our neighborhood has fewer resources.

Brian: On August 28th, Precinct 4 will unveil the master plan for Bayland including community center, sports fields, etc. Softball will be included. Passed out info about Fonteno Bus Trips. HPD has an initiative to give away free fire alarms. Neighborhood Connection Forum at Hiram Clark from 6-8. Neighborhood Academy tomorrow. National Night Out at Bayland on Oct. 1. Veronica: Apartment PIP at Southwest Multi-Service Center tomorrow. Evening meeting at Southwest Station tonight. New Fire Chief is Thomas Munoz and the Police Chief is Noe Diaz. Skip will be on agenda for September with updates. Adjourned at 11:49.

Calendar of Upcoming Events

Bayou City Community Market Aug. 24 from 9:00-1:00 @ Westbury Baptist

WCC annual meeting is Sept. 18.

**Westbury Area Improvement Corporation (WAIC) Board Meeting & Westbury
Super Neighborhood #37 Monthly Meeting Tuesday, Sept 17, 2024 10:10 AM
Meeting at Shannon Walker Library 11630 Chimney Rock**

Attendees: Becky Edmondson, Cindy Chapman, David Roschke, Skip Reeder, Kathryn Noser, Jorge Rivera, Mike Knox, Mayra Hypolite, Brian Pendleton, Lindsey Pollock, Debbie Gordon, Susan Shafer, Veronica Hernandez.

Call to Order & Welcome 10:10 am & Introductions and Visitors, if any: Becky introduced Mayra Hypolite. Re-introduced Vice-President David Roschke to newer members of the group. Meeting called to order at 10:11.

Speaker: Mayra Hypolite worked for City of Houston for 32 years. Now working for Harris County Attorney's Office as Outreach Coordinator. Christian Menefee wants to make sure leaders and organizations are introduced to the city and that people know what is available. His office wants everyone to know that they are here to help. Environmental concerns are very important. Mentioned concrete plant. 300 attorneys and 160 paralegals. She can let us know which department handles issues. Skip mentioned partnership between Houston One Voice and Harris County Attorney's Office.

Secretary: Minutes from Aug 2024: Accepted as presented. Susan explained the WAIC letter to Houston ISD regarding bond concerns. Skip mentioned that flooding isn't mentioned in the bond proposal. Jorge mentioned that school boundaries were changed but not officially announced.

Treasurer's report: Attached. Jorge asked for \$560 for bounce houses for the Fall Festival at Anderson Elementary. Susan moved to approve \$560. Kathryn seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Old Business: Spring Village and detention update: Received update Friday. As soon as apartments are down, flooding and drainage project will begin. It appears there is no mowing plan. Martha Castex Tatum suggested possibly hiring a mowing company. Could areas like this be labeled as city parks? Kathryn mentioned the Houston Parks Board meeting and how they talked about prioritizing these spaces with connectivity, enhancement, etc.

New business: Bioswales: Westbury Project began Friday, Sept 13 at 5659 Cartagena, near Anderson Elementary School. This was the first of 6 planting projects. Wilderness Houston provided water, snacks, gloves, tools, and plants.

National Night Out - Oct 1: Westbury Community Garden will host National Night Out on the grounds. Received a grant from HEB and a small grant from Costco. HPD South Gessner Station, Precinct 5 and District K will be there. Shawn Thierry's office will provide refreshments. Plant It Forward Farms has applied to USDA for a grant but must be able to show a lease on the property. They have sent a sublease proposal. City leases property to BOMD to be used as a garden, so WAIC will administer that agreement.

Bill Burhans was not present but informed us that Donald Perkins Neighborhood Trail from Chimney Rock/W. Belfort to park will be complete sometime in September or October. Will also be getting speed bumps on Gasmer.

Becky announced that Cindy Chapman will be stepping down as the president of Westbury Civic Club and made a presentation. She served as the president from 2019-24 and 2008-10. Lindsey will be replacing Cindy. Becky and Cindy have been co-presidents of Super Neighborhood for 19 years.

WAIC was begun in 1985. David was part of that original group and included education leaders, religious leaders, and civic leaders. Officer election will be in November.

Around the table:

Skip wanted to remind everyone that Houston One Voice, Corps of Engineers and Flood Control District believe that the greatest opportunity to reduce flooding is through redevelopment of Ruffino Landfill and adjacent Doty Landfill. Not focused on it as much as we should be. City spends a million dollars per year in maintaining it. Money should not be an issue in resolving the most important issue in our city, which is flooding. It should be at the top of the priority list. Developers are the biggest factor in flooding. They don't see the value in working together; they see the value in buying low-priced properties. 12 more acres of detention coming to Shell Property and 6 more acres at Spring Village Apts.

Company on Stage; 2024-2025 Season opening Oct. 4 and 5th. "When We Get Good Again." The Young Audience show is a mash-up called "Dorothy Meets Alice." Children's show is \$10 and the evening show costs \$20. There will be a 2:00 matinee of "When We Get Good Again" on Sunday.

Brian: Kudos to Cindy. Precinct 4 will host their Hispanic Heritage Festival and unveiling of Bayland Park Master Plan on Saturday, Sept. 28 from 12:00-4:00 p.m. Will also have food trucks, mariachis, cultural performances and pet adoptions.

Cindy thanked everyone as outgoing president of Super Neighborhood 37. She also served as president of the Super Neighborhood Alliance.

Meeting adjourned at 11:10.

Calendar of Upcoming Events

Wed. Sept 18, Westbury Civic Club Annual Meeting 6PM—Meet & Greet 7PM—Meeting Westbury Baptist, 10425 Hillcroft, Game Room. WCC Board Elections, food, door prizes, and more.

National Night Out: Tuesday, October 1

Platou Center- 5Pm (Flyer attached)

Westbury Community Garden- 6 PM

Next WAIC meeting: Oct 15

**Westbury Area Improvement Corporation (WAIC) Board Meeting & Westbury Super Neighborhood
#37 Monthly Meeting Tuesday, Oct 15 2024 10:10 AM**

Meeting at Shannon Walker Library 11630 Chimney Rock

Attendees: Marcie Jones, Stacy Anderson, Mary McCarthy, Evelyn Olivares, Rolando Martinez, Eileen Hairel, Crystal Peel, Andrew Burks, Thyra Burks, Meiah Sims, Veronica Hernandez, Brian Pendleton, Becky Edmondson, Marcia Hartman, Lindsey Pollock, Cindy Chapman, Stephen Polnaszek, Leah Wolfthal, Skip Reeder, Kahterine Gould-Marks, Rebecca Dray Ballentine, Susan Shafer, Paul Rivera.

Call to Order & Welcome @ 10:11 am & Introductions and Visitors, if any: Meiah Sims and her husband (Westbury class of 2009) are working with the Westbury HS athletic department. She is the president of the booster club.

Secretary: Susan asked that the minutes from September be accepted as presented. Minutes were accepted.

Treasurer's Report: Attached. Accepted as presented.

President: Several housekeeping items. Talked about the Civic Engagement project. Civic Club is asking for \$500 to encourage people to sign up for the portal. Lindsey moved. Skip seconded. Passed unanimously. Cindy is a newly trained Master Naturalist and participant in the planting of the six bioswales. Houston Wilderness is planting bioswales but had no plan for watering. Cindy moved to pay a \$600.00 stipend for neighbors who water the hundreds of new plants at these 6 sites. Skip seconded. Passed unanimously. Meiah asked for money for a pizza warming oven for fundraising for the Westbury HS Booster Club. (Cost is \$1000. Friends of Westbury High donated \$500.) Cindy moved to donate \$500 for a pizza warmer. Marcia seconded. Passed unanimously.

Becky mentioned importance of neighborhood schools. In the 2007 bond, WHS didn't get a new school but received money for an athletic field. We now have a soccer field after rubble was removed by original contractor.

The Westbury Deck the Halls Parade is returning this year. Security, permit and insurance are confirmed. Working on social media campaign and encouraging block parties. There will be a variety of participants and sponsors. Holding virtual planning meetings. Parade is Dec. 14 at 5:00.

Add Lindsey Pollock to the WAIC board as the WCC representative.

Add Cindy Chapman as a Presidential appointee. Marcia moved to add Cindy to the WAIC board as presidential appointee. Lindsey seconded. Passed unanimously.

Evelyn from Parker EI: Mentioned new principal, Antravian Carter. Heritage program at Parker today.

Speaker : Rolando Martinez, HISD Board of Managers. Will discuss board engagement and the upcoming bond. District should have been sharing academic progress for years. This is progress from a board perspective. Grew up in HISD and went to Meyerland. When board of managers asked specific

questions about the vision of parents, it became clear that the community wants an elected board. Slide presentation. Role of the board is to set goals and constraints. Encourages people to pay attention to academic progress. 50% of school board meetings should be dedicated to academic progress. Hispanic students, black students and students with disabilities are still lagging way behind white and Asian students. There are 10 high schools where 0% of graduating class was able to pass SAT or ACT. Incredible growth in pre-K enrollment. Constraints: Superintendent shall not allow the number of D or F campuses to grow or remain the same. Number of campuses rated D/F decreased from 121 to 41 in 2024. Number of A/B rated campuses increased from 93 to 170. In special education, 99.8% of ARDS were completed on time. 12.4% of special ed folders have been reviewed and working toward 20% target by 2028.

Next speaker introduced himself as Paul Rivera with bond planning. He presented slides about bond investments in Westbury. Talked about Fondren Middle School and extensive needs. Not every old building is historic and not every new school isn't historic (because of people who attended and events that happened in these buildings.) Bellaire HS will receive \$140,000 for security. To get a new building, you need pre-construction, which takes 18 months. HISD schools should be designed around programs, not templates. Total 3 years of planning. Cost is \$40-60 million dollars per elementary school. Cindy mentioned how flooding affected enrollment at Anderson. Some schools are located at intersections of freeways and shouldn't be. Some schools are in floodplains and one is in a floodway. Should be in a position where schools are a place of refuge, cooling centers, etc. Part of bond work will be modernizing HVAC to include generators. Resiliency is a big part of the bond plan. Lindsey mentioned that Garden Oaks had a generator but it wasn't used during the last emergency. 2000 HVAC issues since August 12. 50 HVAC breakdowns every single academic day. Every single campus has a plant manager. Paul said that we have the maintenance capacity.

Questions from WAIC included: What plan is in place to oversee expenditures of the bond? What is the oversight? The public has heard that money is being misappropriated and misspent. Rolando said there is a 13 member oversight committee including Chris Brown, former city comptroller. "I came to you all because the responsibility of the board is to come to the community. We are working with community engagement and public relations."

Paul said that bond came about because of huge needs after hottest summer in Houston. There is doubt because of past history, corruption. Bond decisions are not just about buildings but about where schools are located and programs within. The earliest we can return to a fully elected board would be June 2028. Supporters of HISD Magnets members pointed out that community has been decimated in many ways. Many have left for private schools. Community trust building is so broken that for many voters, it is a non-starter. Feels late for parents to trust that the district has the same values as far as taking care of teachers and students. Many of the best teachers are leaving because district is disrespecting and micromanaging teachers. Paul reiterated that HISD cannot advocate for the bond. In 2019, LBB (Legislative Budget Board) said we had 39 schools over capacity. We are down 29,000 students from 2019. Lindsey wondered why bond money was being allocated to co-location sites that will be empty. Paul answered that under state law, if the district wants to sell the land, they have to first offer it to a charter school. Goal is keeping buildings open as long as possible.

Eileen mentioned that 80% of HISD consists of Title 1 students. For these families, HISD is the only choice. Scoring matrix has 70 indicators and is run by an external firm. They did this under the elected board. Priorities are not arbitrary.

Stephen mentioned the poor condition of Shearn Elementary. Paul said this bond will convert 525 temporary classrooms and explained that some things weren't included in order to keep the bond under the taxing threshold.

Brian: Precinct 4 Listening Tour at Alief Neighborhood Center. Oct. 19, 1:00-3:00 p.m. May have some virtual meetings.

New business:

November is our annual meeting: Election of officers.

Administrative Cost: To cover the costs of running the business of an SN, a reimbursement form must be completed and submitted with the receipt for reimbursement payment. May 15, 2025 is the deadline for Administrative Cost reimbursement. Total funds available for administrative Cost: Up to \$2,000.

SNGP: The SNGP will cover projects that improve, benefit, or beautify SNs. The SNGP Application is open from October 7 and **due November 29, 2024**. Reminder: Projects can be started only AFTER a notification of application award by the City of Houston has been issued to your organization. The project must be completed with financial supporting documentation submitted by **June 2, 2025**. The complete SNGP application (fillable version) is attached. The SNGP Workshop is available via the link [SN Grants Program 2025 Workshop.pptx](#)

Calendar of Upcoming Events

Westbury Civic Club Annual Meeting: Wednesday, Oct. 16, 7 p.m.—Westbury Baptist, 10425 Hillcroft, Game Room

Bioswale Planting: 5643 Cartagena 10/18 at 9 a.m.

Voting: Begins October 21

**Westbury Area Improvement Corporation (WAIC) Board Meeting & Westbury
Super Neighborhood #37 Monthly Meeting Tuesday, Nov 19, 2024 10:10 AM
Meeting at Shannon Walker Library, 11630 Chimney Rock Rd.**

Attendees: Skip Reeder, Becky Edmondson, Lindsey Pollock, Cindy Chapman, David Roschke, Marcia Hartman, Cappy Selig, Susan Shafer, Debbie Gordon, Stephen Polnaszek, Lucy McLaughlin, Veronica Hernandez, Brian Pendleton.

Call to Order & Welcome- 10:10 am & Introductions and Visitors, if any:

Meeting called to order at 10:14.

We became a Super Neighborhood 19 years ago. Our by-laws are missing an election process needed to qualify for the Department of Neighborhoods grant. Our Super Neighborhood consists of the Westbury Civic Club and WAIC. The presidents of the two organizations are co-chairs. Proposed change: The positions of Secretary and Treasurer will be elected from the membership of the WAIC and WCC at the annual meeting of the WAIC in November. Cappy moved to accept this proposal and David seconded. Approved unanimously.

Secretary: Minutes from October 2024- Susan asked that October minutes be accepted as presented.

New Business: Vice- President: Election of officers. David presented slate of officers:

President: Becky Edmondson

Vice-President: David Roschke

Treasurer: Marcia Hartman

Secretary: Susan Shafer

Skip moved to accept slate. Cappy seconded. Approved unanimously.

Cindy moved that slate of officers be approved for Super Neighborhood 37. Skip seconded. Approved unanimously.

Treasurer's report: Marcia presented 2025 Budget. We need to void uncashed checks. We allocated money for the HISD District 9 celebration. Since the takeover, check has never been cashed so we need to void it. Cappy moved, Lindsey seconded. Check for \$941.06 will be voided. Passed unanimously.

We go to great lengths to keep our financial report transparent and post on the website. Marcia distributed a list of motions passed and expenditures for 2024. Anderson Elementary has about \$700 remaining for the year. Marcia circulated a list of proposed expenditures for 2025: \$11,870. Cappy moved to approve the 2025 budget as presented and David seconded. Approved unanimously.

Becky wrote an election review in The Crier and pointed out that Westbury voted heavily against the Houston ISD bond initiative. Important to note that Westbury supported bonds in past elections.

Old business:

The WAIC will be the sponsor of the Company on Stage play, "The Twelve Days of Christmas" on December 15 at 2:00 p.m.

We have a number of tickets available (Kathryn will verify) so this should make a nice holiday outing for those of us who would like to go.

Deck the Halls parade: December 14

The Westbury Community Garden turns 15 (years) in April. All donations over \$1,000 will have the name of the donor organization on some new signage which will be 8' tall. Planks are different colors according to donation level. David moved to donate \$2,000 and Lindsey seconded. Approved unanimously.

David acknowledged the investment in CDs that has allowed us to donate money in support of other organizations.

Administrative Cost:

This will cover the costs of running the business of a Super Neighborhood. A reimbursement form must be completed and submitted with the receipt for reimbursement payment. May 15, 2025 is the deadline for Administrative Cost reimbursement. Suggestions included banners for events and meetings, business cards, name tags, copies, office supplies, postage, National Night Out items. Total funds available: Up to \$2,000.

Around the table:

Veronica: Said that various city departments will have upcoming changes. Asked if we are seeing more nuisance properties. Cindy mentioned that there seems to be some construction at former Friendly Store and could not find a permit. Veronica will schedule a drive-around. Will host Thanksgiving luncheon this Thursday at the South Gessner Station. Lee Donovan is the new commander. James Dale is new commander at SW station.

Brian: Bayland Mobile Dental Clinic on Thursdays at 8:30 for any Harris County resident. Mentioned Apprenticeship and LaTiendita Food Program Precinct 4 is also conducting a Healthy Parks Survey. (See fliers or go to Precinct 4 website.)

Dec. 14: Legacy tree giveaway from 1:00-3:00 at Bayland. Will give away 100 trees. Also mentioned that there is a designated person at Harris County Flood Control named Will Sherman who may be able to help with brick wall repair.

We will not meet in December. Next meeting will be Jan 21.

SN Administrative items: We need a logo

Project grants: Present ideas

SNGP (Super Neighborhood Grant Program)

The SNGP will cover projects that improve, benefit, or beautify SNs. The SNGP Application is open from October 7 and **due November 29, 2024**. Up to \$7,000. Last year we painted the Shannon Walker utility box. Reminder: Projects can be started only AFTER a notification of application award by the City of Houston has been issued to your organization. The project must be completed with financial supporting documentation submitted by **June 2, 2025**.

Discussion of ideas: Brick wall at Chimney Rock and West Belfort needs to be repaired. Cindy was concerned that maintenance of that wall would be our ongoing responsibility if we took it on. Not clear who owns the property. Cindy mentioned that the library entrance could be improved to hide the construction equipment. Lindsey mentioned the post office needing beautification (someone mentioned federal responsibility) and the Platou Community Center floor. Could work on neighborhood sign beds. Suggested new landscaping with native plants. Debbie mentioned black-eyed Susans, which intersperse with grasses.

Discussed developing a plan to upgrade Westbury sign beds using Water Smart native plants and to serve as an example to homeowners who are replacing their own plants. Dead pines need to be removed at Hillcroft and W. Airport. (Can call 311) Mentioned Hager Park and Chimney Rock Park negligence. David mentioned traffic lane stripes which have faded and named specific streets. Becky reminded us about the former Super Neighborhood action plan which prioritized repairs. After discussing several ideas and possible planting projects, Becky Edmondson asked Debbie Gordon and Cindy Chapman to do more research and respond to her with details by November 21. Research resulted in a motion by Debbie Gordon and seconded by Cindy Chapman to submit a Super Neighborhood grant application to the Dept. of Neighborhoods for the "Gardening Within Reach" project at the Westbury Community Garden. Passed with a majority vote.

The Westbury Civic Club voted to write a letter in support of this project.

Meeting adjourned: 11:45.

Calendar of Upcoming Events:

Ribbon Cutting for Donald Perkins trail will be sometime after the first of the year.