

Westbury Area Improvement Corporation (WAIC) Board Meeting and Westbury Super Neighborhood #37 Monthly Meeting, Tuesday, March 18 2025, 10:10 AM. Meeting at Shannon Walker Library, 11630 Chimney Rock

Attendees: Lindsey Pollock, Cindy Chapman, Tania Cora, Skip Reeder, Stephen Polnaszek, Kathryn Noser, Veronica Hernandez, Debbie Gordon, Susan Shafer, Becky Edmondson, Brian Pendleton, Sandra Mendoza.

Call to Order and Welcome: 10:08. Introductions and Visitors, if any: Went around the table and introduced each attendee. Tanya Cora is with the Harris County Clerk's Office Election Department. She explained upcoming elections and said Chris Menefee will be stepping down to run for Sylvester Turner's seat. She agreed to look up and share voter information breakdowns by area.

Secretary: Minutes from February 2025: Susan moved to accept minutes submitted by Cindy. Minutes accepted as presented.

Treasurer's report: Will renew CD that comes up next week. Debbie moved that we cover expenses for 15th anniversary banner that acknowledges that garden is part of WAIC and Super Neighborhood. Skip seconded. Approx. \$100. Approved unanimously.

Follow-up on Super-Neighborhood Grant of \$2000: Becky wants to buy a case of paper to distribute to everyone who prints. Time to renew website through WIX. Other suggestions include pop-up banner or feather banner for Super Neighborhood, tablecloth for displays, Neighborhood Night Out flashlights or magnets, stickers that say I Love Westbury, business cards, shirts. Veronica suggested using library embroidery machine for shirts. Veronica offered to supply a Super Neighborhood Map.

Cindy moved to approve these specific items and Kathryn seconded. Approved unanimously.

New business:

Snap for Public Art – Debbie asked if public art mural on garden tool sheds could be part of our Super Neighborhood Strategic plan. Lindsey moved to participate in public art for Westbury Community Garden tool sheds and incorporate into our Super Neighborhood Strategic Plan. Kathryn seconded. Passed unanimously. Discussed eligibility for LISC community grants since Westbury wasn't included in the past. Debbie thanked WAIC for donation to sponsorship program and showed photos of signage that will be installed next week. Neighbors have contributed routing and painting of sign at no cost. Mohammed Kamel is the neighbor who did the routing. Razak Quihada, a carpenter, did the painting. This Saturday, March 22, is Founder's Breakfast at 9:30 at the garden and public festival is from 12-3 with exhibitors, food trucks, and arts and crafts for the kids.

Debbie sent invitation to the school principals. Parking will be included for Gardening within Reach for handicapped individuals.

Keep Westbury Beautiful day – fund request for April 5th. Lindsey requested \$500 for materials, supplies, and mulch. Cindy seconded. Approved unanimously. Main focus will be Westbury Park behind Parker. Work needed on butterfly garden. Hours are 9:00-12:00. We need to make sure we are on District K list of participants.

US 90A Transit Corridor Study Stakeholder Committee Microsoft Teams meeting on Wednesday. Cindy will attend.

Old business: Braes Oaks Management meeting at 12:00 today. Will bring up need for executive director signature on Civil Engineering Proposal for the garden. Engineering agreement on garden is still pending with BOMD. Debbie showed map. Have been raising money for circular driveway. Approximately a quarter of a million dollar project. Have raised \$47,000 so they can start first section. Requested \$7,500 from BOMD. Will show map at meeting. Map not correct; entrance will be on south side. Slants will change. Left off other details that will be on map in the future.

Need to choose a date for Perkins Trail – District K office is available May 17.

We will do a dedication and have a walk. Cindy asked if we will have Westbury banners in time and suggested a ribbon cutting. Kathryn has balloon column frames which will be cost-effective for decorations. Will set up a table, and can provide water and oranges. Discussed parking.

Around the table:

Lindsey: White Elephant Sale April 12. Booth sales were activated today for those who have paid their civic club dues. Civic Club meeting tomorrow night.

Veronica: Office of Human Trafficking is under Department of Neighborhoods now. Inspections office will go to Public Works in July. Domestic Violence, Education, Veterans Affairs. and People With Disabilities will come to Department of Neighborhoods. These were previously in mayor's office. Mentioned budget changes and hiring freeze. Department of Neighborhood grants should be funded for the next 2-3 years. Public Works now has a dashboard where you can see water leak work orders. 5,000 water leaks around the city. People waiting 3 months to get a repair. Lindsey mentioned one leak that has been going on for three years. Becky discussed more inspectors needed to clean up the neighborhood. Inspectors are no longer assigned to certain areas. Inspections will be under Code Enforcement in Public Works. Veronica will send 311 report.

Cindy: Crime evaluation article in Houston Chronicle. Details are broken down by Super Neighborhood, comparing the last 10 years. In Meyerland, crime got worse but it improved in Westbury. Cindy showed details on her phone.

Susan mentioned law enforcement officers coming to our meetings in the past and that their reports were informative and Lindsey said she can provide those for WAIC meetings. Debbie said there will be a patrol car at their garden event but no outreach event. If they did an outreach, it would be recruitment.

Kathryn: Company on Stage will have new shows beginning the first Week in April. Evening series will be "N." Children's series is "True Stories of the So-Called Big Bad Wolves." Evening series at TIME. Final series opens on June 7.

Stephen: Monthly meeting tomorrow at noon. Can provide agendas and minutes via email.

April 26: Birds, Blooms, Beats and Bikes: Keegans Bayou Nature Walk and History event. Friends of Keegans Bayou Trail and Park. Flier is on the back of the Crier. NTTSW putting on event sponsored by Memorial Hermann SW. Lots of history, Audubon Society, Native Plant Society. Close to Riceville Cemetery, one of the oldest in the community. Also will feature storytellers and dancing. Bike Ride to the end of the trail and back. (4 mile ride)

Skip mentioned Super Neighborhood 27 meeting. Texas State Representative Gene Wu discussed voucher system and how it will affect public schools. Super Neighborhoods can be a huge part of this. Stephen mentioned that Representative Wu said it is important to call your representatives instead of emailing and writing. Even if education bill is passed, schools will be closing. No increase in funding since 2019.

Saundra Mendoza is outreach liaison with District Clerk's office. Getting the word out about jury duty. Historic low participation at 13%. Now offering free parking, higher pay, free coffee. Can put jury duty outreach info in the Crier.

Brian: First Live Town Hall Meeting: March 29 from 10-12 at Burnett Bayland Community Center. (Chimney Rock and Gulfton) Family friendly activities. Meet the Commissioner. Learn about Burnett Bayland renovation & construction timeline. Community resources.

Kathryn moved to adjourn and Cindy seconded. Adjourned at 11:31.

Calendar of Upcoming Events:

March 19: 7PM WCC meeting

15th Anniversary of WCG: March 22

White Elephant Sale: April 19, 8 -12

Keep Westbury Beautiful day: April 5, 9-12

Friends of WHS Foundation Scholarship Gala: May 3. Becky has sponsorship letter and package if anyone wants to sponsor a scholarship. FriendsWHS.org will give 10-12 \$3,000 scholarships.

Keegans Bayou Nature Walk & and History: April 26