

Westbury Area Improvement Corp (WAIC) & Westbury SuperNeighborhood Council #37

Meeting Minutes of February 18, 2025

Dr. Shannon Walker Library Conference Room

**Attending:** Becky Edmondson, David Roschke, Marcia Hartman, Debbie Gordon, Cindy Chapman, Cappy Selig, Skip Reeder, Stephen Polnacek, Lindsey Pollock

**Guests:** Chuck Connelly(resident), Veronica Hernandez (City of Houston), Sandra Cortez(City of Houston), Lucy McLaughlin(Friends of WHS Foundation), Katie Shelton (CM Alcorn), Brian Pendleton (County Commissioner Briones), and Robert Nnake (County Judge Hidalgo)

**Officer Reports:** President Edmondson welcomed everyone at 10:08 am with introductions all around. She noted that the nonprofit Houston Wilderness had recently been in Westbury to plant trees on a former residential lot that is now a city-owned drainage swale. The January 2025 Meeting Minutes were **APPROVED** per motion by Hartman/Pollock. Treasurer Hartman gave a 2025 Year-To-Date financial update. CDs are coming up for renewal. The Westbury Community Garden, a project of the WAIC, needed a financial audit to apply for a grant. The audit has been completed and there were no findings. The cost of the audit was \$3,400. There was discussion that the WAIC will also benefit from having this financial audit completed, after which, a motion by Hartman/Selig to split the audit cost equally with the Westbury Community Garden was **APPROVED** (thus the audit cost to the WAIC would be \$1,700 from the general funds).

**Speakers:**

\* Debbie Gordon. The Westbury Community Garden will be celebrating its 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary in March 2025. There will be two separate events: a private catered fundraising brunch with a guest speaker and then a public celebration later in the day. In November 2024, the WAIC board voted to be an event sponsor at \$2,000. She discussed the event details.

\* Sandra Cortez, City Dept of Neighborhoods, Super Neighborhood Council (SNC) Coordinator. She works with all the SNCs in the city. The SNC Handbook was finalized in November 2024. Last year our Westbury SNC received a city grant for a MiniMural and this year we received a grant for the Westbury Community Garden. Each SNC can request up to be reimbursed for up to \$2,000 for administrative costs. Examples include supplies, signage, business cards, banners, tablecloths, etc. The deadline to submit receipts is mid-May, since she will have to submit everything by end of May. She recommends that receipts be submitted as incurred. ***She notes that our SNC will need to vote to approve any expenditures for city reimbursement.*** Thus, ideally the board will vote in March on items so that they can be purchased in April to submit the receipts in a timely manner. It was also discussed that the Westbury Super Neighborhood Bylaws need to be slightly modified regarding election for Secretary and Treasurer to comply with city requirements.

ByLaws Revision: By motion by Roschke/Selig, the proposed modification to the Bylaws were **APPROVED**. See the end of these meeting minutes for the revisions.

Updates from around the Table and New Business:

\* Friends of WHS Foundation (McLaughlin): Their fundraising gala will be on May 3 at the Windham Hotel on Kirby. They have a committee to review candidates for 12 scholarships. Honorees at the gala are: Bill Burhans (Helped get WHS soccer field completed), Coach Blank (final year at WHS before retiring), and Charles and Mia Simms (alumni and athletic program advocates). Motion by Pollock /Reeder to sponsor a Gala table for \$1,500 was **APPROVED**.

\* General discussion and frustration with communications with HISD and local schools. The local schools used to periodically send delegates to our monthly meetings to provide updates, but this is no longer happening. The schools have new administrative teams. Lucy McLaughlin will reach out again to her contact at Westbury High School.

\* Westbury Civic Club (Pollock): The WCC will be celebrating its 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year and they are making plans.

\* Friends of Levitt Pavilion (Edmondson): The performing space is planned for the former Shell Research site on Gasmer, currently owned by the city. The city plans to retain about half of the site for a maintenance facility, and then the rest of

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the site will be for amenities. A coalition of organizations, including Levitt Pavilion Houston, Brays Oaks Management District, Company on Stage, and Willow Waterhole Greenspace Conservancy are in discussions to create a 501c3 nonprofit organization to develop the site. It was discussed that the Willow Waterhole Stormwater Detention facility was in the 1998 Master Plan for the Westbury community. Motion by Roschke/Pollock to inquire about partnering in these ongoing efforts in the Gasmer site development was **APPROVED**.

\* Becky Edmondson – The Donald Perkins Trail is a new trail that connects the trails over at Willow Waterhole to the corner of Chimney Rock and West Belfort. A possible date for the dedication ceremony is May 17.

\* Katie Sheldon (CM Alcorn) – City has received report from Ernst and Young about city cost savings. Waiting to get report about the Solid Waste Dept. Budget sessions will be in April and May.

\* Veronica Hernandez (Dept of Neighborhoods) – it is time to schedule a ride-a-long of the Westbury area to identify problem locations with city violations. HPD will provide an officer. The city will be opening warming centers for the upcoming freezing weather. The SW Multipurpose Center will be adding a new 2 story building onsite for WIC/Senior Services/Library using both federal and city funds.

\* Lindsey Pollock (WCC) – The Westbury Civic Club will be holding its White Elephant Sale event on April 12.

\* Becky Edmondson (WAIC) – Keep Houston Beautiful / Keep Westbury Beautiful Day is April 5. Event at Westbury Park.

\* Stephan Polnaczek (NTTSW) – He attended the opening of the new pedestrian bridge over Brays Bayou. Trails that will connect under the road bridges in the area are in design by the Houston Parks Board. He attended the groundbreaking for the Captain Herod Memorial Plaza.

\* Brian Pendleton (Harris County Precinct 4)- Black History Month events are scheduled at various locations. Register for the State of Texas Emergency Assistance Registry (STEAR) for medically fragile or disabled by calling 211.

\* Lindsey Pollock – She met with the Platou Community Center advisory committee regarding condition of the center and their concerns. She has been trying to contact Parks and Recreation about the concerns.

\* Skip Reeder – invited everyone to the upcoming Keegan’s Trail event on April 26 at 9 am. It is being co-sponsored by Neighborhoods to Trails SW and the Friends of Keegan’s Bayou. The role of the Riceville Community in our city’s history will be highlighted.

\* Veronica Hernandez – the HPD PIP (Positive Interaction Program) has been moved to Bayland Community Center this month.

Per motion by Roschke/Selig, the meeting was ADJOURNED at 11:58 am.

Meeting Minutes prepared by Cindy Chapman, on behalf of Secretary Susan Shafer.

**ATTACHMENT – ByLaw revision.**

## **Proposed REVISION to the BYLAWS of the Westbury SuperNeighborhood Council #37**

### EXISTING

9. Executive Committee: The Presidents of the two organizations serve as Co chairs of the Council. They will appoint an Executive Committee to review bills before they are presented to the two legislative bodies and to coordinate the actions of the two Boards.

### PROPOSED

9. Executive Committee: The Presidents of the two organizations, the Westbury Civic Club and the Westbury Area Improvement Corp., serve as Co-chairs of the Super Neighborhood Council. 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. They will become the Secretary and Treasurer of both the WAIC as well as the Super Neighborhood. Election notices will be posted on our website ([westbury37waic.org](http://westbury37waic.org)) as well as on our Facebook page. A nominating committee is formed to find interested candidates. The vote count to win is a simple majority. Officers' terms begin at the time of the election in November.

*The proposed bylaw change shown above was **APPROVED** by the board of the Westbury Area Improvement Corporation at its regularly scheduled meeting on February 18, 2025 per motion by Roschke/Selig.*

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

Westbury Area Improvement Corporation (WAIC) Board Meeting and Westbury Super Neighborhood #37 Monthly Meeting Tuesday, April 15, 2025 at 10:10 AM Meeting at Shannon Walker Library, 11630 Chimney Rock

Attendees: Becky Edmondson, William Mader, Lindsey Pollock, Stephen Polnaszek, Robert Young, June Deadrick, Debbie Gordon, Joe Gatson, Kathryn Noser, Leah Wolfthal, Cindy Chapman, Mayra Hippolite, Brian Pendleton, Keiry Galo, Victoria Hernandez, Lucy McLaughlin, Marcia Hartman, Susan Shafer

Call to Order and Welcome: 10:10 a.m. and Introductions and Visitors, if any: Introduced Officer Galo from Precinct 5. She is our new daytime deputy. She has been with precinct 5 for the past four years. Knowledgeable about Westbury; previously at Marilyn Estates. Hours are 7-3 and she is off on Thursday and Friday. Went around the table for introductions.

Secretary: Minutes from March 2025: Susan asked that March minutes be accepted as presented.

Treasurer's report: Attached. Marcia asked to approve with reserve because she needs to recategorize some items.

Speaker : Centerpoint Energy- Robert Young and June Deadrick. Speaking about what Centerpoint has been doing in the past year to make sure the system is ready for hurricane season. They are trimming trees and replacing poles to reduce outage time since Beryl. Robert has been in the electric division of CenterPoint for two years, previously worked in gas. Started as a meter reader. Determined to learn from lessons of Beryl, they are working to build the most resilient coastal grid in the country. Harris County has the highest weather climate hazard risk in the country because of dense population and dense vegetation. Phase one: Complete post-Beryl commitments. Phase Two from September to June 1 of this year: Emergency Preparedness. Installing weather stations will help. Have moved to all -hazard operation plans, not just hurricanes. 317 employees completed FEMA training. Have 12 service centers and meet regularly with city officials, firefighters, etc. They have a meeting coming up at Bellaire Service Ctr. Donating 21 emergency generators in locations which will be best-served. 5 for Harris County alone. Serve 12 counties. Working on service centers. Not all service areas are created equal. Will install up to 25,000 new poles. There will be 4850 self-healing grid areas but have completed 3826 as of this morning. Trimming is ongoing. Phase Three: Testing. Two - year plan includes \$5 billion investment in modernizing grid. Automation will help with duration of outages. This is a larger, complex plan. Action plans are in place for problematic circuits. As fellow customers, they are excited about restoration response. Focus is on preparing ahead of time. Looking at where resources are concentrated and communication with entities. They are pre-staging crews as events happen. Restoring power and prioritizing critical facilities come first. Communication is critical and failed during Beryl. Have worked hard to improve outage tracker. Make sure that you understand the information you are getting. Why is one street still off? Understanding nested outages, etc. Getting out the word so people have opportunity to sign up for Power Alerts service. Can get this info via phone, email, text, and also using social media channels. When we are in midst of a hazard, they will have daily call to all elected officials; city, county, and federal. Senior level VP of corporation communications will work daily with media outlets on preparation, restoration, assessment. Tracker is cloud-based and updated every 5

minutes. Customers can take a picture and send it in so they can pinpoint whether or not it is a CenterPoint issue. Working with ATT, Comcast or anyone with an attachment to one of their poles. This will be a feature of Power Alerts service. A key feature is the critical care list. If you are on that list, CenterPoint can alert you that you need to move if you require life-sustaining equipment. 211 can help, but preparation is the best thing. State of Texas Emergency Registration Program. (STARE)

Hospitals, police, fire, critical care customers, water, sewer, and community centers used for food distribution are considered when looking at the load for restoration. 20,000 on critical care list. Critical infrastructure is different from critical care. They partner with Harris County and City of Houston for summer cooling and winter warming centers, and they know exactly what is going on with those. Cindy mentioned city's effort to evaluate which facilities need generators and asked how that effort connects with CenterPoint. Lindsey asked if CP has coordinated with HISD because many schools have large generators. Robert said they have met with Region IV superintendents to determine needs and make sure school district OEMs are connected with CenterPoint. Becky mentioned Anderson Elementary was a high point during IKE so helicopters landed there, but HISD wouldn't open school. CP is an electric and gas utility. This year, they are concentrated on electricity, but also circulating information about gas. Aiming for 20 minute response time on gas calls. People should not put debris by gas meters near street. Strategic viewpoint is to service critical loads first. Bellaire is our service center and it is a very large area. The center is located off of Bissonnet. Happy to make presentations to other civic clubs, Super Neighborhoods, etc. CenterPoint Foundation helps the Salvation Army.

#### New business:

Anderson funding request: Marcia moved to approve \$1,000 for motivational speaker at Anderson Elementary. Kathryn seconded. Motion passed.

Friends of WHS table request: Scholarship Gala is May 3rd at 6:00. Marcia moved to allocate \$1,500 to sponsor table at WHS Gala. Cindy seconded. Motion approved.

#### Old business:

Engineering agreement on garden – still pending with BOMD.

Choose a date for Perkins trail – May 17 Joe said it is on District K calendar. Discussed verbage for a proclamation. 10:00 a.m. start time Want to order (8 foot) feather banners in time for this event. Joe will check with Special Events to get ribbon cutting supplies/scissors. Will check with Donald Perkins' family to make sure they are available on that date.

Keep Westbury Beautiful day – update

#### Around the table:

Lindsey/Cindy: Brays Oaks Management District Meeting today has been cancelled.

Lindsey and Cindy attended the Super Neighborhood Meeting: Summarized that the mayor was positive about city improvements during his tenure.

Veronica: Water treatment plant was built in 1954 and is barely hanging together. Trying to work with state to get some grants or funding. Mentioned City Council Special Delivery Committee

meeting which has information on grants. There are still 4 municipal courts boarded up and not functioning since Hurricane Harvey. If you write a ticket, there is nowhere to enforce it. There is a new interim Solid Waste Director. Veronica said almost all 311 reports were related to Solid Waste. Many changes in building inspections and duties have been merged. City is making many attempts to streamline and maximize departments, including Metro. Stephen said we lose more water to leaks in one day than Ft. Worth uses in a year. Lindsey said one leak has been going on three years at Cedarhurst and Willowbend. City has worked on it. Joe said his office will follow up and Leah offered help from her office. (Councilman Ramirez)

Friends of Platou Center needs volunteer help. Hazel Potvin has retired. Lindsey believes the center is a missed opportunity for our neighborhood youth. Appealing for volunteers and support to revitalize. There are activities happening there; quilting, exercise, etc. Cindy Davis will be happy to talk to anyone who wants to help.

Thanked everyone who came to White Elephant Sale. Great weather and attendance. Two ladies had been attending for 25 years. Thanked to Jennifer Edmondson for her help. Have been having trouble delivering the Crier for some time. Westbury HS has officially resigned the baseball team from the duty due to various safety concerns, etc. Becky explained history of the baseball team delivering the newsletter. Lindsey mentioned possibilities for limited distribution and moving to more of an online presence. Mentioned various places it has been distributed and ideas for the future. Also discussed Westbury students working the gala.

Kathryn; Reminded everyone of current shows going on. Playright will be attending play on 25th and doing a talkback. "N" and "True Stories of the So-Called Blg Bad Wolves." The Summer Gala is coming up. Minuteman press in Bellaire is providing printing for sponsorship package. Shows run through April 26. Next round of shows starts in June.

Myra: Generational Wealth Workshop: May 14 at Judson Robinson Center. Difference between will and transfer-on-death deed. Transfer- on- death deed supersedes a will. Nobody can protest it. Must be notarized by a certified notary. Every six months, you should go to Harris County Clerk's Office Real Property section and input your last name and first name if you own property. If your title has been changed, let them know. They have a division for this. This is happening specifically with seniors. Working on legislation to send people a letter if title information has changed. You can check on other seniors as well.

Joe: Budget workshops will be coming up. Town Hall meeting on Saturday the 17th. Houston Parks and Rec will be looking for lifeguards. Pools will be open on a rotational basis. \$500 incentive for 2025 lifeguard summer jobs. National Night Out registration is open.

Thanks to District K for presenting Lindsey a certificate for Westbury Beautiful Day.

Thanks to WAIC for donating \$500 for Westbury Beautiful Day.

Debbie: Community Garden March 22 event was wonderful. Thanks to District K for acknowledgement of 15 year anniversary. Great turnout for breakfast and festival in the afternoon. Tomato tasting is Memorial Day Weekend on a Saturday, May 24. Photographer from event offered some volunteer students internships for the summer. Will produce four short documentaries about the history and operations of Westbury Community Garden. Students will put together a film festival/gala to show their work. Mural painting event will be part of the film-festival and provide community aspect for grant.

Veronica: Once inspections department moves to public works, her department will be smallest department in the city. Transition will happen by June 1st. They will be able to allocate more

funding for more inspections. Veronica will still have access to the system and will be able to view inspections. Employees were given early retirement letters. 720 will take early retirement. This is one of the mayor's budget-cutting steps. Going through every department to do restructuring. Asking department directors to consider how to restructure, including managers getting pay cuts.

Brian- May 3rd; 10-12 is the reveal of Bayland Master Plan Park. Event is called "Pinatas in the Park." Earth Day Festival coming up this Saturday. Finally have Parks and Community Center Maps.

Becky explained that we allocate some money each year to our schools. Mentioned the tennis courts at Westbury High and memorial plaque for Chet Smith. Money was raised but don't know status of project. Will said he would check into it.

Thanks to Veronica for Super Neighborhood Map which highlights many changes, including green space.

Marcia moved to adjourn and Stephen seconded. Meeting adjourned at 12::11.

#### Calendar of Upcoming Events:

Friends of WHS Foundation scholarship gala: May 3

Keegan Bayou Nature Walk and History: April 26

Donald Perkins -tentative trail dedication: May 17

**Westbury Area Improvement Corporation (WAIC) Board Meeting & Westbury  
Super Neighborhood #37 Monthly Meeting Tuesday, May 20, 2025 10:10 AM  
Meeting at Shannon Walker Library 11630 Chimney Rock**

**Call to Order & Welcome 10:10 a.m. & Introductions and Visitors, if any:** Meeting called to order at 10:08 a.m. Introduced Trudy Jacobs from Councilman Ramirez' office and Jenora Haynes from Westbury HS and thanked them for their attendance. Went around the table and introduced everyone.

**Attendees:** Becky Edmondson, David Roschke, Lindsey Pollock, Stephen Polnaszek, Skip Reeder, Jenora Haynes, Trudy Jacobs, Kathryn Noser, Marcia Hartman, Debbie Gordon, Jorge Rivera, Will Mader, Cappy Selig, Susan Shafer, Brian Pendleton, Bill Burhans.

**Secretary:** Susan presented minutes from April 2025: Accepted as presented.

Treasurer's report: Attached.

Need to approve final amounts spent for administrative Super Neighborhood grant. Kathryn ordered two 6 foot tablecloths with Westbury tree symbol and Westbury Super Neighborhood 37. Also purchased an 8 foot feather banner with logo. Total was \$365.

\$137.98 for a banner for Westbury Community Garden. \$225.61 for Office Depot for office supplies, paper, badges, notebooks.

**Speaker:** Bill Burhans will be retiring as President of Willow Waterhole Conservancy, as well as Becky and other members. Will have 5 new members. Bill originally came to WAIC in 2016 to ask for money for the pier. WAIC was among the first donors. Presented Becky with a book entitled "Wild Houston" which includes a section on Willow Waterhole. Becky thanked Bill for his leadership. Westbury will not have representation on the new board. Encouraged people to step forward.

**New business:**

Discussed meetings for June and July as the library is being used for summer programs. Will meet virtually in June and have no July meeting.

**Old business:**

Recap Perkins trail – May 17

Recap Gala

Garden engineering agreement signed

**Around the table:**

Schools: Westbury High School. Ms. Haynes is teaching marketing, business skills, and trademarks, Also teaching kids about networking, etc. Started Deca chapter. Brought in photographers for professional headshots and LinkedIn portfolios. Also helped seniors complete college visits. Began with 63 students and have 12 students now All have business plans. All students are going to a conference in Orlando for a partnership with Disney for culinary and marketing students.

Jorge from Anderson EL mentioned inadequacy of air conditioning. Continuing testing. Preparing for end-of-year promotion ceremonies. Will be increasing the height of the fences around the school. Fall Festival is Oct. 24. Discussed new fencing requirements for all schools. Spark Park is HISD property and has fence damage. Becky mentioned Hager Park, which had money allocated years ago but it was taken away. Hager Park needs major attention. City Parks Dept. did not contribute money to Willow Waterhole Bill mentioned the Developer Park Fund which has about \$35 million. We should pursue this funding for Platou Center and Hager Park. Anderson trying to plan events ahead. HISD selling off surplus property. Mentioned property behind Forrester EL.

Will thanked WAIC and Friends of Westbury for opportunities provided to Westbury students. Marcia asked if scholarships include trade schools. Westbury has a firefighting program, auto mechanics program and CPR. 13 of 15 applicants received scholarships for the auto mechanic program, which includes books and tools. 3 students in the auto mechanic program have already procured jobs at dealerships. Also mentioned the arts, film, voice-over careers. Will reminded the group that all programs are designed by the district. Bill mentioned that Westbury finished 2nd in the flag football championship. Kathryn: WAIC donated \$1500 for the past season as a show sponsor. Thanked the group for that support and asked for WAIC to again be a sponsor.

Lindsey moved to sponsor a show for \$1500, and Cappy seconded. Approved unanimously.

Debbie: Planet Forward is working on electricity project with CenterPoint. Poles will be on the east fence line close to the pocket prairie. Will run underground and build a cinder block building (cool box) for produce storage. Dept. of Neighborhoods grant deadline is June 2. Will have 3 invoices to submit for DON reimbursement. Want to get more young people involved in the garden so trying to get social media foodie and clean living influencers to attend the tomato tasting.

Lindsey moved to approve expenditures of \$1800 to promote Super Neighborhood from Super Neighborhood grant. Cappy seconded. Unanimously approved.

Brian: Precinct 4 will be having hurricane preparedness workshops. Commissioner wanted to recognize Mothers Doing Things. Becky was given a special resolution and all the mothers in the group were recognized. Thanked everyone for coming out to the Bayland Master Plan event.

Stephen: There will be another trail ribbon cutting June 7 at Sharpstown Trail at 8600 S. Gessner. Waiting for formal announcement. There is a proposed cement grinding plant at 295 Holmes Rd. and meeting is Thursday, May 22 at Corpus Christi Church. Becky thanked NTTSW for attending the Donald Perkins trail dedication event. Donald Perkins' family was grateful.

Lindsey: Westbury United Methodist is having a Pride Fest event June 7.

David: New Lutheran bishop has been elected.

Skip: Asked Will if any teachers at Westbury HS will be cut. Some positions may be absorbed with projected lower enrollment. Some of those may be non-certified personnel who haven't completed certification requirements.

Trudy from Councilman Ramirez' office: City is holding budget hearings all week. Schedule will be online. Also looking at hurricane preparedness and looking for locations to house Red Cross Shelters. Becky mentioned how the library received a temporary generator for Beryl and could be a hurricane shelter if there was a generator.

Cappy asked about the section of Parkwest that had whole new section of sidewalks installed. Can request through Safe Sidewalk Program.

David moved to adjourn. Cappy seconded.

Adjourned 11: 48 a.m

#### Calendar of Upcoming Events

May 24: Tomato Tasting at Westbury Community Garden: 10:00 a.m. to noon.

Summer is here and things are winding down.

Levitt Pavilion Music Fest at the Willow Waterhole: (Formerly Willow Waterhole Music Fest.)

Oct 25.

Deck the Halls parade: Dec 13

**Westbury Area Improvement Corporation (WAIC) Board Meeting & Westbury  
Super Neighborhood #37 Monthly Meeting Tuesday, June 17, 2025 10:10 AM  
Zoom**

Attendees: Clndy Chapman, Brian Pendleton, Becky Edmonson, Cappy Selig, Stephen Polnaszek, Skip Reeder, Veronica Hernandez, Susan Shafer, Kathryn Noser, Lucy McLaughlin, Marcia Hartman, Debbie Gordon

**Call to Order & Welcome 10:00 AM & Introductions and Visitors, if any:** Called to order at 10:09 a.m.

Secretary: Susan presented minutes from May 2025 and asked that they be accepted as presented. Minutes accepted by acclamation.

Treasurer's report: Marcia renewed both CDs last month and put them in vehicles that will renew in September. Rates are steady and should hold through summer.

**New business:** Haviland Park: Had a walkaround. Community members walked around and assessed the condition. One Church @ Bethel's Family is interested in bringing the park back to life. The Church wants to have more programs at the park. Martha Castex-Tatum is calling it a "refresh". It appears that they are just considering working on the current footprint. This park is more than double the size of a typical neighborhood park. Cindy said scope needs to consider that and perhaps add a phase two. There may be a homeless encampment on site. Becky mentioned the possibility of opening it up to include a trail connecting the school and the park. There will need to be clear visibility and no hidden areas. Coaches from Bethel asked about the possibility of a police storefront. There is a 250 unit apartment complex being built by the church and Bethel Christian Academy is there. This park is 18 acres. On Tuesday, June 24, from 6:00-7:30, there will be a meeting at Bethel Church. The park is not in our Super Neighborhood but important to stabilize that corner because so much crime comes from there. It is also the closest park to Westbury 4 and Westbury South. Discussion about neighborhood possibly purchasing apartments and other problem business locations.

**Hager Park:** Will have a community engagement meeting in the fall. \$3 million allocated for this park.

**Old business:** SN grants. Haven't heard anything on grant submissions. Veronica will check on grant. Becky and Veronica went to Kathleen Ownby's retirement party and then visited Dept. of Neighborhoods and met with Rhonda. Becky re-sent proof of payment. Kathryn showed the bags purchased for Westbury. Have also ordered I Love Westbury signs. Purchased 500 bags and 100 signs. Now have tablecloth, signs and banners as well. Have received paper and notebooks. Discussion about Music Fest at Willow Water Hole on October 25.

Should we do a Westbury table? Marcia suggested a Super Neighborhood Table. Asked if the NTTSW organization will have a table. Mentioned how long it is taking for Levitt Pavilion. Levitt still believes it will happen and Mayor Whitmore is on board. Will need to remove the public works building.

## **Around the table:**

Cindy mentioned commercial sights around Westbury. Randall's is closing. A new fitness gym will open this summer in the location of the old 99 Only. Marcia asked about the new distillery and Becky confirmed it is open. The used car dealer on Hillcroft is closed and for sale. Family Dollar on W. Airport is gone. Melvin retired from District K and Martha Castex-Tatum has received 80 applications for that position. Barbara Hite is on extended medical leave. District K will host a legislative update on June 21 @ 9:00 a.m.

Stephen: TIRS 25 is doing a feasibility study to connect Willow Waterhole Greenway with the other side of Main Street. It would be from Sims area to Willow Water Hole east of Chimney Rock and joining at the dead end of W. Airport. TIRS 9 would benefit from that connection as well.

Becky mentioned that the Hillcroft Linear park connecting Brays to Sims Bayou trails needs to be on Commissioner Briones' radar.

Kathryn: Company Onstage. The last round of shows for the season is running now. The evening show is a dark comedy called "Crimes of the Heart" and the children's show is "The Boy who Loved Monsters and the Girl Who Loved Peas." The annual gala is Saturday, July 19. The Company Onstage is almost one third of the way to their fundraising goal. Thanked WAIC for our support. Tickets are still available to the group.

Brian: Still registering people for the State of Texas Emergency Response. Just want people to plan ahead for disasters. Precinct 4 is continuing to host more hurricane workshops.

Veronica: Did a ride-around last week. Working on a spreadsheet.

Debbie: Settling into summer at Westbury Community Garden. The main focus is filling vacancies. The garden is continuing to work on videos with production company that filmed at Founders' breakfast. Interns will create short documentaries about the garden, volunteerism, donors, membership, history, etc. Will use a photo of a young girl watering as part of this series. The child is now 13 and has her own garden plot and chickens. Illustrates the importance of early teaching about where food comes from. Summer camp K-5 group will be coming to help fill soil in the wheelchair accessible bed. The Precinct 1 Department of Transportation contacted Debbie about an old request for funding driveways and parking. They are ready to start talking and Debbie will be working with the new person in charge of this.

Lucy: Attended senior breakfast at Westbury HS on June 2. The foundation gave \$500 to help pay for raffle items. The 12 scholarship winners were very appreciative. It was great to see the supportive people in the school and the good energy. The sports program is also filled with enthusiasm. Becky went to the sports award program and mentioned the same good energy. Becky also reminded our group about how house values are tied to the school system.

Cappy: Parker Elementary after school magnet program will now be combined with the regular school day. School hours will be 7:30-3:00. This means all students will be dismissed at the same time. Traffic will be impacted. Replacements are being hired for retiring music teachers. More in-depth discussion about traffic and parking around Parker. Traffic flow pattern is a problem. Veronica said she can help with no-parking zones.

Skip: Congratulated the WAIC, Super Neighborhood 37, other Super Neighborhoods, every civic club, every TIRS, every HOA with over 300 people, and management district. All of these stakeholders supported the Ruffino project. TCEQ has announced they have approved an

excavation plan for Ruffino landfill. Skip is pleased to see 8 years of advocacy for this project paying off. The project manager has been identified. An engineering company has been engaged. Brays Bayou Association meeting tonight at 7:00 at Jewish Community Center. Stephen asked how the project will be funded. The process will cost at least \$200 million.

Cindy moved to adjourn and Marcia seconded. Meeting adjourned at 11:35. a.m.

### **Calendar of Upcoming Events**

June 18: Westbury Civic Club: 7:00 p.m.

June 21: Legislative update for neighborhoods hosted by Martha Castex Tatum: 13097 Nitida

Oct. 25: Levitt Pavilion Music Fest at the Willow Waterhole

Dec. 13: Deck the Halls parade

June 24: Haviland (See below)

The Community Listening Session for Haviland Park will take place on Tuesday, June 24, at One Church @ Bethel's Family ([12660 Sandpiper Dr., Houston, TX 77035](https://www.google.com/maps/place/12660+Sandpiper+Dr,+Houston,+TX+77035)). A meet-and-greet and dinner will be served at 6 PM, and the presentation will begin at 6:30 PM. During the listening session, we will discuss the park's existing conditions and hope to hear the community's priorities going forward. The meeting will feature:

- Dinner, refreshments, and freebies
- Presentation on Let's Play Houston led by the design team & HPB
- Gift card giveaways to local area businesses
- Opportunity to complete the community survey
- This meeting is bilingual with Spanish interpretation services available!

Special thanks to Pastor Wilson August and the congregation of One Church @ Bethel's Family for hosting this meeting, as well as to all the local organizations involved, including Brays Oaks Super Neighborhood, Westbury Super Neighborhood, and the Westbury Community Garden, for their support on community engagement.

Questions? Email: [info@houstonparksboard.org](mailto:info@houstonparksboard.org)

**Let us know your thoughts - complete the survey today!**

You are being asked to complete this survey to provide feedback on priorities for improvements to Haviland Park. Survey Link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/XLC9G7K>

**Westbury Area Improvement Corporation (WAIC) Board Meeting & Westbury Super Neighborhood #37  
Monthly Meeting Tuesday, August 19 2025 10:10 AM**

**Attendees:** Cappy Selig, Sophie Adams, Leah Wolfthal, Kenneth Utley, Sarah Gill, Derrick Chigabatia, Kay Wasden, Amanda Gleason, Marcia Hartman, Lindsey Pollock, Cindy Chapman, Joe Gatson, Will Mader, Stephen Polnaszek, Lucy McLaughlin, Debbie Gordon, Susan Shafer, Veronica Hernandez, Kathryn Noser, Jenora Haynes, Becky Edmondson.

**Call to Order & Welcome: 10:10 AM & Introductions and Visitors, if any:** Meeting called to order at 10:12 a.m..

Introduction of Derrick Chigabatia and Sarah Gill with Shannon Walker Library and Kenneth Utley with Tech Link. Introduction of Sophie Adams, Precinct 1 Community Engagement. Sophie works for Rodney Ellis as Community Affairs Advisor. There are 1.2 million people in Precinct 1. Would love to come to neighborhood meetings, private parties, etc. She is from Seattle and originally moved here to work on a campaign and is also on the board of Willow Waterhole. Introduction of group around the table.

**Secretary:** Susan presented minutes from June 2025. Minutes accepted as presented.

**Treasurer's report:** Report distributed. Marcia said that two CDs are coming up for renewal in September and will review rates at that time.

**Speaker:** Amanda Gleason, Community Flood Resilience Task Force, Outreach Strategies. Amanda is the lead facilitator for the task force put together by the Commissioner's Court. 17 members appointed by individual commissioners. Task force will make sure the Flood Resilience Plan represents the needs of the community. The plan will go all the way to 2051. Will work with departments to make sure benefits are distributed where they need to be. Meetings are on the last Tuesday of each month from 5:30-7:30. All meetings are virtual if you would like to include your voice. There are still a couple of positions open and you can apply to be on the task force through the office of Boards and Commissions. Small groups are being led by the Harris County Flood Control District.

Introduced Kay Wasden: Executive Director, Community of Resources Houston. CORHOUSTON. Started in 2021 at Westbury High School. Originally supported emergency needs as requested such as food, hygiene supplies, etc. Expanded to Westbury and beyond. Now expanded to all Title 1 schools in HISD.

[Kay@CORHouston.org](mailto:Kay@CORHouston.org). They never work with individuals but deliver to the schools.

**New business:**

Donations in memory of Bill Edmondson: Donations to WAIC in memory of Bill Edmondson totaled \$5,255. Becky thanked everyone for their generosity.

Cappy: Walking path between Hummingbird and Bankside is becoming a problem with people walking their dogs off-leash. This is happening on other maintained bayou trails. Discussed placing signs at several locations. Flood Control has some signs. Signs should be double-sided. Cappy moved to evaluate the cost of signs up to \$500. Lindsey amended to approve a purchase of up to \$500 on signs for walking paths. Kathryn seconded. Approved unanimously.

## **KPRC Channel 2 Our Town segment filming in September: discuss topics**

KPRC 2 'Our Town' Mission: Our Town's mission is to dive deep into the stories of communities right here in our area. These are places where people face tough challenges every day, yet they keep pushing forward. We want to share their journeys, from the roots of their neighborhoods to the vibrant mix of cultures and languages that make them unique. We strive to uncover the untold tales of our communities, celebrate their resilience, and aim to bring our community as a whole closer together, one story at a time.

Discussion included possible stops at community garden, library, Willow Water Hole, and new schools. General discussion about Westbury Square.

## **Donation to the Music Fest - see sponsorship form attached**

**New grant opportunity from the City- Ideas?** Veronica will forward all details as they are available. See description below.

**Matching Grant intent due by August 31. Up to \$5,000 .** Super Neighborhood grant details forthcoming.

**Think about ideas for these grants.** Mentioned signal boxes, crosswalks.

*The City of Houston Department of Neighborhoods is offering a dollar-for-dollar matching grant reimbursement from \$500 to \$5,000 to support neighborhood improvement and beautification projects.*

### ***Who's eligible?***

- Neighborhood-based or civic organizations registered as 501(c)(3) or 501(c)(4) nonprofits in Texas*
- Or partnered with a 501(c)(3) or 501(c)(4) nonprofit if not registered themselves*
- Must represent a specific area within Houston city limits*
- Must demonstrate plans to fund and maintain the project in the future*
- Note: Political organizations and individuals are not eligible.*

### ***Key Dates:***

- **August 31, 2025:** Submit your Intent to Apply form by 11:59 p.m. (Early submission encouraged!)*
- **November 1, 2025:** Deadline to submit your full application packet*
- **May 31, 2026:** Project completion and all documentation due*

### ***How to get started:***

***Register*** for the online Information Session and watch the 15-minute video to learn about qualifying projects, the application process, and grant requirements.

Download the [Intent to Apply](#) form, [application packet](#), and [instructions](#) to begin.

*This is a great opportunity to make a visible difference in your neighborhood. Don't miss out!*

**Old business:** Super Neighborhood grant money has been received. \$7,733.00 through the garden.

Received \$5,255 in memory of Bill Edmondson.

Received \$1,713 for supplies, etc.

- **Working the Westbury table at Music Fest.** Looking for volunteers to work shifts on October 25. The festival is put on by Levitt Pavilion. Becky just went to the convention. Possibilities are endless. The purpose of Levitt is the economic development piece for our area. Becky showed the revitalization plan that has been used for the past 25 years. We have had many successes including 300 acres of Willow Waterhole. Suggested a donation to the Music Fest. Marcia moved to donate \$750 to Levitt Pavilion Music Fest. Cappy seconded. Approved unanimously. Headliner is Skyrocket, an HEB sponsored headliner band.

#### **Around the table:**

Joe with District K: Eric Goodwine couldn't come to the meeting today but he will replace Melvin Hopkins, and Justice Coutee- McCullum replaces Barbara Hite. National Night Out is Oct. 7. Organizations need to register.

Marcia: Houston Community College meeting. Rebranding as Houston City College. Offering two baccalaureate degrees. Offering a 4 year degree at community college prices. High school kids are now able to graduate with a 2-year associate degree.

Lindsey: Oct. 4th is White Elephant Sale at Westbury United Methodist Church. WUMC is having its 70th Anniversary celebration. Sept. 6 is a block party with free live music, bounce houses. Sept. 27: Gala to celebrate 70 years. Passed around a sponsorship letter. National Night Out at Westbury Community Garden on Oct. 7. It is also the 70th year for Westbury Civic Club.

Westbury UMC Heritage month. Lindsey moved to donate \$1500. Harvest Helper Level. Seconded by Cappy. Passed unanimously.

Will: Westbury High School: The new school year is off to a good start. New theme: One Pack, One Purpose. Score went from 72 to 85. The purpose now is to get into the 90's. 30 New staff members. Majority of staff returning. The cell phone requirement has worked out well. Enrollment approx. 1820. Projected 1890 but students continue to come in. The 1st PTO meeting is on Sept 9. Will offer virtual attendance opportunities.

Stephen: Trails organization is trying to hire an intern funded by one of the naturalist organizations. Meeting tomorrow at noon. Approached by Precinct 4 to provide info on projects in the precinct. It is great that they are reaching out. Both Precinct 1 and 4 have interests. Working on all kinds of connecting trails, even with Fort Bend County. Becky mentioned it would be nice to connect the neighborhood down the bayou trails.

Jenora from Westbury High School: Had 13 DECA students last year. All committed to college and three received full-ride scholarships. She even accompanied one student to orientation. Working toward the DECA Marketing Conference and 8 students will attend. Working on fundraising for this. Scholarship Zoom chat has grown outside of Westbury. [Jenora.Haynes@HoustonISD.org](mailto:Jenora.Haynes@HoustonISD.org)

Lucy: Had a great gala and gave out 12 scholarships. The application talks about community college and university but would like to include technical opportunities. Westbury has EMT, Firefighter, Autoshop, and Engineering.

Veronica: Asked for a moment of silence for recently deceased friends. She will forward the Super Neighborhood grant program this week.

Brian with Precinct 4: Register for STEAR, the State of Texas Emergency Assistance Registry.

Oct. 4 from 9:00-12:00 is the shred event at Fonteno Senior Education Center.

Kathryn with Company Onstage: Fiscal year started August 1st. Have reached 50% of the fundraising goal.

Our WAIC donation will allow WAIC to sponsor a show. Would like to have WAIC sponsor the first show of the year. Just added four new board members with focus on strategic partners. Coordinating with local libraries to advertise free children's performance. "Blythe Spirit" opens Oct. 3 and "Kid Frankenstein" opens Oct. 4.

They have developed a plan for the future space at Willow Water Hole.

Sophie Adams with Precinct 1: Things with the budget are changing every day. The county is not allowed to run a deficit. Tough budget cuts. Voted last week to raise salaries of constables and deputies. It may raise the cost to communities. Our cost for Westbury is \$299K. ([sophie.adams@cp1.hctx.net](mailto:sophie.adams@cp1.hctx.net)) Commissioner Ellis voted against these raises. Reach out if you ever want to speak at a commissioner's court meeting. Will be discussing flooding at the meeting on Sept. 18. Public comment is during the first two hours. Harris County Flood Control Safer Study is soliciting public comments on their website.

Debbie: Community Garden updates: New relationship with UT McGovern Medical School. 1st year medical students come to the garden for their community service. Will investigate the neighborhood to learn non-medical drivers of health. The same students will come back as 2nd year students and there will be a new crop of 1st year students. Sally Alcorn At- Large and staff are coming to volunteer on August 29 from 8:00-10:00 a.m.. Will hopefully finish the wheelchair garden. Had a productive talk with Heights of Post Oak Apartments. They are doing new things to reduce crime and want to partner for National Night Out. Have an HPD Bingo Night in their Community Room. Converting a laundry room to a senior center. They have a new software screening process which will help eliminate gang element and fraudulent bank accounts and driver's licenses. Those resources will help eliminate the people who caused problems. Becky asked about empty apartments and squatters. Hazel Potvin is working with the HOT Team to remove tires and pallets. Outreach to Foerster Elementary has provided the school with new flowers and beds.

## **Calendar of Upcoming Events**

August 20: Westbury Civic Club 7 PM

September 27: Saturday. The WCG Fall Gardening class is free and open to the public at the Shannon Walker Neighborhood Library with a follow-up hands-on gardening class at the garden on October 4.

October 7: Tuesday. National Night Out in the Westbury Community Garden 6:00 - 8:00 PM. music, food, and fun! We'll have free grilled hotdogs, baked beans and a potluck of other sides and desserts. We are grateful for the support of H-E-B for our National Night Out event.

October 25: Levitt Pavilion Music Fest at the Willow Waterhole

December 13: Deck the Halls Parade

Meeting adjourned at 12:06 p.m.



Westbury Area Improvement Corporation (WAIC) & and Westbury Super Neighborhood #37  
Tuesday, September 16, 2025, 10:10 a.m. Location: Dr. Shannon Walker Library

**Attendees:** Lindsey Pollock, Marcia Hartman, Sara Davidson, Chelsea John, Darlena Parker, Stephen Polnaszek, Helen Chou, Sophie Adams, Brian Pendleton, Cindy Chapman, Skip Reeder, Jorge Rivera, Mayra Hypolite, David Roschke, Eric Goodwine, Veronica Hernandez, Debbie Gordon, Susan Shafer, Becky Edmondson. Hazel Potvin, Cappy Selig.

**Agenda**

Call to Order and Welcome: Meeting called to order at 10:10 a.m.

- Opening remarks: Celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month. Becky introduced organization and did introductions around the table.

**Secretary's Report:** Susan asked that the August 2025 minutes be accepted as presented. Minutes accepted unanimously.

**Treasurer's Report:** Has been distributed in packet. Marcia asked if there were any questions.

**Guest Speaker:** There is no scheduled speaker. Becky asked the HISD Community Partnership rep to speak. Chelsea John is supporting the West District. Can direct people to key school partners and ensure more partners can join in HISD initiatives. Has been with HISD for 5 months. Initially a teacher in NYC public schools. Cindy said she was glad to see this partnership as we have lost touch somewhat with the schools. Lindsey asked if Chelsea could bring a list of SDMC members for our neighborhood schools so we can know who represents the community in our area schools. Anderson Elementary still has air-conditioning problems, and this is a priority for our organization. Westbury has 6 elementary schools.

**New Business:**

- Anderson Elementary request: \$700 for student incentives (popsicles, chips, ice cups) for Zearn Math Challenge. Cindy moved to approve \$700 for student incentives. Skip seconded and it was approved unanimously.

- Brooke Thompson: Concerns regarding nearby properties; seeking legal opinion on next steps. He wants to know what will be happening in the future. The city has responsibility to provide fencing around the Spring Village site. Concerned about vandalism to the post office and Shell property. Also concerned about Antonini property adjacent to Home Depot. Wants to engage a law firm. Cindy said we need to see the plans for the Spring Village site because we want detention and green space and we have never seen a plan from Public Works Dept. The detention basin will be transferred to Harris County Flood Control District upon completion. Joe said they get weekly updates on these projects and he will keep us updated. His number is 346-339- 2775. Veronica will ask the director of Public Works to come to our next meeting. Becky commented that she did the Our Town interview with Channel 2 and filmed some at Westbury Square, as well as highlighting the new growth and improvements.. Cindy will take on Postmaster General concern to share complaints about our Westbury Station Post Office. Thanks to Mr. Thompson for his concerns and we will be re-addressing these issues with our current and new city liaisons.

Platou Community Center hours were reduced from 8:30 to 3:30. There is currently a temporary supervisor. Veronica said many departments are having problems with personnel because of retirements.

### **Around the Table:**

Sophie is with Precinct 1: County has passed budget. The county has been chronically underfunded for years. Programs were cut to balance the budget. Lead abatement, county disaster resilience, nuisance abatement, emergency environmental response, and pollution control investigations are all areas which will function at reduced levels. Rodney Ellis wanted to stagger constable raises but that didn't happen, and the county had to make substantial cuts. Civic groups will make up the difference because there was no plan to pay for it. This coming Thursday, Commissioners Court will talk about flood equity. Dr. Peterson from Harris County Flood Control will be present. Please feel free to speak at meetings. Precinct 1 will have a Hispanic Heritage festival on Sept. 27.

Brian- Precinct 4. Hispanic Heritage Festival also on Sept. 27.

Working Together for Resilience- September 22 from 1:00-3:30.

Sara, the representative from Councilman Ramirez' office, asked that we reach out with concerns, meetings and events.

Skip: The city owns Ruffino Landfill site. The Corps of Engineers is doing a study for detention and drainage.

Veronica: Have completed ridealongs with Super Neighborhoods to see hotspots. Send her names of seniors needing mowing and cleaning help. Senior events coming up. Trying to do a pre-National Night Out with law enforcement. National Night Out is at Gulfton this year with Trey the Truth and DJ Boss.

Debbie talked about National Night Out at the Garden. Tuesday, Oct. 7, 6-8 p.m.

Lindsey reminded the group that WUMC is having their 70th anniversary gala on Sept. 27th.

Thanked WAIC for our support. We have 4 tickets for the event. .

Super Neighborhood Administrative Grant: Discussion on use of funds (e.g., business cards, name tags, other items) Darlena Parker with DON explained that this is the second year of this program. There are two parts, an administrative side and a project side. Administrative part is up to a \$2,000 reimbursement and can be used for office supplies or marketing for National Night Out or neighborhood marketing, such as name tags and signs. Super Neighborhood Project Grant is \$500- \$7,000 for the Super Neighborhood. The deadline is Oct. 6. The project can start as soon as November 1st. Administrative grant isn't due until May. The matching grant is same department but in a different division. There is a form. Can include monthly rentals such as Zoom subscription or P.O. Box.

Eric with District K will find out who is responsible for repair of the collapsed wall at Northwest corner of Chimney Rock at West Bellfort. Eric brought up illegal dumping and trash in the district. "Meet the Team" with Mayor Pro-Tem is this Saturday. For National Night Out, be sure you have sent your information to Joe Gatson. Buffalo Speedway has been cleaned up. People putting heavy trash out early is a problem because others dump more trash on the pile. Will be working with inspectors very closely. He is canvassing and looking for illegal dumping. We have one chronic dumpsite in Westbury in the 12000 block of Braewick. Starting to put up more cameras. 5 cameras are pending and will be installed into the streetlights. They have night

vision and are real-time. It's important when installing cameras to capture people's faces. Eric has extensive experience in working with constituents.

Becky said that the Mayor Pro-Tem talked to Mike Miles and HISD has taken the land adjacent to Foerster Elementary off the market. Debbie said the garden needs some No Camping and No Dumping signs. Lindsey suggested that the city have a designated site accessible for dumping outside traditional hours. Maybe there is money for a pilot program or a grant to defray costs. Debbie moved that the \$7000 project grant be used for two new storage sheds for the Westbury Community Garden. Cappy seconded. Approved unanimously. WAIC will also apply for a matching grant due Nov. 1. Cindy moved that Super Neighborhood apply for matching grants of up to \$5,000 for general enhancements. Cappy seconded. Approved unanimously.

Cindy spoke about the transition problems at the railroad crossings at Hillcroft and Chimney Rock. Mentioned that the city was able to help in the past.

Stephen will give a 5 minute speech at Houston Parks Board tonight. Will have tables at Pct.4 Hispanic Heritage Festival and also at Levitt Pavilion Music Fest for people who would like to learn more about trails and projects.

Mayra: County Clerk won settlement on behalf of Harris County residents. Retrieved properties for 42 residents. There are steps to follow if you are scammed out of your property: Call HPD, hire an attorney, and let the Harris County Clerk's office know.

How to research your title: County clerks have to let you know if anything on your title has changed. If you file a lawsuit because you have been scammed, the filing fee has been waived. Mayra distributed information about how to check your property.

Susan mentioned that Parker EL did not meet their enrollment projection. As of last week, enrollment was 884 and projection was 919. They are continuing to add students who are not currently enrolled in an HISD school.

Jorge: Most classrooms at Anderson EL have A/C units running. One chiller needs to be repaired. When they put in higher powered units, sometimes pipes burst and that creates another problem. Enrollment projection was 575 and they met projection.

Lindsey moved to adjourn. Cappy seconded. The meeting adjourned at 12:04 p.m.

#### Calendar of Upcoming Events

- Sept 17 – Westbury Civic Club Annual Meeting @ 7:00 p.m.
- Sept 27 – WUMC Gala
- Oct 4 – White Elephant Sale
- Oct 7 – National Night Out (Tuesday)
- Oct 25 – Levitt Pavilion Music Fest @ Willow Waterhole

Westbury Area Improvement Corporation / Westbury Super Neighborhood #37

Dr. Shannon Walker Library

Meeting Minutes for October 21, 2025

**Attending:** Becky Edmondson, Lindsey Pollock, Cindy Chapman, Skip Reeder, Cappy Selig, Debbie Gordon, Kathryn Noser, Stephen Polnacek, Jorge Rivera (Anderson Elem), Jenora Haynes (Westbury High School), Jessica Zapata (Communities in Schools – at Anderson Elementary), Veronica Hernandez (City of Houston Dept of Neighborhoods), Brian Pendleton (Harris County Precinct 4), and Hazel Potvin (Friends of Chimney Rock Park, Westbury Community Garden)

**WAIC President Becky Edmondson:** Welcome and introductions. Next month will be WAIC Annual Meeting and Election of Executive Committee. Chair of Nominating Committee is David Roschke. Bill Burhans will be the November speaker. The September 2025 meeting minutes were **APPROVED** as presented, per a motion by Chapman/Reeder.

**Old Business:** Musicfest 2025 is canceled due to predicted rain this weekend. Pollinator Gardens for Anderson Elementary – school got a grant and also Edmondson is donating a separate pollinator garden installation that she obtained at an auction during the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration of Westbury United Methodist Church.

City of Houston Administrative Grant for Super Neighborhoods –possible ideas: name tags, car bumper stickers saying I Love Westbury, develop a logo for WAIC and SNC37, or signs for esplanades about No Parking. Deadline for reimbursements is in May.

Illegal Parking on Esplanades - Hernandez says any signs would have to be approved by HPARD (Parks Dept). Edmondson hears that the police department is not enforcing parking violation related to yards or esplanades due to other higher priorities. If not police, then how are those ordinances being enforced? Pollock was told by District C that signs are not required for the city to enforce illegal esplanade parking and to report via 311. Discussion was held about a bar on Hillcroft where customers are parking illegally on that esplanade, with suggestions to ask police to talk to the bar owner and also for the Super Neighborhood to start collecting complaints about that location.

**New Business:**

\* Discussion about creating a new award for Westbury community advocates and first awardee to be nominated. Motion by Selig/Noser was **APPROVED** to create a “Westbury Warrior” community advocate award with the first award to be made to the person discussed during the meeting.

\* A researcher at Rice University has contacted Edmondson about working with the Westbury community for community-engaged green infrastructure for flood resilience. The researchers have been working with two other Houston communities. There will be a Zoom meeting next week to discuss with the researchers, and then if both sides are agreeable, a tour of Westbury will be scheduled.

**Updates from Around the Table:**

Kathryn Noser – Company On Stage is working with Houston Public Library with one free performance in October, December, February, April, and June on 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday for Youth Performance plays. Haynes and Zapata

Westbury Area Improvement Corporation / Westbury Super Neighborhood #37

Dr. Shannon Walker Library

Meeting Minutes for October 21, 2025

said their organizations would like to learn more. Noser said WHS students can participate if they are responsible and have transportation to the venue.

Brian Pendleton – Precinct 4 is holding a Senior Resources Fair on October 23. Calendar of upcoming events.

Becky Edmondson – Harris County Justice of Peace Judge Wanda Adams reached out to her about an upcoming public meeting in November to discuss the new Eviction Process.

Stephen Polnaczek - he will be speaking tonight at the Brays Bayou Association meeting on behalf of Neighborhoods to Trails Southwest.

Veronica Hernandez – there have been many complaints about delays in Heavy Trash being picked up, with discussion it was missed for two months in Westbury. There will be an online meeting for TX House District 146 Representative Lauren Ashley Simmons tonight, and Hernandez will send the meeting info to Edmondson.

Lindsey Pollock – the brick wall at the corner of Chimney Rock and West Bellfort continues to degrade after being hit numerous times by vehicles. If it is not replaced, a vehicle may end up falling into the stormwater drainage ditch behind the damaged barrier. Either the city or the county flood control district needs to replace this damaged barrier, but neither one wants to accept responsibility. The barrier was built decades ago by the original community developers, which no longer exist.

Jorge Rivera – The HVAC system at Anderson Elementary has failed and a temporary air conditioning unit is being used. Enrollment is stable. There will be a school festival on Friday this week at the school from 5 – 7 pm.

Jessica Zapata – She has been based at Anderson Elementary for about a month with Communities in Schools. CIS has many partners and every school has its own needs.

Cindy Chapman – the city has several capital projects planned (Hager Park, Spring Village Detention Site, and Westbury Street and Drainage SubProject One) and we have not yet had much info from the city about these projects.

Cappy Selig – at a prior meeting we discussed purchasing signs to Keep Dogs on Leash. She had purchased 20 and had posted 5 of them. All 5 signs have either been damaged or removed.

Meeting adjourned at 11:38 am per motion by Selig/Noser.

Meeting Minutes prepared by Cindy Chapman on behalf of WAIC Secretary Susan Shafer.

**Westbury Area Improvement Corporation (WAIC) & Westbury Super Neighborhood #37**  
**Tuesday, November 18, 2025 Time: 10:10 AM Location: Dr. Shannon Walker Library**

Attendees: Becky Edmondson, Susan Shafer, Marcia Hartman, Cindy Chapman, Bill Burhans, Skip Reeder, Stephen Polnaszek, Sophie Adams, Howard Sacks, Kathryn Noser, Veronica Hernandez, David Roschke, Eric Goodwine, Rania Droubi, Danny Millikin, Chelsea John.

**1. Call to Order & Welcome and Introductions:** Meeting called to order at 10:12 a.m.

Introduced Rania from Councilman Ramirez' office. Chelsea with HISD re-introduced herself and gave HISD updates: SDMC (Shared Decision Making Committee) is now part of FACE department.(Family and Community Engagement) Parent University is helping with workshops, district programs, community resources and parenting skills. Food distributions have ramped up because of delay in SNAP benefits and are happening in Sunrise Centers. Coat Drive will be at the Sunrise Center on West Orem. Sunrise Centers replaced wraparound services and provide direct services to families.

Becky spoke about conversations with Mayor Whitmire and Councilman Ramirez at the Keep Houston Beautiful Meeting about heavy trash pick-up.

**2. Secretary's Report**

- Review and approval of October 2025 meeting minutes. Approved by acclamation. Thanks to Cindy for providing minutes for the October meeting. Spelling of Stephen's last name will be corrected.

**3. Treasurer's Report**

- Financial update and budget overview: Marcia will complete the financial reports through the end of the fiscal year and then Cindy Chapman will take over.

Becky announced the presentation of our first Westbury Warrior award. Howard Sacks became president of the newly formed Willow Waterhole Conservancy in 2001.

Groundbreaking didn't begin until 2004. Music Fest was his brainchild. Instrumental in bringing Levitt Pavillion to Willow Waterhole. Has taken 300 acres of deserted light industrial space and turned it into the space we have today. Howard believes these two projects are indicative of where we are headed. He recognized those who went before in working for our neighborhood. Dabney Kennedy, David Roschke, Bob Schwartz. "It isn't just one person. Warriors are people who believe in getting stuff done."

**4. Guest Speaker- Bill Burhans:** Presentation on the former Shell E&P Technology Center at 5511 Gasmer Dr. Bill was asked to serve on a master plan committee for this property. Developed pictures of the property which were used by the city after they purchased the property as their road map. Who owns the property? It has been a mess for years, so what is going on? What were the structures used for? Is there toxic material in the ground? Why did they demolish some buildings but not all? The facility opened in 1955 with breakthroughs in oilfield technology, horizontal drilling, and testing. It was in operation for almost 65 years. Added to the property through 2010. In 2016, learned that Shell wanted to get rid of the property. In 2017, Hurricane Harvey hit. In 2019, Sylvester Turner procured \$3 million in federal flood relief funds and Shell donated \$7 million.

The city took control in 2019. Buildings damaged, air conditioning and wiring stripped, homeless lived on property. No security was provided from the city and damages were in the millions of dollars. Martha Castex Tatum suggested getting a TIRZ involved in redevelopment. The administration building is 13,000 square feet, Shell remodeled in 2012, bathrooms, internet infrastructure, offices. It has all been vandalized and stripped.. This building will be preserved. It will cost \$2 million to restore to 2012 condition. In 2023, TIRZ #20 annexed Willow Waterhole and Gasmer property into its district. Began negotiations with the city in 2024 to purchase property for redevelopment. Offered to trade another property but the city turned down that deal. Public Works wants to retain ownership of 12 acres for stormwater detention. The city proposed a deal where TIRZ would pay for construction of a basin plus pay for the other 17 acres. Essentially, the city profits from Shell's donation and gets the federal government and TIRZ to pay for 12 acres and detention. The sandblasting facility would be a picnic pavilion. Tanks will be saved to retain oil field history. Kathryn explained Company on Stage is interested in the Brown Warehouse (6500 square feet.) Already has designs drawn up for a 99 seat theater, workshop, dressing room, and storage. Also small black box theater which will be available to small arts organizations for a nominal fee to extend the mission to keep arts accessible and affordable. There are four deep horizontal wells. Deepwater Horizon repair divers trained at this facility because of accessibility of deep holes. 15 vertical wells. Had electrical, fiber optics, plumbing. Thieves have actually dug 12-15 feet down. The signature structure is the oil derrick. The process upgrading facility has two newer metallic buildings. (3000 sf) The large shop building has 8000 sf and the old main garage is 8000 sf.

Howard explained how Levitt Foundation approved a music pavilion in 2012. HCFCD (Harris County Flood Control District) was onboard and excavated the bank in 2014 to allow for bowl seating. A major hiccup occurred in 2017, when HCTRA (Harris County Toll Road Authority) proposed a toll road project that would connect SW corner of 610 Loop to Highway 90A. This created doubt in the feasibility of the Levitt Pavilion along South Post Oak and was a setback. Advocated strongly for purchase of the Shell property. In 2019 the city purchased the property. So, the first major defeat was followed by a major victory. The city has failed in their obligation to provide the land, which will now come at a cost. They are supposed to provide security and maintenance. This negligence has put the project \$13 million in the hole. Current estimate for building the pavilion is \$10M. Estimates for restoration of the administration building are \$2M. Approx \$2-3M more would be required to restore utilities, parking, restrooms. It will require funding from private organizations. We have a responsibility to initiate fundraising.

## 5. Old Business

- SN Administrative Grant: Discussion on use of funds (e.g., business cards, name tags, other items)
- National Science Foundation funded a research project that is investigating how community-engaged green infrastructure could help to build flood resilience in the Houston area. Becky discussed having a gateway to the Willow Waterhole.

## 6. New Business : 2026 Slate of Officers

Cindy has agreed to replace Marcia as treasurer.

Thanks to Marcia for serving in the position.

Slate of Officers:

President: Becky Edmondson                      Vice President: David Roschke  
Secretary: Susan Shafer                      Treasurer: Cindy Chapman

Skip moved to approve slate of officers and Kathryn seconded. Passed unanimously.

The presidents of the two organizations, the Westbury Civic Club and the Westbury Area Improvement Corp., serve as co-chairs of the Super Neighborhood Council. 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. They will become the Secretary and Treasurer of both the WAIC as well as the Super Neighborhood.

Motion to preserve public access and community engagement in public parks. Discussion about Bellaire Little League taking open space in a city park for a baseball field.

Motion: The Westbury Area Improvement Corporation moves to preserve public access and community engagement in City of Houston parks by affirming the two following statements:

1. Free and Open Access: All City of Houston parks shall remain open and free to the public, ensuring equitable access for residents and visitors.
2. Community Consultation: Prior to implementing any major changes, renovations, or repurposing of parks, the City shall engage in meaningful consultation with neighborhoods directly affected. This process should include public meetings, surveys, and opportunities for feedback to ensure that community voices are heard and considered.

David moved for the motion to be passed as presented and Cindy seconded. Passed unanimously.

## **7. Around the Table**

Sophie: Harris Health has proposed an expansion using eminent domain to take over 8.9 acres of Hermann Park land. This is the grassy tree area next to Ben Taub. The head of Harris Health came to Commissioners Court and gave a presentation. Ben Taub is one of two Level 1 trauma centers. They say they have been operating at a sub-standard capacity for a long time. Each commissioner's office will allow space for Harris Health to hold a town hall so community members can understand what is at stake. Sophie can provide an email where people can send comments. Harris Health wants this property because they believe they can increase capacity, bed space, and services without building a separate facility. Hermann Park Conservancy's plan for the space is to build a parking lot.

Kathryn: The Company OnStage is presenting two holiday shows in December: "Every Christmas Story Ever Told (And Then Some)" and "Twas the Night Before Christmas."

Eric: Wants the group to know he heard concerns about the Willow Waterhole. His job is to ascertain the issues and it takes time to work through them. He is tasked with taking care of the Super Neighborhoods, HOAs, Civic Clubs, and constituents. We have to get creative. John Richardson is the new director of Solids Waste. 3 big issues are heavy trash, illegal dumping, blighted properties. Westbury has fewer blighted properties than many other areas.

Stephen: As the person who proposed the idea of the bridge over South Main, he is happy to announce that TIRZ 25 has completed a feasibility study and is going to do an engineering study, which means they are taking the project very seriously.

**Adjourned at 11:59**

**8. Calendar of Upcoming Events**

- Dec 10 Westbury Holiday Party Drop of the Creator, 6 to 8 PM
- Dec 13 – Deck the Halls Parade