

Meadowbrook Freeway Civic & Recreation Association

8102 Rockhill St. Houston, TX. 77061 Voice Mail [713-481-2474](tel:713-481-2474)

Meeting Minutes

Monday, May 7, 2018

Present / *Non-Present*:

Board Members

Damon Gilmore, President
Eddie Luna, Vice President
Ed Nunez, Treasurer
Doris Ramos, Secretary

Residents / Non-Board Members

Tony Rodriguez
Romulo Ramos
Robert Mendoza
Fernando Cardoza,
Constable Diaz
Sue Seely
Frank Pell
Velma Allen
Hank Dyskrtra
Irving Gonzalez
Gloria Alvarez,
Councilmember Gallegos
Linda Oaks-Mack
Tracy Dudley

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 p.m. An invocation was offered by Mr. Nunez. Mr. Cardoza introduced himself and noted that a representative will be in attendance at our meetings moving forward. He stated that Constable Diaz's office can be reached at any time for any inquiries or concerns. Ms. Gloria Alvarez introduced herself and noted that their office is currently working on different issues around the neighborhood, including illegal activities, addressing homeless issues, as well as wrapping up the investigation regarding the sexually oriented business that was initiated at the end of 2017. Ms. Alvarez pointed out that the trash pick-up schedule is now getting caught up with the normal schedule and should resume with the normal routine soon. She continued to report that any issues reported to 311 without resolution can be brought up to her and she will follow up using the service request number provided by 311.

New faces introduced themselves. Mr. Rodriguez stated that he is a previous neighborhood resident, with his parents currently living in the neighborhood. Ms. Dudley noted she is also a previous neighborhood resident and she worked as life guard before the Civic Club's pool was closed. She promoted her non-profit organization "Project Girls" which advocates for human trafficking; she is also a victim service provider for HPD. Ms. Dudley stated that she would like to be part of an initiative to provide stable housing for women that would be interested. More to follow up on this issue.

Current board members, volunteers and other people in attendance also introduced themselves. Mr. Gilmore noted that Ms. Seely has volunteered to help with planning of some of the Association's activities. Last month's Meeting Minutes and Treasurer's Report were read and approved without objections. Mr. Mendoza questioned the amount of current advertisements and Mr. Gilmore noted that there is a smaller number of advertising companies, but at a higher advertising rate, yielding a higher revenue. Mr. Nunez asked if previous members have been contacted to renew; Mr. Gilmore replied that they have, but most of the phone numbers in file have been disconnected. He stated that letters could be mailed if postage is approved.

The Civic Club currently has 3 rentals booked, on May 19, 20 and 26. Ms. Ramos pointed out that janitorial supplies are being delivered in the following days. Mr. Nunez pointed out that the toilet and hand soap dispensers have been installed and the door hardware has been re-keyed. Other items pending are installing new window blinds and fixing the kitchen cabinets, including to provide a set of cabinets to be able to lock for janitorial supplies, etc.

Mr. Rodriguez questioned the procedure for the facility rentals scheduled back-to-back, noting that he had scheduled an event where he encountered the facility in a less than clean condition from the previous event. Mr. Gonzalez stated that he was present that morning and helped to facilitate cleaning the space. Ms. Ramos pointed out that she will help to re-write the contract to avoid this conflict. More coordination to follow. The Sunshine report was given by Ms. Allen.

Unfinished business was addressed. Ms. Ramos pointed out that a quote for the replacement of the swing sets is pending since the use would be considered small commercial and the warranties could be voided. She added that it should take approximately 2-3 weeks to get them installed once purchased. There was conversation about the BBQ benefit event to raise funds for the purchase of the swing sets, with the main focus being to show the updates to the facility. Ms. Alvarez volunteered to donate tickets to the Children's Museum from Councilmember Gallegos's office for this event. The date will be finalized after the swing sets have been purchased and delivered.

Ms. Alvarez pointed out that there is still help being provided by FEMA for those affected by Hurricane Harvey, and she will send information to Mr. Gilmore to publish in the newsletter.

A budget of \$700 was approved to purchase window blinds, replace the parking gate rail track, repair the kitchen cabinets and install locks on them to store janitorial supplies.

Ms. Ramos noted that Yard of the Month Awards were produced and gift cards were purchased to be provided for the winners who have active memberships.

Questions from attendees were addressed. Community event opportunities were brought up and the following were taken into consideration: Community Fair, Yard Sale, Document Shredding, BBQ Benefits. There were questions regarding the advertising costs when there are free advertising platforms and it was noted that having something tangible is valuable and there is where the advertisers find the value of advertising in our newsletter. Ms. Seely asked if renters can attend meetings and it was noted that renters are welcome, but they are not able to be members at the time, since they do not currently own a residence in the neighborhood. More to follow regarding options available for residents who are renting. There was conversation regarding deed restrictions and how to address building violations. It was pointed out that calling 311 to address violations of deed restrictions like parking on the lawn has been successful.

Next meeting is scheduled for Monday, June 4th. The meeting was adjourned at 8:44pm without objections.

Respectfully submitted,
Doris Ramos
Secretary