

Minutes

Willow Meadows Civic Club General Meeting

Tuesday, September 12, 2017, 7:00 p.m., Willow Meadows Baptist Church

Call to Order: Vice President Steven Paletz called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

Reading of the Minutes: Secretary Howard Lindsay read aloud the Minutes of the June 2017 General Meeting. Tina Myers moved to accept the Minutes, seconded by Steven. The motion was approved.

Steven said that the neighborhood has been devastated by flooding, with some 350 homes taking on water. He has found great resilience on the part of Willow Meadows residents and hoped that the catastrophe will make the neighborhood stronger and more united.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Heather Deiss presented the following Financial Update as of August 5, 2017:

YTD current year dues of \$172,675 (85% of budget) and \$14,585 of prior year collections have been received. Volume of title company requests has increased yielding \$3,800 of transfer/refinance fee income. Generous donations have been received for the security holiday fund (\$12,506) and general security donations (\$21,662) resulting in a total available reserve fund of \$30,435. Bills and expenses are on track. Net income is \$71,418 and \$37,250 excluding donations. Total cash balance is \$325,134.

Standing Committee Reports

Website Committee: Not present, no report.

Security Committee: Lt. Mike Barrow reported that criminal activity was extremely high during the flooding. He said that after Harvey hit, all HPD officers were put on 24-hour shifts and told not to work any second jobs. During the time that the WM Patrol was inactive, there were six Burglaries of

Habitations. He and Security Chair Stephen Polnaszek expressed extreme regret over the crime wave. The HPD substation on Beechnut, which was flooded, lost 20 cars and the downtown jail was ruined. Lt. Barrow asked his brother to come to WM with his airboat to rescue people. His brother saved about 100 people by taking them to Willow Meadows Baptist Church. Lt. Barrow is working with Stephen Polnaszek on an After-Action Plan to hire a private security company to supplement patrols should such an event occur again.

He advised not giving any money to contractors before they do their work. Also, don't give money to anyone who calls to request it. Even if the organization sounds legitimate, it probably is a scam artist at work. Lt. Barrow was able to hire one new officer.

Newsletter Committee: Howard Lindsay said that the September issue of *Willow Meadows News* was printed and distributed.

Maintenance and Beautification: Chairman Bill Cook said the civic club has officially adopted the last esplanade on West Bellfort before South Post Oak. We have approval to landscape with plants and install irrigation to deter panhandlers. Willow Meadows will have to purchase a water meter, but the City will provide the water for free.

Deed Restrictions Enforcement: Chair Tina Myers asked that all complaints about deed restriction violations be submitted to her in writing. The form is on the website.

Architectural Control Committee: Chair Jeff Peters said four homes were in the process of being raised when the flood occurred. Flood elevations have changed, so there will be new maps soon. Brays Bayou is being widened and bridges are being rebuilt to make us less vulnerable. Jeff noted that although the huge detention ponds in Willow Waterhole did fill, they did so from direct rainwater, not because they were draining water away from Willow Meadows as designed. Those connections will not be complete until 2018.

Steven made a motion to accept the Standing Committee Reports, seconded by Tina. Motion passed.

Special Committee Reports: None

Unfinished Business: Steven Paletz suggested calling 311 if you were flooded. The line may be busy, but it is important to register. The civic club suspended painting curb numbers because of the flood. The Board did vote to approve the use of emergency funds for security. The Board will vote in October on whether to allow RV's to be parked temporarily in one's driveway until the flood damage is repaired.

Our civic club is now officially part of Super Neighborhood 38. There are some 8,000 homes in Super Neighborhood 38, which gives us more political clout when dealing with the City. Mayor Turner is trying to get a FEMA office located in Houston. The North Section of Willow Meadows will keep its temporary street lights for the time being. Permanent lights will be installed later. The community picnic has been cancelled for 2017.

Former Board member Robert Szafranski has volunteered to serve as Election Chair for the 2018 Board election. He is also assisting Heather Deiss with treasury duties since her home flooded. Steven called for nominations for the 2018 Board of Directors from the floor. The following have volunteered to serve:

Candidates for 2018 Willow Meadows Board of Directors

President: Steven Paletz

Vice President: Laura Mitzner

Secretary: Nava Miller

Treasurer: Heather Deiss

At-Large Position 1: Stephen Polnaszek

At-Large Position 2: Tina Myers

At-Large Position 3: David Fogelman

At-Large Position 4: Jim Kellam

At-Large Position 5: Bill Cook

At-Large Position 6: Jeff Peters

At-Large Position 7: Kathleen Beique

At-Large Position 8: Eli Sassoon

Adjournment: Tina moved that the meeting be adjourned at 8:10, seconded by Bill Cook.

Respectfully submitted,

Howard Lindsay
WMCC 2017 Secretary