



### **Museum Park Super Neighborhood Council Meeting Minutes**

- Council Member Attendees: Kathleen O'Reilly, Sandy Stevens, Ruth Ann Skaff, Mike Gillespie, Paul Wilson, Chris Eriksen (incoming for 2018), Ernesto Maldonado, Susan Young.
- Other Attendees: Shavonda Johnson, Sgt. Eric Flores, Cpt. Salem Zia, Barbara McGuffey, Cindy Woods, Chad Clark, Steve Pless, Louis Selig, Carl Davis.

**Date:** November 11, 2017

**Location:** Farish Media Center, Museum Of Fine Arts, Houston

**Time:** 5:30 p.m.

**Secretary's Report:** Approval of Minutes-no quorum. October Minutes will be circulated by email for approval.

#### **President's Report:**

##### **Introductions:**

- Chris Eriksen, resident of Museum Park, will be taking Greg Quintero's place as Safety and Security Chair working with security teams within Museum Park to coordinate security efforts.
- HPD Sgt. Eric Flores and Captain Salem Zia. Sgt. Flores will head South Central's Differential Response Team—the unit that handles the persistent issues that normal patrol officers cannot address.

##### **Sgt. Flores report:**

- In area including two or three streets on either side of Wheeler, Sgt. Flores reported aggravated assaults up 76%.
- Auto thefts and shoplifting down in the same area.
- HPD implemented 24/7 patrols in the area beginning October 23. Each shift, one unit is dedicated to that area. Other units may assist when needed.
- DRT (Differential Response Team) units are on hand Tuesdays & Thursdays during solid waste pick-up.
- HPD is reporting fires under the freeway to TXDoT, because of concerns about structural integrity.
- Issued citation to female who was caught on camera defecating on private property. Gave her advice on where to get into shelter.
- Some tactical units are working under cover.
- Homicide is actively investigating three murders that occurred in the area since August (August 5, 2017, 1000 Wheeler; October 2, 1200 Wheeler; Nov 7, Caroline @ Wheeler parking lot. Witnesses are very hard to find in a transient population.

##### **Cpt. Zia:**

- HPD taking a comprehensive approach to the encampment issues.
- HOT Team offers shelters, but some individuals have been barred from shelters because of past history.
- We can issue tickets, but they have no impact.
- We're going to do the best we can to handle this problem, balancing the rights of the homeless with those living under the freeway. Cards with a list of service providers are being distributed.

#### Questions from Council/Attendees:

- Trafficking and prostitution being addressed?: *Vice division will get in involved to address those issues.*
- Does TXDOT have an agreement with CoH for no trespassing enforcement? *No agreement; TXDOT will not enforce 'no trespassing.'*
- What is HPD not allowed to do in the encampment? *No encampment related issues...fires, grills, tents, furnishings.*
- Are you prohibited from driving through encampment? *No.*
- Will Bicycle Patrols by CM Boykins Office help? *Yes, but the issue is officer safety. This is a team effort*

#### Covenant Church Presentation:

Paul Wilson: We hope to get construction of Covenant's new building underway by the end of the month. Waiting for city permit. Introduced Axis Contractors, Chad Clark & Steve Pless. GSM Architects Katherine Ormand, and Ernesto Maldonado.

Katie Ormand (GSM) gave an overview of the upcoming project. Covenant's priority was to maintain the front yard. When the project is complete, the temporary building will be removed. The new two-story building, housing offices and meeting rooms will, be located near Austin. The building will maintain the style of the current church. GSM designed a structure that maintains the residential scale of the neighborhood.

Chad Clark: Axis Builders believes it is important is to be a good neighbor by keeping a clean and safe job site. Axis will maintain a single point of contact with MPSN to advise of upcoming impact on the neighborhood. There will be limited on-site parking for employees during construction. Axis will make requests to employees to respect neighborhood parking by encouraging car-pooling. Maximum number of workers on site is estimated at 30-40. Mike Gillespie suggested that parking arrangements at Asia Society have been worked out with other contractors.

Kathleen suggested that beneficial landscaping be incorporated in the design. Limited landscaping will be done in this initial phase.

**President's Report (continued):** Kathleen met recently with TXDot, CoH planning department, Midtown, TEI, Houston Parks Department, and consultants regarding suppression of US 59. TXDOT is on track for groundbreaking in 2020. They have begun property acquisitions. City is issuing RFP's for landscaping for caps, which will require the city and MPSN to raise funds for landscaping. Plans include narrowing Main Street to include cap; to the east San Jacinto to Caroline will be a single span. SWA has done significant pro-bono work for this project. City would like a conservancy to emerge to manage these green spaces as parks.

Meeting Adjourned: 7:12 p.m.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, December 13, 2017

#### Addendum to Minutes:

HouSE (Southeast Management District) has contracted HPD motorcycle officers who make two checks in the area near the encampment Monday-Wednesday during their three-hour shifts. Sgt. Frank Gans, who leads the HouSE contract-team, is conducting 4-6 checks of the area near the encampment during six-hour shifts Thursdays and Fridays. These checks are part of the normal HouSE patrol route that takes the patrols south to Griggs Road and Palm Center.