



February 12, 2020 Museum Park Super Neighborhood Council Minutes

Council Member Attendees: Kathleen O'Reilly, Sandy Stevens, Ruth Ann Skaff, Barbara McGuffey, Doreen Stoller; Julie Farr

Other Attendees: Bill Baldwin, Planning Commission; Lt. Shamara Garner, HPD; Sgt. Christopher Weiche, HPD; Cmdr. Caroleta Johnson, HPD; Brad Levy, HMNS; Juan Sorto, Chair, SNA; Richard Buday; Larry Estes; Cindy Woods MPNA; Rashad Cave, CoH; Carl Davis, CoH Dept. of Neighborhoods /MCAO; Cassandra Richardson, Ombudsman, Harris County Nursing Homes; Shannon Martin, Office of County Commissioner, Pct 1; Natalia Cornelio, Candidate; Devonte Hill, Office of Harris County District Clerk; Pat Bird; Kristin Bird

HPD Report: Cmdr. Caroleta Johnson and Lt. Shamara Garner of South Central introduced themselves.

Sgt. Christopher Weiche, SE DRT reported:

- Crimes against persons are down 9%
- Burglary of Motor Vehicles (BMV) is up; thieves are looking for guns. Lt. Garner stated that every third car has a gun stored in the car. Aggravated robberies often occur with stolen pistols.
- Town hall meeting recently attended by many Midtown businesses, who are experiencing frequent break-ins. HPD states many of these break-ins are well-organized.
- HPD cautions not to have phones, bags, etc. showing in car, AND to store items in trunk BEFORE parking at destination.
- They stressed to be aware of surroundings.
- They urged putting ID and serial numbers on property.
- Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) is highly encouraged.

Agenda: Museum Park Super Neighborhood Council, Feb. 12, 2020

Guests: Bill Baldwin, Planning Commission Committee Chair, Walkable Places

President O'Reilly welcomed and thanked Bill Baldwin for his work on the Planning Commission and chairing the Walkable Places Committee.

Q&A, discussions to better understand setbacks, current and proposed. 15-foot setbacks, when is it applicable and when is optional.

Ex: if utility pole is currently on sidewalk, then the public realm will be on private property

Strong feelings among MPSN that residential buffering ordinances are insufficient. Bill reported that Mayor is asking for more residential buffering, including garage sheathing.

Excessively bright lighting is intrusive.

Noise levels are excessive.

Parking, reduced parking requirements remain a very significant concern.

In MP, some confusion about which streets are primary and which are secondary. Location of front door.

We respectfully reminded all parties of the Museum Park Livable Center Study, and our strong preference that its philosophy and recommendations be observed.

President re-stated MPSN concerns that these ordinances are not well-understood by MPSN stakeholders, and information on the CoH website is often inaccurate, not up-to-date, and links episodically do not function.

Public Comments scheduled for February 20

President's Report:

Caroline Promenade Met on Feb 11 to finalize report. Link will be sent soon.

Bike Lanes – Crawford/Hermann Dr. 4-way stop. Bike lanes going in and 4-way stop has been installed.

Community Parking Plan implementation. Launched and meters operational as of Feb 11. Request that barriers/ bump-outs be painted or made more noticeable and prominent for biker and pedestrian safety.

Shannon Martin of Commissioner Ellis's office and Carl Davis will contact their respective colleagues on these questions

Parking Management House Meeting rescheduled to Feb 27

VP Report: N/A
Secretary's Report: Approval February 12, 2020 minutes
Committee Reports: Safety & Security N/A

Ongoing Business: Walkable Places/Transit Oriented Development – see discussion with Bill Baldwin
Bylaw Update No action taken, deferred to March.
MPSN Council stakeholder representative confirmation. Every year, each stakeholder group is to affirm their respective representatives in writing. To date, only Hermann Park Conservancy has done so.
Administrative Costs

New Business:

Stakeholder Updates: Doreen Stoller, Hermann Park Conservancy, reminded everyone that Spring Break starts March 7. Weekend Parking is now available for Park and Zoo visitors at Memorial Hermann in Medical Center for \$10. Parking can be reserved on weekend. They have 2300 parking spots. Kite Day coming soon.
Some discussion re: need for unified parking app.

Public Comments: TLH has enclosed its fuel tanks, but the pits and dumpster are not enclosed, per neighbors.

Announcements: Cassandra Richardson, Ombudsman, Harris County Nursing Homes, announced her and others' volunteer services to advocate for residents, and let literature about the program.

Meeting adjourned at 7:00PM
