

Laurel Park Neighborhood Association
Board Meeting Minutes
Monday, Jan 18, 2021

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 at Matt Arcari's residence.

Board Members Present

Matt Arcari - President
Betsy Sublette - Treasurer
Laurie Hall - Secretary (via Zoom)
Juliette Reynolds
Dan Bridinger
Ron Kashden (via Zoom)

Board Members Not Present

Buffie Hutchinson
Julie Cotton

Agenda Items

Board meeting minutes for Dec 14, 2020 were approved by acclamation.

The Treasurer's report was approved by acclamation. Current balance is \$7,915.95

The lift station cleanup effort began this week. Truckloads of personal possessions including a couple of motorbikes, were removed from behind the lift station. A fence is being constructed to insure that people are no longer able to camp out on this property. The fence will be lined with landscaping. There was further discussion about the condition of the bayou. The health of this area has been degrading since homes were constructed directly on the bayou. The homes were constructed with no concern for the environment which caused erosion and overgrowth. John Shkor worked with the state and county last year to resolve some of the issues, but the coordination between the state and county has become a bottleneck to improvement of the area. The board proposed that John attend our next meeting to help us understand where he left off last year.

Nancy Kelly, the city's neighborhood planner, is getting us signage: "No Overnight Parking" for the end of Ohio Place. The spaces are being regularly used by renters on Osprey Ave who come over and park overnight. Also, we asked for a sign that indicated only four hours of parking at the kayak launch. We will have to contact parking enforcement if there are violators parking illegally. (parking enforcement contact: 941.954.7057, 8am-5pm, use non-emergency police phone number outside of regular hours)

The Board discussed the LP Membership Drive and letter content. We need to get this done in order for Lauri Crown to send out the membership package to Laurel Park residents. Laurie will send the draft letter to Matt for his edits.

The Holiday Lights party went well. It was a great night and the local band Loose Change played. Next year we should start planning earlier so that flyers can be distributed and we get more participation, particularly in decorating for the holidays. Prizes for the winning holiday decor will be local gift cards and Matt will take care of getting the cards. The local businesses are 1592 Main, The Fountain and Tamiami Tap. We need to distribute them to the winners as soon as possible.

Online membership donations were discussed. Ron concurred with Laurie that it was not trivial to create an online donation page on our site. Kelly and he had already looked into it a few years back.

We are working on a "light" Tunes In the Park event in June or July. We need to pick a date and come up with an outdoor event and possibly everyone brings their own food, etc.

In past years we've used some of our LPNA funds to help All Faiths Food Bank. Dan mentioned an event "A Day of Caring" where we ask residents to help out on a designated day as volunteers.

There are a few street lights out in the neighborhood. We need to open a ticket with FPL or seeclickfix.com (tickets end up going to FPL). Betsy suggested we make a list of burned out street lights in the neighborhood and submit them to FPL.

Betsy showed us the sign that will be placed in the park to remind people to pick up after their dogs. She has taken the initiative to obtain the dog waste dispenser. The city will install it in Laurel Park at the front entrance. Dog waste bags can be replenished by dog owners with their recycleable plastic bags.

As per Ron, Chris Jaensch is not able to work on our newsletter as he does not have the time and does not live in Laurel Park.

Summary of Action Items

1. Matt - revising membership letter for Lauri to use in membership drive
2. Laurie - send draft membership letter to Matt
3. Distribute gift cards to contest winners
4. Ask John Shkor to attend our next meeting
5. Determine a date and extent of light Tunes in the Park event
6. Send out membership forms to residents

Next board meeting scheduled for 02/15/2021, 6pm, unless there are conflicts.

Meeting adjourned 6:48pm