

BRAEBURN SUPER NEIGHBORHOOD #30 COUNCIL MINUTES

DECEMBER 9, 2021

CALL TO ORDER

IN ATTENDANCE:

Bert Ruiz

Gena Sylvester

Brian Barragy

Reese Ermis

Doug Phillips

Don Hickle

Jeannie Spriggs

Kim Hatton

Stephen Polnaszek

Veronica Hernandez

Deborah Rule – Houston Parks Board

Xavier Herrera – Braes Oaks Management District

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Doug Phillips made a motion. Jeannie Spriggs seconded the motion.

CITY COUNCIL UPDATES

District C – Reese Ermis

- Houston Health Department has listed twelve sites for Covid vaccines and emergency use for ages 5-11
- engagehouston.org has launched and lists ongoing projects in the Houston area
- The Houston Fire Department “Stocking Stuffer Drive” ends December 15th

District J – Bert Ruiz

- The sidewalk project near Nairn and Bissonnet is close to completion.
- Drainage along the Braeburn Country Club golf course has begun.

GUEST SPEAKER – Deborah Rule, Development Director, Houston Parks Board

A Listening Meeting will be held on December 14th for the Braeburn Glen Park Project. They function as a citywide conservancy for 14,000 acres of 250 parks in the Houston area in conjunction with the

Houston Parks Department. They are responsible for the conservation and maintenance of green spaces providing and replenishing native grasses, flowers and trees.

- The Lee LeClear Tennis Center is in the development stage and the building will be replaced.
- In 2012 the focus shifted to bayou trails and greenways as 1.5 million people live within 1.5 miles of these greenspaces. The fundraising has been completed with \$220 million raised.
- Green Team is their volunteer group that focuses on wetland tree and meadow plantings.
- Brays Bayou will be 53 miles when completed. Currently the trails are being reconstructed under intersections. A new section will begin in January and will take 18 months.
- Beyond the Bayous Projects is funded by the Houston Endowment, focusing on the equitable distribution of parklands. They work with the Harris County Flood Control. Projects include a new hiking trail on the Centerpoint easement.
- The Braeburn Glen Project is being developed out of the 50-50 Park Partnership thru the Mayor's office. There will be fifty parks and fifty corporate partners. Their principles include
 - Park Equity
 - Community Engagement
 - Long-term Sustainable Impact

These are identified by equity metrics, Population and Neighborhood Parks. An example is the Hartmon Park completed with funding from Valero.

Questions:

Kim Hatton – What is the timeline for reconstruction of the trails under intersections? They should be complete by 2024

Kim Hatton – Is it possible for our board to get involved with the parks division? Yes. Deborah will provide an email address for more information.

Bert Ruiz – Will the Boardwalk Apartment area be a detention pond or mixed use? Detention Pond.

Bert Ruiz – Have you been involved with the City of Houston on any of their projects? Yes. An example of this is the White Oak Bayou Complex area.

Bert Ruiz – How long does it take for a project like this? The purchase of the property takes the longest. After the purchase, however, the project takes place quickly.

Reese Ermis – Is the Listening Meeting for more ideas from attendees? Yes. We want feedback from anyone living in the area.

Bert Ruiz – Will the meeting be in Spanish and English? Yes. It will be online in both with interpreters and visuals will also be in both languages.

Doug Phillips – Do you have a relationship with Harris County Parks Division? Very rarely except for the Flood Control District. We have no right of entry.

Bert Ruiz – What would it take to gain a right of entry and what is the process? Information is unavailable.

Bert Ruiz– Is the funding from a bond or other donors? Funding includes the Kinder Foundation, Federal funding and Department of Transportation funds among others.

COMMITTEES

Public Safety – Reese Ermis

- Crime reports are fluid. Homicide and Break-ins have increased
- Half of the graffiti abatement has taken place north of the bayou, mostly on commercial properties.
- The commercial property owner approached Braes Oaks Management District for assistance with the rise in crime in his area.

Business Development – Brian Barragy

The Braes Oaks Management District sponsored a PIP meeting geared toward business owners. This will be a monthly meeting going forward. Many of Houston city leaders attended including DRT officers, judges, District J Patrol and the HPD Southwest police captain.

Question:

Bert Ruiz – What are their long-term goals? To increase traffic affidavits to be able to perform on business properties and outreach to HOAs and businesses for more communication between them and HPD.

Communication – Bert Ruiz

There will be a Facebook blast to direct interested parties to the webpage.

INTRODUCTION OF XAVIER HERRERA AS THE NEW PRESIDENT OF BRAES OAKS MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

The last meeting for the Livable Study will be held at the Turquoise Center, 9301 W. Bellfort, on December 16th at 5:30 p.m.

NEW BUSINESS

ELECTION OF 2022 OFFICERS

This is a one-year term with two-year limits. All current board members will serve again in 2022 as no other members came forward.

Question:

Kim Hatton – Why a one-year term instead of a two-year term?

Bert Ruiz – Since the Super Neighborhood was recently re-activated and by-laws refreshed, this gave the officers the ability to step down. It also opens the door for new members to step into leadership roles since the current board members began together.

Bert Ruiz requested the input of other board members regarding the process of the current election.

Brian Barragy suggested that we go ahead and vote. Reese Ermis, Jeannie Spriggs and Stephen Polnaszek suggested that we wait until January to vote. Brian reminded everyone that leaders must serve an HOA. Bert Ruiz reminded the committee that the Super Neighborhood year begins in February.

Reese Ermis made a motion that we put the slate of officers on the January agenda and vote at that time. Kim Hatton seconded the motion.

HISD BOARD

Brian Barragy has joined the HISD Advisory Committee. There are 30-50 schools slated for upgrades. Several are in our area. It will be published for a referendum vote in November.

Question:

Reese Ermis – Will these improvements be brick and mortar? Yes, but there will be other improvements as well. Consequently, it will be very important to encourage everyone to vote.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Gena Sylvester attended the Braes Oaks Super Neighborhood meeting and suggested we begin meeting in person in 2022.

Gena Sylvester requested input from members regarding the response in other neighborhoods to violations of deed restrictions. Veronica Hernandez suggested the use of 311 for inspections. Bert Ruiz stated that the attention from city leaders signals that other neighbors have lost patience with persistent infractions. Kim Hatton agreed that personal contact helps in few cases and that 311 has responded well.

Brian Barragy stated that Gena Sylvester is focusing on neighbors in need in Robindell and is working on a list of resources to assist the elderly with limited resources and mental capacity.

ADJOURNMENT

Gena Sylvester moved to adjourn. Kim Hatton seconded the motion.