

## **Braeburn Super Neighborhood Council #30**

### **Meeting Minutes**

**July 14, 2022 @6:30 P.M.**

**Bayland Community Center**

#### **Welcome**

- **Call to Order**
- **Introductions**

In Attendance: Gena Sylvester – Recording Secretary, Reese Ermis – Vice President, Bert Ruiz – President, Brian Barragy, Alyssa Keller, Kim Hatton, John Holmes, Sheri Cortez, HCDAO Community Engagement, Jordan Frazier, Alice Lee, Southwest Management District, Stephen Polnaszek

- **Approval of May 2022 Minutes –**  
Motion to approve – Reese Ermis, Second by Jeannie Spriggs.

#### **City Council Member Updates**

- **Sallie Alcorn, At Large Position 5/Jordan Frazier and Chief of Staff, Jordan Frazier**  
Regulatory Affairs is looking at 18-wheelers parking in residential areas and Parking in Yards programs. A \$5.7 billion budget has been approved including monies for a Permitting Center. The “Your Two Cents” budget survey was sent out. The most responses included the following topics: Public works, solid waste, and homeless issues. \$500,000 was requested for these programs. \$20 million was added to the budget by mayor Turner for lower-level programs. It is heavily used by the City Council. Bert asked if there are 2 projects per district and how long will it continue? No definitive answer was given.

The final redistricting 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting is scheduled, and it is understood that all of this super neighborhood wants to stick together in District J. This is a proposal. The final decision will be up for the City Council to make in September.

- **District J**  
Fire Station #61 has a new gate.  
Braeburn Glen Park – We will receive updates after the survey is completed. Included in improvements are adding site fencing. The playground would be completed by December 2023. New projects being entertained include mobility and transportation improvements. Send any projects for consideration to David. The Hot Team wants to

remind all about illegal dumping and that a clean-up is available on certain weeks for certain areas. It is the 3<sup>rd</sup> weekend of the month for Braeburn area.

- **District C – No representation**
- **District Guest Presenter – Houston Baptist University, John Holmes, Associate Vice President of Facilities and Campus Operations**

There are currently 2825 undergraduate and 1000 graduate students. 1000 students live on campus. The campus offers 77 undergraduate majors and 5 doctoral programs. An entrepreneur master's program is supported by McNair. They just graduated their first engineer students. The nursing program is the has the largest enrollment. Athletics covers 17 Division One sports programs. Their stage is the second largest stage in the city of Houston behind Wortham Center.

Construction began 15 months ago for the Center for Law and Liberty to take conservative views into the world at-large. Donations for this program include \$20 million from the Morris Foundation. A highlight of the campus is the near replica of Independence Hall Bell in Philadelphia. The center will be used as a backdrop for Liberty and Freedom conversations. The bell is being constructed in France. The center will be open for field trips from 5<sup>th</sup> graders. A second floor holds 170 people for special events.

A third building, for general education is 18,500 square feet. The ribbon cutting event will take place sometime in September.

On the Drawing Board:

- A new baseball stadium will be built over two summers which will include artificial turf, night lights, dugouts, and locker rooms.
- A budge of \$50 million, which includes a Smith gift of \$20 million, will be applied toward science labs, engineering programs and nursing. This will begin in twenty-four months.
- \$2million will be spent on renovating student's spaces. August 29<sup>th</sup> will be first day back to classes.

Reese – Any plans for surrounding land?

HBU is over 35 acres. Retail spaces on the property are financed by school. The have a partnership with Property Commerce now with a 60-year land lease. The Shell station is not owned by HBU and there are challenges. They would like to construct larger gas station. Burger King has no renewal options as of next year. In the future, Bank of America to Pep Boys property may be 400 apts. They are now looking at creative ways

to build an arena for Division 1 sports. They still own a few pads on Fondren but they are not big enough for a grocery store.

Kim – Are you looking to acquire additional property?

The apartments across the street from CVS that they used to own are a possibility but there is no desire to move further into neighborhoods. They don't want to grow over 10,000 students on campus. They subsidize homes on Fondren for staff held for endowment for the university. He added that Chick Fila is embedded on Campus.

Alice Lee added that they have a fine MFA program.

### **Committee Reports:**

**Communication** – We need to inform our neighborhoods about our website

**Crime and Safety** –

There have been numerous 311 posts recently.

Crime is up due to burglaries and thefts mostly along Gessner and Bissonnet near Fondren. License reader cameras have just gone live. Neighborhoods with dogs have less crime.

David Hernandez was not present

**Community – Brian – no report**

### **New Business/Announcements**

- Bert mentioned the 2023 slate of officers and that all five officers will be vacating roles. These are two-year terms.  
Brian Barragy asked if we want to modify the by-laws to stagger terms.  
Bert will take this idea into consideration.
- Bert stated that Skip Reeder III, with Houston One Voice, met with he and Gena to discuss further the Ruffino Hills Project. Bert asks that we go to the website for comments and questions. A decision will then be made about sending a letter of approval.
- Gena attended the District K Deed Restriction presentation by Rice and Rice Law firm, gave an overview and suggested them as possible speakers.
- Bert suggested that we should be reaching out to Neighborhoods that are not active such as Braeburn Glen and Braeburn Acres.
- Steven Polnaszek suggested the Red Cross as a speaker and that they have an emergency vehicle and presentations for volunteers for disasters.

**Adjourn** – Motion made by Reese Ermis and Kim Hatton second.