



P.O. BOX 30021, HOUSTON, TEXAS 77249-0021

Proctor Plaza Neighborhood Association

General Meeting Minutes – July 28, 2009

Our Objective: The objective of this organization is to promote the civic and social welfare and well-being of the neighborhood; to promote civic betterment and social well-being of all residents in the neighborhood; to encourage the prevention and suppression of crime in the community; to disseminate facts relating to the improvement and promotion of this vicinity; to preserve the residential character and integrity of the neighborhood.

Meeting is called to Order 7:05 PM

Pledge of Allegiance

Moment of Silence

Roll Call of Officers

Reading and Adopting of the Minutes

Welcome to our visitor: **John Daniel** from City of Houston District H, Ed Gonzalez's office, attended our meeting. He advised us to record the Service Request Number when we call 911 to report non-emergency issues to the police, and to jot down a note of the complaint. He also told us to call Ed's office at 832-393-3003 with inquiries we may have.

Treasurer's Report (7--28-09)

- Interest Checking Account Balance: \$19,396.67
- Money Market Account Balance: \$16,485.67
- Total Funds Available: \$35,882.04
- Total Funds Dedicated for Lights Campaign: \$16,485.67

A motion was made and passed to give \$1,243.32 to Sara Cotner to cover Newsletter expenses.

Announcements

- A \$25 Target gift certificate door prize will be awarded to a person in attendance at the end of the meeting.
- A \$5 Fiesta card will be given to anyone bringing a new neighbor to the meeting! Three new attendees showed up at the meeting and were each given a card.
- The July Yard of the Month is the home of Mattie Noble, 4209 Watson
- The First Friday Happy hour for August is at the home of Kathy Brown at 916 W. Temple
- The newsletter editor position has been filled by **Sara Cotner (saracotner@yahoo.com)** If you would like to volunteer to assist (articles, distribution, etc.) please contact Sara.
- Both the newsletter and website are seeking advertisers. Please contact Kathy Cameron or Sara Cotner for information
- If you want to be on the e-mail distribution list, please sign up at the meeting or drop me an e-mail at kkcamero@gmail.com

Committee Reports

- **Deed Restriction and Home Alteration Reports** (Marcus was absent, so no formal report)
A resident reported a problem with trucks using up curb space on her block, where a business is being run out of someone's home.
- **Citizen Patrol and Crime Reports** (Alan was absent, so no formal report)
The question was asked whether it would be possible for people to "adopt a block" for purposes of the Block Captain Network crime communication initiative headed by Alan. It was agreed that this was a good idea.
- **Neighbor Care Reports**
Sister Eleanor has been recovering from an injury, but was able to attend the meeting and was looking quite well. Sister Eleanor emphasized that Neighbor Care is not just Elder Care, and people of all ages in our Neighborhood can benefit from this volunteer program. She was asked

how she knows who needs assistance, and she replied that so far it has been primarily by word-of-mouth. I (S. Davis) asked her if she might like to write an article in the Newsletter to better advertise the program for all residents, and she thought this would be a good idea.

- **Proctor Plaza Park News**

Pam Foote, who is the Park's Recreational Supervisor should be returning to her duties in August.

- **Liquor License Protests**

Pedro Ayarzagoytia discussed at length the problems with the various cantinas and flop houses along N Main near the eastern edge of our neighborhood. He and Alan Lindsey, our Crime Watch Officer, met with the owners of the cantinas, a representative from the Monte Beach civic association (Joe, Locke), a COH attorney (Art Valdez), a representative from Ed Gonzalez's office and a representative from the TABC (Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission, Sergeant Barnett) for an "exchange of ideas". The problems of concern include drugs, prostitution, loud music, and related crimes that residents near these establishments suffer, including assaults, burglaries and stolen yard property. A resident added that more serious gun-related crimes have also originated from these places in the past. The police and the Mayor's office are well aware of the nuisance that these establishments are to the surrounding neighborhoods. Sergeant Barnett said that the best thing we can do is to call the TABC to report our complaints and observations of any criminal activity. The goal would be to ultimately revoke their licenses, but it will take a lot of complaining from area residents to build a strong case to do so. Their licenses come up for renewal in February-March 2010 time frame.

Pedro also handed out a 14-page article from the TABC entitled "A guide to commonly asked questions about protests".

- **Greater Heights Super Neighborhood Council Report**

Glen Clement, PPNA's representative to the GHSNC, and also the Vice President of the GHSNC, reported that the GHSNC recently held its 2nd "formal" meeting, which was attended by, in addition to the GHSNC members, representatives from the HPD, Ed Gonzalez's office (District H) and Sheila Jackson Lee's office. At this meeting the main topic of discussion was a census about high-level issues. Of about 40 issues raised, the #1 concern was CRIME. An objective of the GHSNC will now be to prioritize and compose a list of Action Items. Note that Alan Lindsey, PPNA Crime Watch Officer, is Glen's alternate to the GHSNC.

New Business

- **Signs for Proctor Plaza**

No discussion was held on the signs for the neighborhood.

- **Speeding on East and North Norhill streets**

Viula Torgerson raised the issue about speeding on our cross streets and the need to do something about it. Discussion on this topic was brief.

Closing/Adjournment/Door Prize Drawing

2009 PPNA Board

- President: Kathy Cameron (absent)
- Vice-President of Deed Restrictions: Marcus Fleming (absent)
- Vice-President of Membership: Christy Chomin (present)
- Secretary: Stan Davis (present)
- Treasurer: Janne B. Alt (present)
- Parliamentarian: Jorgen Jorgensen (present)
- Historian: Ira Jones (present)
- Crime Watch Officer: Alan Lindsey (absent)
- Member-at-Large Position 1: Gregory Howard (present)
- Member-at-Large Position 2: Viula Torgerson (present)
- Newsletter Editor: Sara Cotner (absent)