

Greater Oak Hills Civic Association (GOHCA)

March General GOHCA Meeting Minutes

Officers:

President – Tim Schowalter
Vice President – Bo Thornhill
Secretary – Molly Williams
Treasurer – Rodney Underwood

Officers and Board Attendees:

Tim Schowalter, Bo Thornhill, Rodney Underwood, Madeline McAndrew, Jimmy Clark, Brian Babin, and Marty Lensing

Committee Chair Attendees:

Linda Babin, Kay and Charles Keigley, Jessica Thornhill, and Martha Austin

Total Attendees: 70

The GOHCA met at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, March 10, 2015 at the LSU Hilltop Arboretum. After a jambalaya dinner catered by Bryan Gautreau the meeting was called to order by President Tim Schowalter.

A. Updates and Accomplishments for 2014 – Tim Schowalter

Mr. Schowalter thanked all those who attended the meeting and provided the following:

- a. Update on Membership.
 - i. Final 2014 membership was 355. Membership for 2014 increased from 300 to 355 from the previous year.
 - ii. Current membership enrollment for 2015 is 285 which according to our Treasure is running a little higher than this time last year.
- b. Association was able to provide meals at not only tonight's general meeting but at our socials as well.
- c. Completion of Welcome Sign as well as new landscaping at the Siegen/North Oak Hills entrance that was destroyed during road construction. Special thanks to Beau Wolfe, Tom Guerin and Scott Courtwright for these improvements.
- d. New "Sheriff Patrolled/No Soliciting" Signs" at all neighborhood entrances have been installed. Special thanks to Martha Austin for coordinating this effort.
- e. Printing and distribution of a new GOHCA Neighborhood Directory. Special thanks to Kay and Charles Keigley for coordination of this endeavor.

- f. New Decals with the GOHCA logo were sent out by the Association along with the President's annual membership letter. The decals were requested to be placed on either the rear bumper or window of a car for any resident who lives in the Greater Oak Hills neighborhood. The Association hopes this will facilitate identification of non-residents by security patrols.
- g. Each member who paid their membership dues in 2014 received a green "Thank You" ribbon. The Board is looking at continuing this tradition. Special thanks to all the Block Captains for assisting in distributing the ribbons to all paid members.
- h. Beautiful landscaping at the Highland Road and Rue Crozat entrances and at other common areas throughout our neighborhood. Special thanks to Lori Byrd and Beau Wolfe for coordinating this effort.

Mr. Schowalter thanked everyone for their support during this past year during his term in office, especially the officers, board members and committee chair persons and stated that it had been a pleasure serving as President. He stated the importance of getting input from the membership and encouraged all to contact the Officers/Board Members via the website or attending monthly and/or general meetings. He emphasized by providing recommendations and voting at general meetings members can help make decisions that affect the quality of life in our neighborhood.

B. Treasurer's Report – Rodney Underwood

- a. Mr. Underwood stated that we currently have 280 members paid to date. The membership is slightly higher than it was last year at this time; however it was pointed out that we have over 600 homes in the Greater Oak Hills Civic Association and only 55% of the residents participate. Everyone was encouraged to request non-members to join the Association.
- b. The membership was informed there will be an increase in our security cost from \$25/hour to \$30/hour for 2015.
- c. Currently we have approximately \$25,000 on the books.
- d. Our projected budget is \$30,000.

C. Other Business – Tim Schowalter

- a. Subdivision Sign – N. Oak Hills Pkwy. – There was a question as to who is responsible for the maintenance of the beds as well as if it is possible to replace this sign. Due to the question of access it was decided this issue would be deferred to the next Board meeting for discussion and possible recommendations for resolution.
- b. Questions concerning dumpsters at the Apartments on Lazy K and pot holes in streets in the neighborhood were referred to "311" for resolution.
- c. Question was asked about Oak Hills III Association and if they were going to participate in our Association. Mr. Schowalter explained the Board did meet with members of their Board several months ago and they seem very interested in joining our Association. However the Board has not heard back from them since

that date. It was explained joining another Association is a complicated and costly manner and it is incumbent upon the Oaks Hills III Association to fully finance the cost of this endeavor as our Association would not assume any cost. Once all paperwork has been filed and approved, our Association would be more than happy to welcome them into our Association.

D. Nomination of 2015 Officers and Board Members – Linda Babin

- a. Ms. Babin presented a list of nominees to the membership from the Nominating Committee and included the following:
 - i. President – Bo Thornhill
 - ii. Vice-President – Brian Hanchey
 - iii. Secretary – Madeline McAndrew
 - iv. Treasurer – Rodney Underwood
 - v. Board Members included:
 1. Board Member 1 – Tim Schowalter
 2. Board Member 2 – Jimmy Clark
 3. Board Member 3 – Molly Williams
 4. Board Member 4 – Wendi Pounders
 5. Board Member 5 – Jared Sullivan
- b. Nomination from the floor for Board Member 6 was Mary Dommert.
- c. All recommendations were accepted and approved by the members present at the General Meeting.

E. New Business – Bo Thornhill

- a. Before handing the gavel over to the new President Bo Thornhill departing President Tim Schowalter thanked everyone again for their support and the support of the Board. Board Member Marty Lensing commended Tim for his leadership and moving the Board forward.
- b. Bo Thornhill greeted the membership as the new President of the Association and thanked Tim for making the neighborhood a better place to live. He thanked the new Officers and Board Members for volunteering to participate on the New Board and stated to the members that he “wants to do what you want”. Mr. Thornhill requested everyone to “keep the ideas coming” to order to be able to assist the Board in improving the quality of life in our neighborhood.
- c. Everyone was encouraged to attend the Association’s monthly Board meetings. Time and location of the meetings will be posted on the website.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m.
Madeline McAndrew, Secretary