

Greater Oak Hills Civic Association (GOHCA)

March 17, 2016 General GOHCA Meeting Minutes

Officers:

President – Bo Thornhill

Vice-President – Brian Hanchey

Secretary – Madeline McAndrew

Treasurer – Rodney Underwood

Officers and Board Attendees:

Brian Hanchey, Rodney Underwood, Madeline McAndrew, Jimmy Clark, Wendi Pounders and Mary Dommert

Committee Chair Attendees:

Ellen Elias, Kay Keigley, Charles Keigley, Linda Babin, Martha Austin, and Bill Austin

Total Attendees: 85

The GOHCA met at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, March 17, 2016 at the LSU Hilltop Arboretum. After a jambalaya dinner catered by Bryan Gautreau the meeting was called to order by Vice-President Brian Hanchey.

A. Updates and Accomplishments for 2015 – Brian Hanchey

- a. Completion of our new Sign on Seigen /North Oak Hills entrance – it now has electricity and has lights.
- b. Incorporation of Oak Hills III subdivision into the Greater Hills Civic Association resulting in an increase of 138 new residents to our Association.
- c. Expansion of GOHCA website thanks to Martha Austin efforts.
- d. Dramatic increase in our membership over the last two years.
- e. Association's active stance on issues that may impact the quality of life for our residents (i.e. rezoning of property on Seigen Lane and North Oak Hills Pkwy.)

B. Treasurer's Report – Rodney Underwood

- a. 2016 Budget is based on a membership of 2016
 - i. Income: 425 members @ \$100.00 - 42,000.00
 - ii. Projected Expenses – 37,000
- b. To-date we have 337 members who have paid their dues.
- c. Maintaining a reserve of \$5,000 for self insurance.

C. Block Captains Presentation – Ellen Elias

- a. Volunteers are needed for the new area residents (Oak Hill III)
- b. Block Captains help keep "sense of community"
 - i. Watch out for houses that go up for sale or if someone dies
 - ii. If we have a Social – may place flyers on doors
 - iii. Hand out bows to those residents who have paid their dues to be displayed
 - iv. Help maintain accuracy of GOHCA directory
- c. Each Captain will have no more than 15-20 houses.

D. Other – Brian Hanchey and Rodney Underwood

a. Landscape and Beautification Committee Report

- i. Oak Hills III Entrance – Put in a sprinkler system
- ii. Working on a new wooden sign on N. Oak Hills Parkway from Rue Crozat entrance

b. Security

- i. With the addition of Oak Hills III there may be slight increase in security

c. Suggestions/Recommendations

Asked for ideas from members of Association by passing tablet around during the meeting to request suggestions on what members would like to see the Board work on for this next year. (See attached list of suggestions received)

d. Questions

- i. Pot Holes – Who do you call?
 1. Call “311” City Parish – They also have a website where you can file a complaint.
- ii. Security – When do they patrol?
 1. We contract with the Sheriff’s office for 24 hours per month
 2. They are not on a set schedule; some hours in the morning, some hours in the evening; we do not have control of their schedule
 3. They patrol 4 out of 7 days
- iii. Flag Pole – Will there be a flag pole on Seigen?
 1. The Board will consider, however there are formal protocols that must be considered when you have a flag, such as who will take down the flag at night, when it rains, etc.
- iv. Accident on Highland Road – What happened to our sign?
 1. A driver hit the sign and Rodney Underwood was able to take care of the situation. The driver’s insurance took care of the repair costs.

E. Nomination of 2016 Officers and Board Members – Linda Babin

a. Election of Officers

- i. Ms. Babin explained to the membership that there is no set term limit for an officer position. Each position/individual may stay in their position until someone chooses to run for the office or until the current officer no longer wishes to hold the position.
- ii. All current officers had stated they were willing to continue to serve in their position unless someone was willing to assume their responsibilities.
- iii. Ms. Babin asked the membership if there was anyone who was interested in running for office. There were no volunteers; therefore all current officers will remain for another year. They are as follows:
 1. President – Bo Thornhill
 2. Vice-President – Brian Hanchey
 3. Secretary – Madeline McAndrew
 4. Treasurer – Rodney Underwood

b. Election of Board Members

- i. Board Members serve for a three year period.
- ii. No board member terms are expiring at this time, however there are two vacant positions the membership could elect to fill it if they choose to do so.
- iii. The current Board Members include:
 1. Board Member 1 – Tim Schowalter
 2. Board Member 2 – Jimmy Clark

3. Board Member 3 – Wendi Pounders
 4. Board Member 4 – Jared Sullivan
 5. Board Member 5 – Mary Dommert
 - iv. Nominations from the floor for two Board Members included Justin Smith and Libby Ammon. They would occupy positions 6 and 7 respectively.
 - v. All recommendations were accepted and approved by the members present at the General Meeting.
- c. Ms. Babin discussed how everyone can visit the Association's website to learn about our standing committees and how they can volunteer to help or fill a position, for example:
- i. Yard of the Month Committee
 - ii. Block Captain Committee Chair – looking for a trainee
 - iii. Federation of Greater Baton Rouge Civic Association - need to fill this position
 - iv. Nomination Committee - need to fill this position

F. Other Business

- a. It was brought to the attention of everyone at the meeting that there are two houses in Oak Hills III that have bats. Residents need to be aware that you cannot kill them, you must have them relocated.

G. Meeting was adjourned at 7:45 pm.

Madeline McAndrew,
Secretary – Greater Oak Hills Civic Association

Suggestions from the Residents

1. **Explore use of security cameras at subdivision entrances. Reduce/eliminate patrols if needed to pay for.**
2. **Decorating entrances to subdivision for holidays**
3. **See about getting rid of huge waste containers on certain yards that have remained there for well over a year!**
4. **Repair potholes on North Oak Hills Parkway and damaged cart on same**
5. **Possible once a year garage sale for subdivision**
6. **Flag pole at Siegen Entrance**
7. **Donation to BREC for Rue Lebouef Park improvement**