

Greater Oak Hills Civic Association (GOHCA)
Board Meeting Minutes for September 19, 2017

Officers Present:

President – Brian Hanchey

Vice-President—Beau Wolfe

Treasurer—Rodney Underwood

Secretary—Emme Stansbury

Board Members Present:

Libby Ammon, Ellen Elias, Kim Moore, Steve Toban,

Committee Chairs Present:

Martha Austin, Laurie Moran, and Jimmy Clark

1. Vice-President Beau Wolfe **opens meeting** at 6:30 pm with a greeting and the distribution of today's agenda (Brian will be late due to his son's ball game). Beau Wolfe introduced the **guest speaker**, Scott Courtwright. Scott's son, Carter, also attended. They wanted to tell their story and ask for more **stop signs and/or speed bumps**. A car driven by a juvenile crashed into Carter's bedroom. The driver was speeding around the corner and lost control of the car. Carter is still traumatized and can't sleep in his room. They feel that something must be done to slow drivers down on North Oak Hills Parkway and Twisted Oak. Drivers ignore the stop sign on Twisted Oak.

Martha Austin had a copy of **City of Baton Rouge residential Traffic Calming Manual**. The manual explains the process of getting additional stop signs and/or speed bumps. The Association must use city traffic engineers to study the traffic flow, evaluate the needs, and approve any additions to traffic signs. This is a 4-6 month process. Scott says he knows William Daniel (DPW Director?) personally and will contact him to get the ball rolling. Beau suggested to get Chandler Loup involved also.

2. EBR Sheriff's patrols—vs—Security Cameras

(sheriff's department at Burbank **(225) 389-5000**)

a. Laurie Moran is the Association's liaison with the Sheriff's Department on Burbank. The officer said Crime Reports are printed in the Advocate and we can check our neighborhood results. Martha said she posts them on the website.

The sheriff's deputy on patrol said he will pull over speeders and give a warning but does not write tickets.

b. **Security Cameras**— He suggested having strategic homes place cameras pointed toward the streets to monitor the subdivision instead of security cameras at the entrances. Unless all entrance cameras go up at the same time they would be pretty useless as criminals would simply use an entrance that is not monitored.

Home cameras can be purchased from Sam's Club/ Costco for a reasonable cost. Home owners who agree to have a camera on their property could receive a reduction on their association fees.

The officer said ultimately the best prevention is "Neighbors watching out for neighbors". The board decided to table the entrance security cameras for now.

3. Beautification-

a. Ellen Elias composed a letter for neighbor volunteers and/or students who need service hours for school. The letter addresses our elderly/ill homeowners who need help with small things around their home such as, minor maintenance, painting, light carpentry, yard work, etc.

b. **Oak Hills sign at Lazy K:** Beau received harsh email concerning the disrepair of the sign. The resident complained that the sign and hedges are not being maintained. Jimmy Clark said he used to trim the hedges but the homeowner said he was trespassing on his property and wanted

him off. Rodney Underwood made a motion to remove the sign and Kim Moore seconded it. All voted yes to removing the sign.

c. **North Oak Hills Beautification Project:** Visitors to the football game at The Chapel are parking on the land at the Siegen entrance. They are tearing up the rose bushes that were planted as part of the beautification project. Repairs were made but something must be done to prevent further damage. Suggestions included “NO PARKING” signs or roping off the grounds on game days.

d. **Yard of the Month sign:** Our sign is getting old and a new sign was requested by the yard of the month committee. Treasurer Rodney Underwood said he would find the invoice for the previous sign and order a new one.

4. **Membership Dues Summary:** As to date, our balance is \$25,500. Treasurer Rodney Underwood asked committee members to start thinking about their budget for next year.

Martha Austin will take over the Membership Committee. Emme Stansbury will assist her in compiling the new directory.

5. **Real Estate Report** -- Libby Ammon emailed reports to officers and board members. She was encouraged with the movement of properties. Four properties were sold at an average sale price of \$597,975 @ \$169.52 per sq. ft. Two properties are pending, and five are still active.

6. **Semi-Annual Meeting:** Date: October 17, 2017

Social Committee Chair: Laurie Jones

Welcome Committee Chair: Mary Dommert

Special Guest: Sheriff (John)

Food: Pastalaya was suggested instead of Jambalaya

Beverage: Is Beer allowed? Do we have by laws concerning alcoholic beverages?

The meeting **adjourned** at 7:30.