

Westbury Civic Club Board Meeting Minutes

November 15, 2023 at 7 PM

Westbury Baptist Church

In attendance: Becky Edmondson, Marcia Hartman, Bob Droubi, Andrew Jefferson, Cindy Chapman, Sylvia Rosales, Reagan Dunkin, Lindsey Pollock, Ryan Cowley, and Becky Pate

Welcome and Call to Order – 7:06 PM

Pastoral Greeting - Westbury Baptist Church Pastor Brandon Webb

Guest Speakers:

* **Harris County District Attorney – Kim Ogg.** Mission is to make the community safer. File over 100,000 cases/year. Judges and jurors sentence and the DA's office brings the cases forward - evidence-based prosecution and equal justice for all. New Special Homicide Division - Sen. John Whitmire proposed legislation to prioritization. Victim-"centric" DA Office. Shared personal story of mom. Victim Services and Restitution. Juvenile Diversion - file felonies and focus on diversion for misdemeanors. Mental Health Diversion Program. Safe storage initiative - gun safes for your car (lock boxes) being given away FREE tonight!

* Public Safety Speakers

Sgt Ortiz with HPD SW Division, He leads the DRT (Differential Response Team) with 7 officers in unit, based at the HPD Southwest division. Westbury is divided between SW Division and S Gessner Division. Giving away the gun safes this evening (1/person). Demonstration of how the gun safes work. Discussion about the lack of traffic control on W Bellfort (speeding). There was a recent fatal wreck @ W Bellfort and Burdine in December. Invitation extended to attend the next Positive Interaction Program (PIP) at the SW HPD station. If you have an issue, email him.

Sgt Derkowski with Precinct 5 Constables - Was writing tickets before the meeting tonight. Contractor thefts on the raise - only take a few seconds. Same with the yard crews! Doing A LOT of traffic enforcement on W Bellfort. Seeing some improvement. Main focus lately traffic enforcement. Removed a homeless person from the Busy Bee location recently and contacted the Mental Health Unit. Increase in homeless and loitering. In last 30 days have made 72 traffic stops

* Announcements by Elected Officials and Department/Agency Representatives

Greg Norwood – from Precinct 1 Commissioner Rodney Ellis office

Brian Pendleton – from Precinct 4 Commissioner Leslie Briones office. Gun Buy Back this weekend

Dwight Baxter – from Texas Rep Shawn Thierry

Justice LaComb -from City Council At-Large 5 (Sallie Alcorn)

Cece Scott from At-Large Council member Plummer's office. Free health event this weekend.

At-Large City Council Position 3 Candidate Twila Carter briefly addressed the group.

At-Large City Council Position 1 Candidate Julian Ramirez briefly addressed the group.

Officer and WCC Office Reports:

* Secretary - Meeting Minutes from October 2023. Reagan moved to accepted the minutes as written. Becky Pate seconded. Approved unanimously

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* Treasurer Report. Financial Update - Becky Edmondson. Salem Lutheran donated \$50k to the WAIC (501c3 designation). Signs for Westbury on the esplanades are going to be power washed.

Discussed proposed 2024 WCC Budget from Budget Committee. Members were: Becky Edmondson (chair), Marcia Hartman, Lindsey Pollock, and Jonathan Hansen. Presented balanced budget. Increase primarily due to cost of Constable Program. Anticipate greater collection with the new, complete online data management system. Budget will be published in December Crier and voted on in January 2024.

* Office Updates - Becky Edmondson. Goal is for Parkwest1 and Parkwest2 residents with mandatory assessments to receive invoices in December

New Business:

* Traffic:

* Fatal accident at Burdine/West Bellfort on Nov 4, 2023

* Martha Castex-Tatum holding Willowbend "Connectivity Study" – next meeting Nov 28, by City of Houston

* Board Vacancy: Ryan Cowley is a new resident in Westbury South and introduced himself. Motion by Reagan Dunkin and Becky Edmondson to nominate Ryan Cowley to fill vacant Westbury South board position – PASSED.

* Andrew Jefferson, Board Member representing Westbury Section 5, expressed desire to move to an At-Large position and is recruiting for his replacement. He has been assisting the WCC with technology applications (website and the PayHOA member portal). Motion by Becky Pate and Reagan Dunkin for Andrew Jefferson to fill a vacant AtLarge position – PASSED.

* Garage Sale Committee - Reagan and Lindsey. Reagan would like to recruit more people. Revitalization Committee has some ideas. Becky E recommends a call for volunteers after the new year. She recently had

Adjourn: Meeting adjourned at 8:25pm, motion by B Edmondson/Hartman.

Meeting Minutes prepared by Lindsey Pollock with Cindy Chapman.