

# Woodside Civic Club – November 1, 2017 General Meeting Minutes

## Longfellow Elementary School Cafeteria

**Establishment of Quorum:** Quorum established.

**Meeting called to order at 7:06 PM** by Marian Richardson, President.

Board Members present:

**Officers:** Marian Richardson, Sharon Giordano, Vic Lamanuzzi, Valerie Mogas

**Directors:** Bob Heard, Leslie Kian, Scott Winters, Sarah Bittner

**Other WCC Members:** 14 other households

**Special Guest Speakers:** See below

(28 in attendance)

### Agenda:

**Approval of minutes** for February 1, 2017 and April 5, 2017 general meeting minutes. Motion to approve both sets of minutes approved unanimously.

### Reports of officers/committees:

1. Special guest speakers (Marian Richardson, President): District K Council Member Larry Green with staff members Barbara Hite and Donald Perkins; Harris County Flood Control District Brays Project staff members Rusty Lannin (Project Manager), Melissa Meyer, and Myron Jones.
  - a. Larry Green:
    - i. A community meeting of more than 450 people seeking relief from Harvey was held in September. The District is continuing to work with neighbors who need help. People who still need assistance can either call telephone number **832-393-3016** or email **districtk@houstontx.gov**.
    - ii. There will be a lecture on home repairs on December 2. E-blasts will be coming out. Anyone can be added to the mail distribution list by contacting Larry Green's office.
    - iii. The old Beechnut Houston Police Department substation is scheduled to be replaced Friday Dec 15, at Cambridge Village off S. Post Oak.
    - iv. Early voting is going on now. Woodside's nearest location is the Fiesta Market off Old Spanish Trail. On the ballot are a number of important bond issues that will help the City.
    - v. Call 311 if you need help. Then call Green's office to expedite: Barbara Hite is the first point of contact followed by Don Perkins.
    - vi. Street reconstruction for Linkwood is scheduled to begin Nov 13. It will take 600 days to complete. Decorative street lighting is included in the plans.
  - b. Don Perkins: \$630K has been allocated for Linkwood Park renovations to benefit both younger and older kids. Work is planned to begin in December. Larry Green worked with the design folks on this project.
  - c. Rusty Lannin:
    - i. The Brays Bayou Federal Flood Damage Reduction Project, known as Project Brays, began in 2001. The objective is to contain the water upstream and widen channels downstream.
    - ii. 12 bridges in all will be replaced within 3 years; 2 bridges are to be started in 2018. Sidewalks on replaced bridges will meet the current minimum standard width of 6 feet (instead of the current 3 feet).
    - iii. The Buffalo Speedway bridge will have 10-foot wide sidewalks, and will include left turn lanes. Replacement is scheduled for completion within 2nd quarter 2018.
    - iv. The Stella Link bridge will not be replaced, only extended. This means its sidewalk will remain at 3 feet wide.
    - v. Once Project Brays is complete, the 100-year flood plain will drop by about 2 feet. A high-resolution map showing a prediction of the future flood plain should be available now (need to contact the office). The current code requires any new development area to contain the same amount of rain runoff that was contained by that area before the development.
    - vi. August 2018 is the target completion date for the section of Project Brays between Buffalo Speedway and South Rice. The design is based on a rainfall model of 12.5 inches of rain evenly distributed within the Brays Bayou watershed within a 24-hour period. It was noted that this design will NOT prevent flooding if another event like Hurricane Harvey, which had heavy localized rainfall, were to occur. In the event of another Harvey-like storm, one can predict that homes within the new (updated) 100-year flood plain will still flood. The design is based in part on a Cost/Benefit ratio. Hundreds of millions of dollars have been spent and it is anticipated the federal government will pay Harris County back.

- vii. Project Brays will widen the channel by 50 feet (25 feet on both sides). Replacement of bike paths/trails and trees removed by this project is included in the budget. (Creation of any new paths will be covered by the Houston Parks Board.)
  - viii. It was noted that the Sims Bayou project was designed to hold the 100-year flood within its banks, whereas Project Brays is not. As a result, Harvey hardly impacted the Sims Bayou area.
2. Security report (Sharon Giordano, Vice President):
    - a. August & September reports are coming out soon. Woodside had 84 homes flood and about 80 other homes with flooded garages. Because many homes will be vacant while repairs are underway, the Board approved an additional 40 hours of SEAL security (for a total of 80 hours per week) until year end. The additional 40 hours will be split between Linkwood and Woodside only and the cost of the additional hours will be split on a 50/50 basis between these two neighborhoods.
    - b. In the middle of October, a suspect was caught who is believed to have been the "appliance thief".
  3. Finance Report/Dues reminder (Val Mogas, Treasurer):
    - a. Board approved \$10K for the additional SEAL Security to be split evenly with Linkwood subdivision. Another \$10K in general expenses is anticipated by year end.
    - b. WCC financials were discussed and are available upon request.
    - c. Additional dues contributions will be appreciated to help cover anticipated costs. Our participation rate for households paying dues is only at 56-57%, compared to the recent past in which we would have rates over 60%. Hopefully, will get more participation with the Block Captain program.
  4. Sign replacement (Leslie Kian, Director):
    - a. Our old wooden Woodside signs are rotting. We have found a Houston company that will make new signs out of polyurethane.
    - b. The Board approved \$3500 for replacement of six existing and a seventh new sign. The sign company will also replace the missing "O" on the Latma/Stella Link sign.

#### **New Business**

1. Volunteers needed
  - a. WCC officers and Board (Marian Richardson): Elections will be next month. New candidates are welcome to have their names added to the current slate of candidates listed below.
  - b. Block Captains (Bob Heard, Director): On November 11 and 12, WCC volunteers will be going house to house to solicit new block captains. Block captains will be able to help neighbors for such things as vacation watches, picking up packages, etc. Having a block captain helped during Hurricane Harvey in knowing if anyone needed assistance.
2. December election – slate of candidates as of 11/1/2017 (Marian Richardson)
 

President: Sharon Giordano  
 VP: Betty Edwards  
 Secretary: Erin Larson  
 Treasurer: Val Mogas

Directors (3 open positions):  
 Tom Compson  
 Jeff Techmanski  
 Leslie Kian

Continuing Directors:  
 Bob Heard  
 Scott Winters  
 Matt Smart

Next General Meeting – Wed, December 6, 2017 which will be the annual election.

**Meeting adjourned at** approximately 8:01 PM by Marian Richardson, President

Respectfully submitted, Vic Lamanuzzi, Secretary