

Guests:

Jordan McGinty-Frazier, Council Member Sallie Alcorn	Steve Vealey, Camp Logan/SN22 Vice President
Texas Senator Carol Alvarado, SD06	Mike VanDusen, Crestwood/SN22 President
Mark Williamson, SN15 - Greater Heights	Kim Jessop, Cottage Grove
Laura Parker, County Judge Lina Hidalgo	Janet Pelletier, Cottage Grove
Betty McGinnis, State Senator Carol Alvarado SD06	Katie Niemann, Cottage Grove
Melonie Curry, City of Houston ParkHouston	Jody Wilding, First Ward
Lt. Geoffery Weise, TABC Enforcement Division	Paul Benz, First Ward
Jack Valinski, Mayor's Assistance Office	Cynthia Causey, Magnolia Grove
Kay Walton, SN62 - Midtown	Nicolas Rouckout, Memorial Heights
Lt. Geoffery Weise, TABC Enforcement Division	Stacie Fairchild, Rice Military/SN22 Secretary
Jack Valinski, Mayor's Assistance Office	Mark Fairchild, Rice Military
Kay Walton, SN62 - Midtown	Dexter Handy, Rice Military
John Zavala, SN14 - Lazybrook/Timbergrove	Mike Hirsch, Rice Military
Leigh Killgore, SN14 - Lazybrook/Timbergrove	Angie Granado, Rice Military
Sgt. James Roque, HPD Central Command DRT	Ross Mattern, West End
Cmdr. Mark Lentini, HPD Central Command	Karen Mattern, West End
Julia Retta, Council Member Abbie Kamin's Office	Mauri Lucas, West End
	Maria Irshad, Woodcrest

Civic Club Representatives:

Jim von Suskil, Arlington Court

Meeting called to order at 6:30 p.m.

I. Introductions

II. Delayed Acceptance of Minutes from Meeting Held on October 15, 2020

III. Presentations:

A. Washington Avenue Parking Benefit District (PBD) - Maria Irshad, CAPP, MPA; Assistant Director ParkHouston: Maria showed the boundaries map of the PBD from Houston Avenue to Westcott and Center to Lillian streets. The PBD has 42 pay stations in the area with a net revenue share with the communities along Washington Avenue. An advisory committee made up of a combination of residents and businesses in the area. They are charged with taking a portion of the net meter revenue and making a project list for improvements that benefit the public Right of Way in the Corridor. Some examples include the "W" bike racks and funds for extra HPD on-duty patrols. Maria shared that the Residential Permit Parking Program in this area is designed to enhance the quality of life in neighborhoods experiencing chronic non-resident parking. Residents can purchase parking permits to use the parking spaces. The criteria consists of at least 60% of the parking spaces must be occupied and 25% of the vehicles belong to commuters. The process to implement RPP takes about 6 months to conduct surveys, public comment, and obtain city council approval. Currently, only ParkHouston Compliance Officers can tow from RPP areas. Citations for the last three months include 16 in August, 164 for September, and 838 in October; 78% of vehicles were towed. Fines are \$70. Once meters and staff are paid, the leftover revenue is banked for potential projects. This year \$107K is allotted for projects. Maria said that residents on a street within the designated PBD area that is abused by commuters to please get consensus and reach out to her office to discuss.

B. TABC Activity Update - Lieutenant Geoffery Weise, Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission Enforcement Division: Lt. Weise informed everyone that TABC continues to work Washington Avenue, Midtown, Downtown, Richmond and other hotspots on a weekly basis. Two suspensions were issued on Washington Avenue for violating Governor Abbott's executive orders; a 30-day to Bottled Blonde, and a 60-day to Concrete Cowboy. The suspension only applies to the establishment's alcohol license. Bottle Blonde appealed the suspension and was able to negotiate selling alcohol until midnight during the week and until 1:00 AM on weekends. Concrete Cowboy is serving the automatic 60-day suspension as a second offense.

IV. New Business

A. Paul Nicosia: Mike VanDusen (Crestwood/SN22 President) shared that Magnolia Grove resident - [Paul Nicosia](#) - passed away on Monday, November 16 after suffering from recurring health challenges. Most recently, he was an advisory committee member of the *Washington Avenue Parking Benefit District* and a neighborhood advocate for more than two decades representing the *Magnolia Grove Civic Club* and *Super Neighborhood 22*. Paul was instrumental in the creation, and led the effort, of the *Washington Avenue Transportation Plan* in 2011 submitted to the Houston Area Galveston Council. The plan was so well constructed it was presumed to have come from the City of Houston. Paul's education and experience in architectural urban planning, his involvement in neighborhood issues and his presence will be greatly missed. Mayor Turner has expressed his condolences to the Nicosia family on behalf of the City of Houston.

B. Cottage Grove Infrastructure: Katie Niemann (Cottage Grove) shared that most residents have lived in the neighborhood for less than five years which has made it difficult to organize. Cottage Grove has above ground utilities, open drainage ditches, few sidewalks and most are incomplete, narrow streets, lack of No Parking signs, and safety is a concern. Infrastructure issues are the most important collective set of issues followed by Crime. Residents met with Julia Retta of District C and SN22's Stacie Fairchild and Mike

VanDusen. The critical piece to address is that residents need to revitalize the civic club which has been dormant at least two years and establish contacts. A solution discussed was one-way streets and learned that it would take neighborhood consensus to convert all streets. It would be transformational for the neighborhood and something the city has not done before to this scale. Next steps include reviving the civic club and forming committees. Elections will take place in February. This will help Cottage Grove determine if residents want this solution and it remains to be seen if it will work.

C. Quality of Life Progress: Stacie Fairchild (Rice Military/SN22 Secretary) shared that the Special-Called Regulatory and Neighborhood Affairs Committee meeting was very constructive even though it was 3.5 hours long. It consisted of one hour of presentations, one hour of questions by council members and 1.5 hours of public comments from 31 impacted Houstonians. After the meeting, 12 noise citations were issued on Washington Avenue to five bars the following weekend. ParkHouston has adjusted their officers' hours to combat the illegal parking in the neighborhoods. There is an increased police presence during peak times, and we continue to have conversations with Council Members Kamin and Alcorn about putting forth long term solutions for the city.

D. Quiet Zone Update: Mike VanDusen (Crestwood/SN22 President) said that SN22 has extensive quiet zones except in areas that have largely been industrial. These industrial areas are turning into residential areas and there are two railroad crossings that need quiet zones installed. Nicolaus Rouckout (Memorial Heights) made an application for both crossings. There is a fee involved for Union Pacific to conduct the study required. Channeling was installed on the south side of the crossing at Edwards Street even though the crossing is not a designated quiet zone. SN22 will facilitate with council members to pull funds together.

E. 2021 Officer Elections: Mike VanDusen (Crestwood/SN22 President) said that SN22's charter states that officers must stand for election every two years. Steve Vealey has given notice that he will not run for re-election. Elections will be held on February 18, 2021. Mike VanDusen will run again for the President position, Stacie Fairchild will run for the Vice-President position, and the Secretary role is currently open. Mike VanDusen asked if any civic club officers or delegates are interested in running for an officer position to please contact him for more information.

IV. Old Business:

A. Bicycle Advisory Committee: Mike VanDusen (Crestwood/SN22 President) shared that the MKT bridge is not useable and repairs will be expensive. The Planning Department will re-engage the West End and Magnolia Grove neighborhoods regarding the Patterson Street bikeway by appearing at the West End meeting in January to share additional details on crossings and intersections. The Patterson Street bikeway connects the MKT trail to Buffalo Bayou Park. Another project in Cottage Grove will connect the neighborhood to Memorial Park. The pedestrian bridge will be widened and a new path created to get pedestrians and cyclists into Memorial Park

B. Planning Commission Updates: No Update

C. Quality of Life Updates: See Item 4C.

D. City Council and Department Updates: Julia Retta (District C Chief of Staff) encouraged everyone to get COVID-19 tested and shared a new location in Memorial Park Running Trails Center at 7575 N. Picnic Lane. It's a walk-up, mouth self-swab test that gives results in two days. An appointment is not required. Jordan McGinty-Frazier (At-Large 5 Council Member Sallie Alcorn) mentioned that since the RNA meeting her office has reached out to all of the council members, HFD and HPD to gather more information on bad actor establishments. A letter was sent to the Mayor summarizing the meeting and there needs to be relief for residents and the current enforcement isn't working. CM Alcorn meets with Mayor Turner next week to discuss classifying these bad actors into their own category. She has done a ride-along during peak hours on Washington Avenue with Sgt. Hicks and it was very informative.

E. Super Neighborhood Alliance: No update

VI. Announcements, and Open Comments: No Comments

VII. Upcoming Events of Community Interest: No events.

VIII. Motion to Adjourn: 8:00 PM

Next meeting: December 17, 2020 @ 6:30 PM.