

# OPENA

## General Meeting Agenda

Saturday, March 16, 2019  
St Augustine's Episcopal Church - 1302 W. Kiest Blvd.  
1:00 to 2:30 pm CDT

Agenda Item:	Presenter:
1. Recognition of Guests & New Members	Tom Forsyth, President
2. Greetings & Remarks	John Cruezet, Dallas Co. DA
3. Crime Watch/DPD SW Neighborhood Patrol Officers	Officer Bailey
4. Committee Reports:	
a. Membership Update	Alex Gorinsky
b. Presentation of Minutes	Richard Thomas, Secretary
c. Treasurer's Report	Beatrice Lovett, Treasurer
d. Crime Watch Survey	Lucy Livingston, Crime Watch Chair
e. Social Event on Sat. June 1, 2019	Mary Harrison, VP & Patsy Brown
f. Hospitality	Carla Ranger, Hospitality Chair
5. Upcoming Programs	Faye Williams Programs Chair
a. May Program on Gentrification by Paul Carden	
b. July Program on CrimeWatch	
6. Block Walk Captains (Door Hangers/Yard Signs)	Deborah Crudup, Block Walk Captain
7. Program:	
<b><i>The Work of the Friends of Oak Cliff Parks</i></b>	Jon Papp, President, FOCP
8. General Business:	Tom Forsyth, President
a. Vote to obtain 501-C3 Incorporation	
b. Proposed Bylaws Changes	

### UPCOMING 2019 MEETINGS:

April Board Meeting	Saturday, April 20, 2019	1:30 pm – 3:00 pm
May General Meeting	Tuesday, May 21, 2019	1:00 pm– 2:30 pm

### OPENA OFFICERS:

President – Tom Forsyth, [tyfdallas@gmail.com](mailto:tyfdallas@gmail.com)  
Vice President –Mary Harrison, [harriphil@aol.com](mailto:harriphil@aol.com)  
Secretary – Richard Thomas, [Thomasrp\\_50@yahoo.com](mailto:Thomasrp_50@yahoo.com)  
Treasurer – Beatrice Lovett [bealovett@gmail.com](mailto:bealovett@gmail.com)  
Membership – Alex Gorinsky, [gorinsky@me.com](mailto:gorinsky@me.com)  
Communications – Joe Lucas, [joseph.lucas2015@gmail.com](mailto:joseph.lucas2015@gmail.com)  
General OPENA: [oakparkestates1@gmail.com](mailto:oakparkestates1@gmail.com)



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An Alliance of Oak Park Estates & Druid Hills Neighborhoods

[www.opena.org](http://www.opena.org)

## **Oak Park Estates Neighborhood Association (OPENA) Minutes of General Meeting on January 16, 2019**

The meeting was called to order at 2:00 pm. There were eight board members present for this meeting.

The meeting started at 1:00 pm with 42 members and guest present. This was our first meeting at St. Augustine's Episcopal Church and President Tom Forsyth asked Father John Hylden to give a few words of welcome.

This was followed by a welcome to District 4 representative Councilwoman Carolyn Arnold. She informed us that a new District 4 Office will be opening at the Beckley Saner Recreation Center. Additionally she will meet with the City manager to discuss her vision for the district. President Tom Forsyth also presented Councilwoman Arnold with a Certificate of Honorary Membership in OPENA.

The new OPENA elected officers for 2019 were introduced:

- Tom Forsyth, President
- Mary Harrison, Vice President
- Beatrice Lovett, Treasurer
- Richard Thomas, Secretary

Lucy Livingston was presented as the new Crime Watch Committee chairperson.

The following committee reports were also given at the meeting:

- Mary Harrison reported on membership and indicated that at this point we had 29 voting members.
- Minutes for the November meeting and the December board meeting were approved as written.
- Beatrice Lovett reported that all financial documents were now in her possession and the organization started the year with about \$1524.
- Joe Lucas gave an update on the website. OPENA has posted onto our website the articles that were written by David Klempin in 2002 about our neighborhoods.

Tom reported that activities for the next six months included:

- May - Presentation on Gentrification
- June – Neighborhood Social Event at Kiest Park

- July - Crime Watch meeting Submitted

The main focus for the meeting was a program on Code Compliance given by Johnny Garcia from the Southwest Division.

Major points that Johnny covered in his program included:

1. The new Mobile App for contacting the City of Dallas.
2. Bulk-trash pick-up schedules
3. Violations for high weeds and litter
4. Parking on city streets
5. Cost plus service for non-bulk trash items
6. Garage sales
7. Disposal of batteries, oil and paint.

The meeting ended at 2:30 pm with Tom moving to table the vote on 501- c3 incorporation and bylaw changes until our March meeting.

Submitted by:

Richard Thomas  
Secretary, OPENA

## **Oak Park Estates Neighborhood Association (OPENA) Minutes of Board Meeting on February 16, 2019**

The meeting was called to order at 2:00 pm. There were eight board members present for this meeting.

President Tom Forsyth welcomed everyone and outlined upcoming activities and events that impact upon OPENA. Noteworthy was the Collaborative Roundtable on Feb 19, which will be hosted by the City of Dallas Planning & Urban Design (PUD) Department. It will be an opportunity for leaders of neighborhoods located west of I-35 to collaborate on issues of collective importance to the area.

The primary issues affecting our neighborhood were outlined as:

1. Illegal dumping
2. Trash/litter everywhere
3. 24 hr. parking violation on city streets
4. General increase in crime.

Tom mentioned the Heritage Oak Cliff 2019 Candidate Forums will be held before the upcoming May election. There are seven candidate forums (four city council districts, 2 DISD Districts and the Mayor's race) during March and April. The forum of significance to OPENA is the District 4 forum set for March 19 at the Paul Dunbar Library.

The association is planning a social event in June at Kiest Park. Cost estimates were to be determined. Patsy Brown and Mary Harrison are coordinating the planning for this event.

The meeting focus on a crime watch report by Lucy Livingston. Lucy outlined various methods that we could implement to report crime in our neighborhoods. The Crime Watch committee noted that for ease of use and cost, the Facebook method and Calling 311 could be used immediately.

The committee reviewed the proposed bylaw changes and decided to place the change as an agenda item to be voted on at our March general meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 4:00 pm

Submitted

Richard Thomas

Oak Park Estates Neighborhood Association Treasurer's Report				
<b>Report Date:</b>		3/14/2019		
	<b>From:</b>	<b>To:</b>		
<b>Period:</b>	1/18/2019	3/14/2019		
<b>Bank Account:</b>	ORIGIN BANK			
	<b>Amount:</b>			
<b>Beginning Balance:</b>	\$1,195.98			
<b>Income:</b>				
<b>Date:</b>	<b>Description:</b>	<b>Entity/Person</b>	<b>Trans. Type</b>	<b>Amount (+):</b>
1/22/2019	Membership Dues		Cash/checks	\$ 185.00
1/22/2018	Grant Reimbursement	Heritage Oak Cliff	Check	\$ 318.40
1/28/2019	PayPal Transfer		ACH	\$ 47.94
2/13/2019	Carla Jackson		Check	\$ 15.00
<b>Total Income (+):</b>				<b>\$ 566.34</b>
<b>Expenses:</b>				
<b>Date:</b>	<b>Description:</b>	<b>Entity/Person</b>	<b>Trans. Type</b>	<b>Amount (-):</b>
1/19/2019	Donation	St Augustine	Check	\$ (35.00)
1/19/2019	Refreshment	Patsy Brown	Check	\$ (18.58)
1/19/2019	Website Payments (Nov-Jan)	Tom Forsyth	Check	\$ (35.97)
0122/2019	Receipt book	Office Depot	Card	\$ (9.52)
1/28/2019	Yard Signs (Qty. of 20)	Positive Marketing	Card	\$ (216.50)
2/11/2019	MonthlyWebsite Payment	Go Dadday	Card	\$ (12.78)
<b>Total Expense (-):</b>				<b>\$ (328.35)</b>
<b>Net Difference (income over expenses):</b>				<b>\$ 237.99</b>
<b>Total Balance:</b>	In Origin Bank			<b>\$1,433.97</b>
<b>PayPal Account:</b>				
<b>Beginning Balance:</b>				
			PayPal -1	\$ 303.20
			PayPal -2	\$ 0.67
<b>Total PayPal Income (+):</b>				<b>\$ 303.87</b>
<b>Ending Balance (PayPal)</b>				<b>\$303.87</b>
<b>Total OPENA Funds</b>				<b>\$1,737.84</b>

Report Prepared by Beatrice Lovett, Treasury March 16, 2019

**OPENA CRIME SURVEY - March 16, 2019**  
**Lucy Livingston, Crime Watch Chairperson**

1. I live in Oak Park Estates \_\_\_ Druid Hills \_\_\_\_
2. On what street do you live? \_\_\_\_\_
3. I live in another Neighborhood, which is \_\_\_\_\_
4. I have personally incurred a property break-in or theft: Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_  
How many break-ins? \_\_\_\_; What year(s)? \_\_\_\_\_
5. I have personally incurred an auto theft or break-in: Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_  
How many? \_\_\_\_; What year(s)? \_\_\_\_\_
6. I know of other crime or code violations on my street/block: Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_  
How many: 1-3\_\_\_\_ 4-6\_\_\_\_ Examples: \_\_\_\_\_
7. Do you know neighbors on your street/block? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_
8. In case of an emergency, is there someone on your street, you could (or have) given your personal contact information? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_
9. Would you like to get to know your neighbors better? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_
10. Are you interested in being trained to become a volunteer patroller for your neighborhood? \* Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_
11. Is there any area of crime or code violations you would like to see action taken to decrease these incidents on your street, block or neighborhood?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

12. What would you like to see as part of an OPENA CrimeWatch Program?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**\*More information will be required before you actually enter the program**

## Summary of Proposed Bylaws Changes for OPENA

The Oak Park Estates Neighborhood Association Board of Directors has presented to the membership proposed changes to the Association Bylaws. Members were notified by email on Dec. 19, 2018, exactly 30 days in advance of the January Meeting. Your leadership team has spent a great deal of time deliberating on these changes. The reason for these changes is to help our organization grow and to better deliver on our mission of making the area “a safer, more attractive and a better place to live!”

A summary of the primary changes to the Association Bylaws is as follows:

1. The Association now has a mission statement which is stated as "the purpose of the Association is to provide a forum and an active support group for the residents of both the Oak Park Estates **and** Druid Hills neighborhoods in order to make the area a safer, more attractive and a better place to live. The Association now recognizes that its mission is to serve both the Oak Park Estates **and** the Druid Hills neighborhoods! As our new logo states, we are **“Better Together”**
2. The boundaries of Oak Park Estates are clarified so it includes all addresses on Whitedove and Windchime. The general boundaries of Druid Hills are also now included in the Bylaws.
3. Any resident of Oak Cliff can join the Association, but only residents of Oak Park Estates or Druid Hills can be elected as Officers. The intent is to enable us to serve Oak Cliff residents who may not have an active association in their neighborhood while ensuring our focus remains on improving the quality of life in the Oak Park Estates and Druid Hills Neighborhoods.
4. Business owners in Oak Cliff who share our interest in improving both neighborhoods will be able to purchase a business membership. Each business member would have just one vote in an election.
5. Payment of general or senior membership dues allows one vote per household, not one vote for each person over 18 in the household.
6. The new bylaws provides for Standing or Permanent Committees of the Association including Communications, Membership, Block Captains, Community Development and Planning, Code Awareness and Crime Watch along with allowing the Board to establish ad-hoc committees .
7. The new bylaws provides a charter for each of these committees.
8. The Association will have an official Board of Directors which will consist of the Elected Officers, the Past President and the Chairpersons of the Standing and Ad Hoc Committees of the Association. The Board of Directors will have spending authority up to \$500 on individual items.

We look forward to a healthy discussion of how we can best achieve these objectives and move forward as an Association! Your feedback as a member is highly valued and much appreciated!