

Guests

- Sandra Puentes, Harris County Precinct 4 Staff
- Officer Lucy Vieira, HPD Community Liaison
- Russell Etherton, District H Chief of Staff
- Marie Carlisle, SN14 Lazybrook/Timbergrove
- Rhonda Sauter, Mayor’s Assistance Office
- James Ronje, Mayor’s Assistance Office
- Jack Valinski, Mayor’s Assistance Office
- Bernard Vincent, Westwood Grove
- David Roberts, West End
- CeCe Scott, At-Large 4 CM Letitia Plummer Staff
- Freddie Oliver, At-Large 2 CM Willie Davis Staff
- Lt. Geoffery Weise, Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission
- Brian Bottorff, Magnolia Grove
- Monique Johnson, City of Houston Planning & Development
- Brian Smith, City of Houston Planning & Development
- Troy Walker, Rice Military
- Joe Hood, Rice Military
- Kate Hood, Rice Military
- Brian Williams, Rice Military
- Donna Kacmar, Rice Military
- Jonathan Myers, Rice Military
- Michael Herman, Rice Military
- Ruben Rios, West End
- Karen Mattern, West End
- Tim Engel, Messiah Lutheran Church Pastor
- Michelle Wolpert, Camp Logan

Civic Club Representatives

- Stacie Fairchild, SN22
- Dexter Handy, SN22
- Jim von Suskil, Arlington Court
- Steve Vealey, Camp Logan
- Mike VanDusen, Crestwood
- Neil Bremner, Crestwood
- Drew Wiley, Cottage Grove
- Brian Rausch, First Ward
- Mark Fairchild, WAPBD / Rice Military
- Mike McAuley, Woodcrest
- Ross Mattern, West End
- Howard Watson, West End
- Jamie Walton, Westwood Grove
- Lee Walton, Westwood Grove

Meeting Minutes | March 21, 2024

Meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM by Stacie Fairchild, president of Super Neighborhood 22 (SN22), at Messiah Lutheran Church – 816 Roy Street. Pastor Tim Engel greeted the group letting everyone know that Messiah celebrated its 100th anniversary in December 2023, and Gabriel the Comfort Dog would celebrate his 8th birthday on March 26, 2024.

I. Introductions and Roll Call

II. Acceptance of Minutes from the Meeting Held on February 15, 2024

- A. Dexter Handy moved to approve the meeting minutes as written and Steve Vealey seconded.

III. Presentations

- A. Washington Avenue Transportation Study – Brian Smith, Transportation Planner - City of Houston Planning & Development

Presentation: The purpose of the study is to develop a mobility and accessibility plan with an emphasis on safety for all modes of transportation – pedestrians, bicyclists and vehicles along the Corridor from I-10 to Bagby Street. It will provide a list of improvements and implementation strategies, short-term (0-4 years), medium-term (4-10 years) and long-term (11+ years) recommendations and include a pilot opportunity that can be executed in the immediate short-term (0-2 years).

The study is sponsored by the City of Houston with Houston-Galveston Area Council (H-GAC) leading, and it will complete by Summer 2025. H-GAC will collect and review past studies and data relevant to the Corridor that include previous plans, crash data, data on traffic volumes and parking, existing infrastructure conditions, data on walking, biking and transit usage. H-GAC will perform analyses based on future travel demands, population and employment projections. Three options for the Corridor will be generated with potential traffic impacts and trade-offs for each.

Throughout the study, there will be three public engagement meetings to gather feedback from the community. The first meeting will focus on what works for the Corridor and what doesn't, and what alternatives should be considered. The second meeting will discuss which of the alternatives is best, and the third meeting will be about what to refine, and feedback on the preferred draft alternative.

B. March On Crime – Officer Lucy Vieira, HPD Community Liaison

The Houston Police Department focuses on lowering crime in the month of March each year. In Central Command, the DRT officers are conducting inspections of businesses, restaurants and convenience stores to ensure they are current on their City of Houston requirements and educating them on ways to make their businesses safer. Officers are working overtime citywide three days a week with an emphasis on violent crime, and officers are performing random vehicle pass/fail checks in high-volume parking lots. Houstonians still leave guns, laptops and other valuables such as purses in their vehicles despite raising awareness and education.

Officer Vieira gave an update on the quadruple shooting that occurred at Lincoln Bar – 5110 Washington Avenue on March 2 at approximately 11:30 PM. Investigators said it started with two men fighting inside the bar and were kicked out by security. The two men got into a black SUV and someone inside the vehicle began shooting towards the entrance. The suspect, 24-year old Luis Gerardo Rios, was arrested in Paris, TX on March 21. He is charged with four felonies. Rios is in the Lamar County Jail awaiting extradition back to Harris County.

At the April Central monthly PIP meeting, Sgt. Tracy Hicks will share the latest crime trends, most stolen vehicles in Houston, and tips on what people can do to avoid becoming a victim. Light snacks and drinks will be provided at the meeting.

Officer Vieira mentioned that HPD had 12 extra units out on Washington Avenue, including Central Commander Greyson Wilson, responding to calls for service on St. Patrick's Day.

Next week, Chief Finner is attending a Major Cities Police Chiefs meeting to discuss new technology that

can be used to assist in vehicle chases including illegal, off-road types.

IV. New Business

A. Rescind TxDOT “No Build” Letter Discussion – Stacie Fairchild, SN22 President

Stacie shared that SN22 submitted a [“No Build” letter to TxDOT](#) for all three Inner Katy projects in August 2022. At the March 2024 SN22 meeting, a request was made by several stakeholder neighborhoods to rescind the “No Build” letter for the purpose of providing input on all three projects as they evolve.

With a quorum of stakeholders present, a vote was taken to rescind the “No Build” letter, and the motion was made by Dexter Handy and seconded by Jamie Walton.

Discussion was had by stakeholders around clarifying SN22’s position – the rescission doesn’t mean stakeholders support TxDOT’s current design proposals; but it allows SN22’s collective voice to be a part of the ongoing conversation for all three projects. It would also provide the opportunity for SN22 to possibly begin conversations about supporting a structural cap/park lid concept.

Supporting votes came from Arlington Court, Camp Logan, Crestwood/Glen Cove, First Ward, Rice Military, Woodcrest, Westwood Grove and Old West End neighborhoods as well as the Washington Avenue Parking Benefit District. A [letter to rescind the “No Build” was submitted to TxDOT](#) during the Managed Lanes public comment period on April 1, 2024. State Representative Ann Johnson’s office confirmed the public comment form wasn’t necessary to submit comments.

B. SN22 Secretary Position – Stacie Fairchild, SN22 President

Stacie reminded stakeholders that the Secretary position has been vacant since May 2023. Occasionally, the body has been asked if anyone would be interested in taking on the role. In November 2023, Jim von Suskil offered to draft minutes for our monthly meetings of which he has been producing. Jim came forward in January 2024 and offered to take on the responsibility in an official capacity.

SN22 will take a vote to elect Jim von Suskil as the Secretary at our April 18, 2024 meeting. Anyone interested in being considered for the role, please reach out to Stacie for more information and discussion.

C. Super Neighborhood Alliance Grant – Rhonda Sauter, Mayor’s Assistance Office

Given that SN22 doesn’t have a treasurer, Stacie informed stakeholders that SN22 needs to submit meeting minutes to the City of Houston (COH) that says stakeholders agree to allow the Rice Military Civic Club to be a representative vendor with the COH to facilitate SN22 administrative costs such as website maintenance, email software, printing, etc. Stacie asked the body if another stakeholder would prefer to take on the responsibility; there was none.

SN22 unanimously voted to allow the RMCC to facilitate funds on behalf of SN22 with the COH to

conduct SN22 business. Dexter Handy made a motion and Jim von Suskil seconded. There was no discussion.

V. City Council and Department Updates

A. Jack Valinski Retirement – Rhonda Sauter, Mayor’s Assistance Office

Rhonda announced that Jack is retiring on March 22, 2024. She thanked Jack for all of his contributions to the COH and the SNs he represents. James Ronje will be taking on Jack’s role. James is looking forward to serving the community. James reminded us that SN22 updated bylaws are due to the COH by June 30, 2024 in order to be recognized as an active SN beginning July 1, 2024.

B. Harris County Precinct 4 Listening Tour – Sandra Puente, Harris County Precinct 4 Commissioner Lesley Briones Staff

Sandra mentioned that Commissioner Briones’ [annual listening tour](#) is on Saturday, May 4 from 8:30 – 10:30 AM at 570 Nottingham Oaks Trail 77079, and the Commissioner’s [call for projects](#) has begun. [Please RSVP](#) to attend the listening tour.

C. TABC Update – Lt. Geoffery Weise, Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission Enforcement

Lt. Weise reminded everyone that his agents work primarily undercover and spend most of their time in Harris County. TABC has done about 2,000 checks on Houston-area local businesses in March 2024.

D. At-Large 2 Update – Freddie Oliver, At-Large 2 Council Member Willie Davis Staff

Freddie introduced himself and confirmed CM Davis is available to SN22 to discuss needs. Stacie said CM Davis is welcome to come and speak at SN22 meetings anytime.

VI. Announcements and Open Comments

A. May Runoff Elections – Jack Valinski, Mayor’s Assistance Office

Jack announced that May Runoff Elections will be held on May 4, 2024 and the SD15 race between Molly Cook and Jarvis Johnson is in it. Early Voting is April 22 – 30, and the deadline to apply for a ballot by mail is April 23. Visit harrisvotes.com for [Sample Ballots](#), [Vote Centers](#) and more information.

VII. Adjourn

A. Dexter Handy moved to adjourn the meeting and Mark Fairchild seconded. Meeting adjourned at 8:12 PM.