

Oak Park Estates Neighborhood Association (OPENA)

Minutes of the March 16, 2019 General Meeting

The meeting started at 1:15 pm with about 30 people present

Tom Forsyth called the meeting to order and welcomed guests including District 4 Councilwoman Carolyn King Arnold and D4 Candidate K Flewellen.

Carolyn King-Arnold, District 4 representative, made remarks. She mentioned that her District 4 Office was now opened at the Beckley – Saner Recreational Center. She will be presenting a master plan for District 4 at a meeting on Thursday, March 28.

She also informed us that the property at Polk and Kiest was sold and slated for development of a car wash.

Karen (K) Flewellen, a business owner spoke and indicated that she will serve as a voice for the community.

President, Tom gave an outline of upcoming activities. Notable mention were:

- i. Voter registration deadline is April 4th
- ii. Election day will be on May 4th
- iii. Neighborhood Cleanup Day to be held on May 18th.
- iv. Neighborhood Block Party

Mary Harrison, Vice President and Patsy Brown, Social Event Chair, discussed the upcoming Block Party/Social Event at Kiest Park Pavilion. The Social Event is set for June 1st from 2-4 pm. It will be held at the Kiest Park Pavilion. Some of those present at the meeting signed up to bring a dish or donated money.

Officer Don Bailey from the Southwest Neighborhood Patrol Office gave statistics on crime watch. He noted that for the period Feb 13 – March 13, there were only 10 offenses. He encouraged members to use 911 for active offenses at the time of the call. 311 should be used for repeated infractions or for violations that have already occurred.

The other guest to speak was Dallas County District Attorney John Cruetzot. He indicated that his office was moving to offer treatment for people with health issues as a public health problem and not a criminal case. As such, first time marginal cases will not be prosecuted.

The main Speaker for the evening was Jon Papp of Friends of Oak Cliff (FOCP). He gave a list of projects done and those in progress.

Notable mention amongst FOCP projects include:

1. The low water maintenance at Founders Park
2. The Hillside daffodil bed project and Kidd Springs Japanese Garden.
3. The FOCP also has cleared out pathways along the southern section of Kiest Park. These trails are the Kiest Park Conservation Area.

FOCP has plans to clear additional trails in the future that will directly connect the trails to our neighborhoods. Monies need to be raised and volunteers will be needed to clear these lost trails.

There was a motion made by Carl Hays and seconded by Carla Ranger to approve the by-laws. The ensuing discussion resulted in an amendment by Cynthia White to approve the bylaws without extending voting rights to business. The proposed bylaws, as amended, were approved by a majority of the voting members in attendance at the general meeting. Additionally, Carl Hays made a motion to table the 501 -C3 until the May meeting. This motion was also approved.

Submitted

Richard Thomas

Secretary

Oak Park Estates Neighborhood Association (OPENA)

Submitted on: May 19, 2019

