

Walnut Hill Homeowners Association Board Meeting – March 4, 2020 (7:00 p.m.)

Attending: Bob Noyes, Taylor Denton, Randy Griffin, Pete Gonzalez, Erin Banna, Chillon Joesz, Barbara Stone and Peggy Cardillo

Pete and Bob opened the meeting by talking about a Texas Department of Public Safety meeting they attended. There are 3,800 registered sex offenders in Dallas, and there is concern about them committing these crimes again. They also passed out a Sex Offender Registry leaflet.

July 4th Parade

One plan is to have party at Walnut Hill United Methodist Church. The cons to this are there are no bathrooms available. We must provide our own water and insurance.

Another plan is to stage the parade on Echo Brook ending at Peter Pan Park, where the celebration will take place. Everyone was in favor of this plan. The Association will send a letter to all homeowners on Echo Brook. We might need one policeman at \$40/hour (maximum of four hours). Permit for static event requires a 60-day advance request. Ask the kiddies train vendor and Central Market if they can come to Peter Pan Park. Put cones at entrance to the park for no parking; so, train can turn around and reserve an area for Central Market to unload.

Taylor Denton suggested we spend funds available from dues, to improve quality of food (better food, especially dessert or special coffees), and have more games. We expect 200-300 people to attend. Bob Noyes will request permit for use of Peter Pan Park on July 4th. Barbara Stone suggested that there would be something for adults at the party, maybe music. Chillon suggested that we ask the YMCA or Walnut Hill Recreation Center for games for children. Hope to have some party balloons. The Board agreed we need better signage and a Public Address system, sign up for workers (games, raffles). We also need trash/recycling receptacles. Parking will be available at the at the Church near Peter Pan Park.

Marsh/Walnut Hill Intersection Shopping Center

Barbara Stone met with three real estate agents to brainstorm ideas for improvements. The Urban Land Institute improves areas in cities that are blighted. This organization is interested in helping city get grants. The Institute would like the Board to ask neighbors what types of establishments they would like in the shopping center. We should do a survey by “Survey Monkey.” There will be another meeting so we can get better information. We need “point persons” from neighborhood. Shopping Center Owner Mike Hopkins owns land on both sides of intersection. (Northeast and Northwest corners). He leases the land to the stores. He does not own the land occupied by Posh Cleaners, CVS Pharmacy, Jack in the Box or Bank of America. Rachel Dearling will host meeting to create survey and obtain email addresses.

Schools

Chillon attended a meeting about the three closed schools (Walnut Hill Elementary, Cary Middle School and Thomas Jefferson). Architectural firms had representatives at the meeting. Cary will be demolished, hopefully in April 2020. There will be 800 students attending the new Pre-K through Grade 8 elementary school built on this site. The elementary grades will be on one side of the building, and the junior high on the other. Both wings will share use of the cafeteria, offices, and library. The school will be two stories tall. There will be another meeting to address traffic flow. Thomas Jefferson will not be torn down; rather, it will be renovated. Construction and renovation will be “construction by risk.” Here, architect and builder will work together to design/redesign building while it is under construction/renovation. Both school plan to reopen in the fall of 2022. Other meetings are scheduled.

The meeting ended at approximately 8:30 p.m. Next meeting is April 1st at Peter Pan Park at 6:30 p.m.