

Westbury Civic Club Regular Monthly Meeting – 03/18/2015
Westbury Baptist Church
Minutes – 03/18/15

Members present: Becky Edmondson, Leslie cross, Jeff Benevides, David Cummins, Robert Capps, Mark Knoblauch, Robert Montgomery, Eugene Sirls, Meg Horner, Libby Mondello, Kate Wilson

Meeting was called to order by WCC President Becky Edmondson at 7:01 PM

WCC President gave a brief overview of the Westbury Centerette demolition

- Westbury Centerette sign will be retained at the water tank until it is decided what do to with it

Mary Seymour from Borris Miles' office was recognized

- Mentioned that the Southern Crushed Concrete hearing has been reset for June 9th

Mayoral candidate Chris Bell was recognized and gave a brief overview of his ambitions as mayor

- Plans to focus on street repair, crime, education
- Answered general questions from those in attendance

David Cummins gave an overview of the WCC financial affairs

- Met with JP Morgan at Chase Bank to discuss fee arrangement
 - Fees seem unusually high (\$400/mo)
- Becky mentioned there was an associate WCC membership for area businesses that we may want to re-examine

WCC President thanked Leslie Cross and PUCS for providing coffee at the Westbury Centerette demolition

Question was raised by the board as to whether we could avoid sending Westbury fees to Dallas

- Suggestion was made from a resident to explore a monthly bank draft for Westbury membership payments

February meeting minutes were distributed; Mark Knoblauch made a motion to accept the minutes

- Motion was seconded

WCC President's Report:

- Minimal progress has been made on Westbury Square demolitions
- WCC President noted April 11th is keep Houston beautiful day
- Several beautification projects lined up for the area; Westbury little league, Willow Waterhole, Hager park, etc
- "Neighborhood USA" (NUSA) conference is coming to Houston May 20th – 23rd
 - \$200 registration fee to attend
 - Westbury would like to be on the tour
 - Bus comes to neighborhood with ~40 people, gets a tour of the neighborhood
 - Westbury is a finalist for neighborhood of the year
 - Presentation will be put on for judges, winner will be selected
- March 28th – birthday party for Westbury garden, Saturday 11-2

WCC board member Jeff Benevides gave an overview of the Capital Improvement Plan meeting

WCC board member Eugene Sirls discussed a meeting regarding trail improvement

- Suggested that we partner with area neighborhoods to form a group effort
- Effort is still strong to improve trails in the area
- Noted that Houston Planning and Development Department staff member Donald Perkins will improve lighting along main from beltway 8 to 610
- noted that there is a lot of construction occurring in the area
 - reminded everyone in attendance to call 311 to get stumps removed

WCC security director Leslie Cross noted that Sgt Morin with the constable's office will be out for 3-4 months due to surgery, but his absence but won't affect service

- Announced that New website for precinct 5 constables
- Sign up to get alerts from precinct 5
- Precincts will post on Nextdoor.com if pertinent to our area

Jeff Benevides – nothing of issue to report regarding Flood Control and Infrastructure

Robert Montgomery – posed a question regarding the four 'no left-hand turns' signs near the school at the intersection of Ludington and Landsdown, as well as cars remaining in the driveway/yard which affects the appearance of the neighborhood

WCC membership director Kate Wilson had nothing of issue to report

Westbury South section leader Robert Capps had nothing of issue to report

- Made a point to mention how much fun the 'yard of the month' judging is

WCC Communications director Libby Mondello noted that the website is expected to be done by the end of March

WCC Section 1 director Meg Horner noted that she has recently hosted coffee with the constables and would like to see better attendance

Questions/comments from the audience

- Recycling has not picked up an entire block on Ettrick (Section 4) for over a month
 - 3 calls to 311
- Kudos to delivery of Crier before the first of the month, which allowed for notification of all activities
- Question as to the status of the old Valero station on Hillcroft
 - was mentioned that it would be an ideal expansion of the Westbury garden if we could buy it
- Question about an 'infrastructure' position on the board
 - Potholes are not getting fixed, and there should be a way to go around 3-1-1 to get it fixed quicker

Robert Montgomery discussed Herman Park's upcoming new pavilion.

Motion to adjourn at 8:50 was made by Robert Montgomery

Motion was seconded.

Submitted by WCC Secretary Mark Knoblauch