

# **Eldridge/West Oaks Super Neighborhood Council Meeting**

## **FINAL MINUTES**

**January 13, 2010**

The meeting of the Eldridge/West Oaks Super Neighborhood Council (17) (EWOSNC) was called to order at 7:03 pm, January 13, 2010 by Interim President Sandie Meyers. A quorum was present, with nine stakeholder delegate representatives attending.

Ms. Meyers introduced guests attending the EWOSNC meeting: Mr. Oliver Pennington, Councilmember, District G; Mr. Samuel Dike, Director of Community Affairs for At-Large Councilmember Stephen C. Costello; Mr. Shaun Light, Constituent Services Coordinator for At-Large Councilmember Melissa Noriega. Mr. Pennington and the Council representatives stated they were looking forward to working with EWOSNC and the other west Houston SNs. Mr. Light also noted that Councilmember Noriega is on the Homeland Security Committee and is involved with looking at HPD's budget, fire department, and crime lab issues. Ms. Kim Montgomery, a representative with Houston Community College, briefly spoke about the growth of HCC in the west Houston area, stating enrollment had increased by thirty percent. Ms. Meyers also introduced EWOSNC's community liaison from the mayor's office, Ms. Elaine Gaskamp.

### **I. EWOSNC Executive Committee Elections.**

Ms. Meyers requested all signed delegate letters be turned in and Diane Guillerman, Interim Secretary, noted that, in all, three stakeholder organizations had not turned in signed delegate letters: (1) Ashford Park HOA, (2) Ashford West, and (3) Reflections.

Ms. Meyers then commenced the election of officers for the EWOSNC. She noted her candidacy for President and requested nominations from the floor for the position. Upon there being no nominations, a motion was made that Ms. Meyers be named as President, the motion was seconded, and all delegates voted in favor. The candidates for Vice President, Diane Guillerman and Bob Sumicek, were introduced and each spoke briefly about their qualifications for the position. There being no additional nominations from the floor, ballots were distributed and counted by K. Terracina and J. Thompson. Diane Guillerman received the majority of votes and was named as Vice President. Billie Long was introduced as a candidate for Treasurer. Mr. Long spoke briefly about his qualifications for the position. Nominations from the floor were requested; there being no additional nominations, a motion was made that Mr. Long be named as Treasurer, the motion was seconded, all delegates voted in favor.

There were no candidates for the positions of Secretary and Corresponding Secretary. Ms. Meyers briefly explained the positions and requested nominations from the floor; there being none, it was stated that Diane Guillerman would continue handling the responsibilities of those positions until someone volunteered. At that time, a special election will be held, in accordance with the By-Laws. Maria Galitos stated she would consider assuming one of the positions if she is appointed as the new delegate representative from her neighborhood.

### **II. Old and New Business.**

**A.** The minutes from the previous meeting were approved with no corrections.

**B.** Ms. Meyers requested a vote to amend Section 5.4 of the Eldridge/West Oaks SN By-Laws, as presented at the previous meeting, to include Ashford Park VI as a new participating stakeholder organization and to correct the stakeholder Ashford Hills HOA to Ashford Hills POA. Because there were no representatives attending from those stakeholder organizations, a motion was made to table the amendment until a representative came to a meeting. It was noted that one of the amendments was merely a correction. After a discussion about delegate attendance and the propriety of tabling addition of a new organization when the EWOSNC was to be inclusive, the motion to table was withdrawn. A motion was then made include Ashford Park IV as a stakeholder organization and to reflect Ashford Hills POA in the By-Laws. The motion was seconded and approved by all delegates.

Be it resolved, Section 5.4 of the EWOSN By-Laws shall be amended to reflect Ashford Park IV and Ashford Hills POA as stakeholder organizations.

There was a discussion regarding lack of delegate attendance, noting that because there are alternates, at least one delegate should be able to attend.

**C. SNAP Committee.** Judy Thompson, chairperson of the SNAP Committee, gave an update. She noted the Committee is composed of the following members: herself, Diane Guillerman, Doug Parrish, David Rowe, Kathleen Terracina, and Anne Trousdale. Ms. Thompson stated that the SNAP requests had been turned into Mr. Donald Perkins, City Planner, and she read the list of items submitted:

- Requesting signal upgrade/reconfigure existing intersection - Hwy 6 at Eagle Vista Drive (driving northbound on Hwy 6) to change the shoulder to a right turn only lane onto Eagle Vista Drive
- Requesting signal upgrade/reconfigure existing intersection – Hwy 6 at Briar Forest (turning south onto Hwy 6) to reconfigure two existing lanes so the left lane is a left turn only and the right lane is both a left turn and straight ahead
- Concrete repair request on small bridge at Piping Rock and Joel Wheaton (13902 Joel Wheaton). The bridge is deteriorating and concrete is falling away.
- Plant additional trees in esplanades along Briar Forest between Dairy Ashford and Eldridge Parkway
- Plant additional trees in esplanades along Richmond Avenue between S Hwy 6 and Panagard
- Overlay Dairy Ashford Rd, between Buffalo Bayou to Westpark Tollway

Ms. Thompson stated that the Committee would soon begin to work on the 311 requests. She questioned Mr. Perkins regarding the date of the CIP hearing and process for application items. There was a discussion regarding widening Eldridge, particularly in the Memorial area. Mr. Pennington stated he was meeting soon with the Energy Corridor District and would try to find out what plans it may have regarding that project. Mr. Pennington was questioned about the City's plans to rebuild Memorial and he responded that he believed preliminary engineering had been authorized, but the City was trying to get federal money to assist with the project.

There was a discussion regarding the potholes on Parkway Plaza and Eldridge that had been recently repaired. The work was done so poorly, additional repairs were already needed. The stakeholder raising the issue asked how to get the potholes repaired correctly, and it was stated that 311 should be called. Ms. Thompson noted that residents could pursue 311 items right away rather than wait for the Committee to act; 311 items can also be submitted online. Mr. Perkins reminded everyone to copy Mr. Pennington's office on any 311 requests for follow-up purposes. He will forward information regarding the CIP hearing date.

The delegates were reminded to share information they are getting from EWOSNC with the residents in their respective neighborhoods.

**D. Committee Volunteers.** Ms. Meyers requested volunteers for the various EWOSN committees. The following volunteered:

Safety & Security Committee – Bob Sumicek will chair this committee. Members of the committee are Alaina Turner, Jay Taylor, and Diane Guillerman.

Mr. Pennington noted that the current Chief of Police is leaving, Mayor Parker is interested in more neighborhood oriented patrolling, and the Safety & Security Committee will be an important one. He suggested that stakeholders begin to think about how we want to see laws enforced; though it will be difficult given there will not be an increase in the budget. He suggested looking to jurisdictions that have done more with less, such as New York City in the 1990s.

Beautification/Quality of Life Committee – no chair; members are Jennifer Hernandez, Barbara Burr, Diane Guillerman, and Maria Galiotos.

Speakers Committee – Maria Galiotos will chair.

Legislative Committee – Doug Parrish will chair. Ms. Guillerman will try and get Mr. Parrish in contact with the Legislative Committee chair for the mid-West SN.

Mr. Perkins passed out the Summary notes and website materials from other SNs as guidelines for EWOSNC; there was a discussion about using a Westside High School student to start the EWOSNC website for community service hours. Ms. Alaina Turner, with HISD, volunteered to look into it.

### **III. Miscellaneous.**

There was a discussion regarding scheduling a speaker for next month. Mr. John Lozano explained the trash dumping issues facing his neighborhood, Westhollow Village, and it was suggested we schedule someone from the City's Solid Waste department. Ms. Meyers and Ms. Galiotos will discuss further possibly scheduling someone from that department for a future meeting. It was determined that the delegates would formulate the goals and mission statement of the EWOSNC at the February meeting and speakers would then be scheduled to address those specific goals. Mr. Perkins suggested one of our future meetings be held in the new Kendall library. Ms. Meyers will look into scheduling use of the new library. Ms. Meyers sought a volunteer to make permanent name tags for the delegates with materials she purchased. Ms. Terracina and Ms. Turner volunteered.

**The next EWOSNC meeting is on Wednesday, February 10, 2010, at 7:00 pm, at West Briar Middle School.**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 pm.

Diane Guillerman,  
Eldridge/West Oaks Super Neighborhood Vice President and Interim Secretary