



March 10, 2021 Museum Park Super Neighborhood Council Minutes

Council Member Attendees: Kathleen O'Reilly; Paul Wilson; Ruth Ann Skaff; Sandra Stevens; Barbara McGuffey; Jose Ferraro; Brad Levy; Kyle Wolfe; Oleg Jolic; Dale Furrow, ex-officio; Deirdre Barrett, ex-officio; Jack Valenski; ex-officio; Cmdr. Caroleta Johnson, ex-officio

Other Attendees: CM Sallie Alcorn, At-Large District 5; Former CM Dwight Boykin, District D; Steven James, Office of CM Evans-Shabazz District D; Eliza Paul, District Engineer, Houston, TXDOT; Linda Trevino, METRO; Lt. Lewis Parker, HPD South Central; Sgt. Chris Weiche, HPD DRT South Center; Maria Hoke, Central Houston, Project Architect; Nikki Knight, HouSE; Dawn Malone, HouSE; Cindy Wood, MPNA; Pam Campbell, MPNA; J Koch, TXDOT; Varuna Singh, TXDOT; Jack Miller; Greentown Labs; Hussain Nathoo; Raquelle Lewis; Jan Castleberry; Billy Bob; Randy; Chris

President Kathleen O'Reilly, via Zoom, welcomed all attendees and invited the elected officials or their representatives to speak.

- CM Sallie Alcorn stated that the Livable Places Action Committee (LPAC) is still working hard. Buffering issues are included. Noise ordinance is of concern and importance to MP. COVID positivity rate is 17% today, per COVID Czar Marvin Odom. CoH will receive approximately \$560 from the new American Rescue Plan Act. Per recent meeting about homelessness with Marc Eichenbaum, the Navigation Center projects to house 5,000 people in the next two years.
- Steven James, office of CM Carolyn Evans-Shabazz, announced Harris County Home Repair program, with emphasis on seniors. Mr. James was asked if the Mayor's funds for road improvement "Building Houston Forward Street Rehabilitation" can be applied to the Caroline Promenade. Mr. James will research on our behalf.

HPD Report: Sgt. Weiche reported that overall crime is down from same time last year, statistic details are on the MPSN website.

- DRT has been involved with food and water drives. This month is March on Crime, with additional emphasis on convenience store inspections and ongoing club and bars inspections for compliance.

Cmdr. Johnson reported:

- an early morning death near 2900 Fannin, the Ghost Bar.
- Four-wheelers are NOT street-legal. For HPD to effectively deal with this issue, they need to know where the 4 wheelers are unloading. Giving chase is dangerous because the 4 wheelers can jump curbs to evade police cars and thus can possibly harm others while escaping.
- The March 16 PIP meeting will be devoted to TABC presentation and Q&A and invited everyone to participate.

Ms. Deirdre Barrett is re-activating the Museum Park security alliance and intends to resume quarterly meetings. She asked all the cultural institutions, businesses, and buildings which have security personnel to please provide her their current contact information. The concept is "to get to know your neighbors" and have more eyes on the street.

Guest Speaker –Ms. Eliza Paul, District Engineer- Houston, Texas Department of Transportation

Ms. Paul's update to MPSN focused on Segment 3, the downtown portion of North Houston Highway Improvement Plan (NHHIP). The recently signed Record of Decision (ROD) allows TXDOT's work to go further and deeper into detail. For example, they can purchase property that is needed, if the owner is willing to sell, and determine which utilities need relocating.

Ms. Paul reported meeting with Central Houston - Maria Hoke, Project Architect – and METRO re: design criteria and aesthetics.

Ms. Hoke referenced efforts on the Cleburne Cap, Main Street Cap and three arched bridges

Segment 3 is divided into 4 projects. TXDOT currently working on the first two: 1) Montrose past the Spur 527 and 2) the 288 and 69 interchange and the connectors, almost to 45 South. Projects 1 and 2 are in the bid-build stage, anticipated in 2022.

Segment 3 of the overall project is funded, Segment 2 is partially funded, and Segment 1 is not funded.

. TXDOT working with Harris County Flood Control, the North and South Canal and watersheds along I 45.

MP expressed grave concerns about the planned frontage road ending into Caroline Street. Ms. Paul said they are trying to shorten it.

Questions:

The fate of the Pierce Elevated, which is part of Segment 3?

Originally planned for demolition though TxDOT is open to different options.

Funding opportunities for Cap Parks

OST- Cleburne was identified for funding.

Is the whole structure in Midtown or is any portion in Houston Southeast?

Nikki Knight, HouSE, replied that because of adjacency of schools and businesses to Caroline Street, the Wheeler Terminus, and Cleburne, the TIRZ has been discussing.

Ms. Paul stated that TxDOT responsibility includes base structure, cap sidewalks, bicycle crossings and cross streets.

(Note: As of March 11, NHHIP has been put on hold due to Harris County lawsuit.)

President's Report: Caroline Promenade

VP Report: N/A

Secretary's Report: Secretary reported a quorum is present.

Committee Reports:

Safety & Security – HPD and Ms. Deirdre Barrett see above

Livable Places Action Committee Reported by Sandy Stevens

LPAC began meeting last summer to address regulations and ordinances pertaining to development, including buffering, outdoor lighting, better screening on garages, mechanical noise.

The next meeting - rescheduled to March 23. LPAC task force is studying the viability of allowing for Conservation Districts.

MPSN Council is considering submittal of a letter supporting creation of Conservation District to Roman McAllen, leader of the Conservation Focus Group (posted on MPSN website). SNC Delegates were asked to notify Kathleen O'Reilly via email of approval, or not, before Monday, March 15.

CM Alcorn and CM Evans-Shabazz were asked to please move the building noise concerns forward as part of the noise ordinance amendment efforts.

METRO report- Ms. Linda Trevino

MetroNext BOOST Networks. The first two routes are the 54 Scott route (an 11-mile stretch of service between the Downtown Transit Center and the MLK Health Center north of Alameda-Genoa) and 56 Airline/Montrose (a 1.5-mile stretch of Studewood St. between White Oak Drive and Cavalcade St.). There are bus shelters at every stop, along with sidewalk and ramp improvements. Inner Katy project is underway. It will increase connectivity and reduce congestion between Uptown and Downtown. The Inner Katy Corridor is one of the most heavily congested roadways in Houston. Details available on MetroNext website.

Ongoing Business: Community Parking Plan Survey – City Council Update

<https://www.houstontx.gov/parking/cpp-survey.html>

Everyone is encouraged to respond promptly to the Community Parking Plan Survey.

New Business: Buffering Ordinance (see above)

Special Districts (see above)

Proposed goals for 2021 include:

- Working towards funding for implementation of the Caroline Promenade and Culture Trail.
- Creating a Maintenance Endowment fund for improved esplanade maintenance and management in partnership with Houston Parks Dept. and Houston SE Management District.
- Revitalizing Museum Park Safety and Security Team, which includes security personnel from the museums, hospitals, schools, Harris Co. Constables contracted through Houston SE Management District, and others.
- Other?

Stakeholder Updates: Kyle Wolfe, Hermann Park Conservancy Garden:

Collaboration with HMNS to celebrate Earth Day during April. Details will be shared on our websites and social media.

Friday, April 30, 2021 Evening in the Park Gala <https://www.hermannpark.org/support/evening-in-the-park/>

Hermann Park McWilliams Dog Park is nearing construction, expected completion in two months.

Summer Discount Pricing for Lott Hall and Cherie Flores Pavilion between 6/1 – 9/30,

2021 https://www.hermannpark.org/media/uploads/summer_special_2021.pdf

Public Comments:

Park Houston - March 25, 2PM Alameda Corridor Parking Virtual Meeting Alameda Corridor Parking challenges (Wentworth-Southmore) and proposed changes to Community Parking Program.

Announcements:

Mr. Valinski announced that due to the freeze, heavy trash schedule is set back by a month. If needed, please call 311. Houston Southeast announced two new shelters at Alameda and Blodgett.
