

6815 Redding Road Houston, TX 77036 (T) 713-789-2311 • (F) 713-789-2312 www.sharpstowncivic.org



Agenda

# 1. ROLL CALL / QUORUM:

## Present: Presence is indicated by oxtimes Absent: Absence is indicated by oxtimes

|             | <u>Directors</u>   |             | <u>Others</u>  |
|-------------|--------------------|-------------|----------------|
|             | Annie Love         |             | Erica Billings |
| $\boxtimes$ | Byrom Wehner       |             | Helen Zhou     |
| $\boxtimes$ | Carlos J. Martinez |             | Jason Davalos  |
| $\boxtimes$ | Casey Cummings     | $\boxtimes$ | Kathy Holston  |
| $\boxtimes$ | Charmaine LeBlanc  | $\boxtimes$ | Mark Harrison  |
| $\boxtimes$ | Dale Davidson      |             | Matt Wine      |
| $\boxtimes$ | Donna Fain         |             | Matthew Cowan  |
| $\boxtimes$ | Elizabeth Schooler | $\boxtimes$ | Pat Menville   |
|             |                    |             |                |

Quorum was met and President Charmaine LeBlanc called the meeting to order at 6:34 P.M. Other Guests:

- a. Anne Wilburn
- b. Torry Mercer
- c. Stephen Maney
- d. Debbie Calkins

2. APPEALS Relating to Deed Restriction Violations or Architectural Control Issues: None

# 3. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

- a. Anne Wilburn
  - i. Passed out handout with topics to discuss.
  - ii. Announced Advocates for Better Sharpstown.

#### 4. REVIEW MEETING MINUTES:

- a. Charmaine presented minutes of the January 2023 board meeting.
  - i. Mark Harrison made a motion that the January minutes be approved as presented.
  - ii. Elizabeth Schooler seconded and the motion passed.

#### 5. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- a. President
- **b.** Finance
  - i. January 2023 Financials Approve
- c. Communications / Activities Committee



## 6. OLD BUSINESS:

- a) Review committee meeting progress
  - a. Lots of great ideas, but need action in committees.
    - i. Discussed needing articles for SCAN from committee and any board members, etc.
    - ii. Discussed need to name chair for committees to report in board meetings.
    - iii. Membership Committee met on January 28<sup>th</sup>:
      - 1. Recommended to paint crosswalks and entrances to neighborhood.
      - 2. Want to seek costs for replacing Sharpstown monument signs at entrances to neighborhood.
      - 3. Sidewalk replacements
      - 4. Pole Banners at all of the entrances to the neighborhood.
      - 5. Christmas lights and décor at entrances to the neighborhood.
    - iv. Communications Committee:
      - 1. This old house article in SCAN.
      - 2. Sharpstown eats feature in the SCAN. Focus on restaurants in the neighborhood. Idea to highlight owner, food, menus, etc.
      - 3. Won't you be my neighbor article in the SCAN to introduce neighbors.
        - a. Erica Billings was featured in the most recent article, Dale is planning to write feature for next SCAN.
      - 4. Communications Policy should not be changed. The policy was reviewed and discussed, but ultimately decided not to change.
      - 5. Proposed to have board members to sign the communications policy every year.
      - 6. Photos for the website (banner photo) to be updated.
      - 7. Recap on monthly General Meeting. The idea is to give info about guests and the topics discussed.
      - 8. Would like to highlight an article from most recent SCAN on the bottom of the website.
    - v. Safety and Security Committee:
      - 1. Discussed the topic of keeping SEAL patrol hours discreet.
        - a. This was the prior goal to help prevent criminals from committing crimes while SEAL was not on shift.
        - b. Safety and Security committee wants to make those hours transparent.
      - 2. Proposed increasing SEAL patrols or increasing hours for 24-hour coverage.
      - 3. Discussed the topic of illegal fireworks. Looking at ways to approach the topic without it becoming a fight with neighbors who want to shoot fireworks.
        - a. HPD does not have the man-power to fight every firework in the city on holidays.
        - b. The city also cannot enforce the law.

- 4. Proposed to post signs around the neighborhood telling neighbors that fireworks are illegal. The signs would be in multiple languages.
- 5. The SCA Office now has a Spanish voicemail where Spanish-speaking neighbors can leave voicemails. Carlos and/or Scott will then call back and assist the neighbors.
  - a. 3 voicemails have already been left, and 2 of those are already addressed!
- vi. Bylaws Committee:
  - 1. Reviewed bylaws and multiple items were proposed to be changed, but need another meeting to finalize language.
  - 2. Any changes will need to be approved at General Meetings, per the bylaws.

# 7. NEW BUSINESS:

- **a.** Charmaine discussed upcoming topics and guests for upcoming General Meetings:
  - i. Memorial Hermann will be guest for February General Meeting.
  - ii. Lesley Briones will be the guest speaker for the March General Meeting.
  - iii. Bob Patterson will be guest for April General Meeting.
  - iv. Safety and Security will be the May General Meeting.
  - v. Elizabeth Schooler recommended Fire Department to speak at June General Meeting
  - vi. Election candidates have requested to come to meeting and introduce themselves.
- **b.** Charmaine discussed the topic of the financial cover letter from the accounting firm.
  - i. AICPA licenses CPA nationally. Coveler & Associates P.C. use this cover letter that comes from the AICPA website.
    - 1. There are 3 different types of accounting reviews
      - a. One is simply compilation which only compiles our bank statements, income, etc. and compiles it into a report.
      - b. Simple Audit
        - i. Costs \$10,000 to \$15,000.
        - ii. Charmaine asked Fred Coveler if we should be doing audits, but it was not recommended due to low revenue flow.
      - c. Complete Review Audit
        - i. Costs \$20,000 to \$30,000 and takes around one year to complete.
- **c.** Charmaine reminded the board that deed restrictions and policies are listed on the SCA website.
  - i. Short-term rentals were discussed. SCA website has the policy available for neighbors to review.
    - 1. Short-term rentals are a problem for everyone.
      - a. They increase noise and disturbances.
      - b. Dog noise is causing nuisances for neighbors.
      - c. Some homes are renting home for pools which has increased problems with noise, parking on grass, etc.
    - 2. Short-term rentals policy is available on the SCA website.
    - 3. VRBO, AirBNB, and room rentals are included in this.
- **d.** The topic of questions at the General Meetings was brought up by Charmaine.

- i. The biggest issue preventing questions is the time constraint.
- ii. Also, it is not conducive to the board members being prepared. No one knows everything and sometimes investigation is needed to answer questions.
  - 1. Recommendations included
    - a. Answering questions that have been submitted to the SCA website.
    - b. Having a sign-up sheet with a limited number of slots that we will take at a meeting.
    - c. We are listening, discussing, and are seeking a way to facilitate this.

## 8. EXECUTIVE SESSION: No Executive Session this month.

## 9. ADJOURNMENT:

- **a.** Kathy Holston made a motion to adjourn the meeting.
- **b.** Mark Harrison seconded the motion.
- c. The motion was put to vote and the meeting was adjourned at 7:45 P.M.

Charmaine thanked all directors and visitors for their attendance and their service to Sharpstown.

Submitted by: Casey Cummings