

**Norhill Neighborhood Association**  
**General Meeting Minutes**  
**January 28, 2020**

**Call to Order:** Elaine O'Connor, President, called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm, opening with a Pledge of Allegiance and moment of silence.

**Board Members Present:** Elaine O'Connor, Chris Carney, Mike Gust, Mike Clennan, Brian Wilson, Jorgen Jorgensen, Suzanne Parr.

**Board Members Absent:** Val Paget, Brent Maynard, Allison Mitchell, Josh Sigler.

**Prior Meeting Minutes:** Posted on the Norhill website at <https://www.norhill.org/about-us/general-meeting-minutes/>.

**Treasurer's Report:**

- 2019 ending balance: \$38,505.84
- Current balance: \$38,337.84

**Committee Reports & Announcements:**

- **Membership:**
  - Working to increase our members.
  - Ask is to grab a neighbor and bring them to the next meeting and each upcoming event.
- **Crime Watch:**
  - Homeless encampment under I10 has been reported to Council Member Cisneros. For the encampment on the north side of the bayou, the Parks Department will remove it. The encampment on the south side falls under TxDOT. Jorgen and Brian offered to follow up with TxDOT regarding the encampment.
  - We will re-invigorate the Block Captains program in 2020. Email [info@norhill.org](mailto:info@norhill.org) to sign up to be a captain for your block.
- **Programs:**
  - February speaker will be Eric from the Blue Tiles project.
- **Community Projects:**
  - Discussed the plan to bring Blue Tiles to Norhill and to repaint the pillars on many of the street corners that list the street name. We will start small and scale out.
  - A member asked if permission is required from Historic Preservation to install blue tiles. Jeremy Crain from Council Member Cisneros's office confirmed that installing blue tiles on the curb outside of your home does not require approval.
- **Social Events:**
  - Our next First Friday happy hour will be held on Friday, February 7th at 915 Cottage.
- **Director at Large:**
  - We will reinstitute Yard of the Month for 2020. The program will run from March – November. We need judges and residents to nominate a yard. Contact [info@norhill.org](mailto:info@norhill.org) if you are interested.
  - New Neighbor Welcome Pack transition from 2019 board members is planned.
- **General:**
  - Notice on the upcoming 2020 Wood Window Workshop: <https://www.facebook.com/events/821722298293212/> on Saturday & Sunday, March 28-29, 2020 at Project Row Houses (2521 Holman St., Houston, TX), organized by the Historic Resources Committee in collaboration with Project Row Houses, Preservation Houston and Wood Window Makeover. The workshop is a two-day event and will be led by a respected preservationist and craftsman, Steve Quillian.

- Reminder that instead of our March general meeting we will host our Member Appreciation Dinner.
- Thank you to Bicycle Speed Shop for hosting our January meeting. Bicycle Speed Shop offer rides Wednesdays and Fridays at 7am and on Saturdays at 6:30am. Meet at the store and join the ride. Additionally, Norhill residents are encouraged to organize their own rides which can begin from the Bicycle Speed Shop and avail of their wonderful facilities.
- **City Council District H Report (by Jeremy Crain, Chief of Staff to Karla Cisneros, Council Member):**
  - Sidewalks on Fugate Street repairs and ramp additions were performed at the request of a resident under the Pedestrian Accessibility Review (PAR) program. This work has now completed and no additional changes to the sidewalks on Fugate are planned. Disabled or Senior residents of Norhill are encouraged to contact Council Member Cisneros's office to apply for sidewalk repairs and/or ramps under the purview of the PAR program.
  - The Council Member has investigated the delay in repairing the lights at Proctor Plaza Park. The correct request is now open with the city and work should commence shortly.
  - ParkRun, a group that organizes free, timed, family and pet friendly 5k events accessible to everyone, would like to bring a parkrun to Stude Park. They have asked the Council Member for guidance on requesting a waiver of the park use fee.
  - **I45 Project Update**
    - The work to look at alternatives to the current TxDOT plan has completed. The next step is to report out on that. There are 3 upcoming meetings that members should be aware of, beginning this Thursday.
    - Members should note that TXDOT already has the funding in place to begin Stage III, which impacts Downtown, I10 and I69, and is only pending approval of the final environmental impact study, which is expected in the next few months.
    - The comment period for the community impact technical report is currently open.
    - Members are encouraged to stay involved and informed. For more information, visit the District H website: <https://www.houstontx.gov/council/h/index.html>.
    - Note that as part of this project, TxDOT will take out the bridge south of N Main Street, however due to the highway being bounded by historic Germantown to the west and the cemetery to the east, I14 will not be widened at N Main St.
    - Passed out Community Workshop Information.

**Old Business:** None.

#### **New Business**

- Tom Flanagan has stepped down as Second Vice President – Deed Restrictions. Mike Gust resigned as Director of Communications and was nominated to fill the position of Second Vice President – Deed Restrictions. No nominees were submitted from the floor. A motion to approve the nomination by acclamation was made by Jorgen Jorgensen and seconded by Mike Clennan. The motion was unanimously approved by the members present.
- The position for Director of Communications is now vacant. If interested, please contact [info@norhill.org](mailto:info@norhill.org).
- The esplanades on Norhill need tree trimming. Requests have been submitted via 311.
- A question was asked about the property at 1418 Studewood. If they have not requested approval before commencing work, members are encouraged to report it via 311.

**Meeting Adjourned** at 7:30pm.

#### **Guest Presentation**

- None. Guest speaker had to cancel on the day of the event due to unforeseen circumstances.