



**Oak Meyer Gardens  
Home Owners Association Annual Meeting  
Minutes**

**November 17, 2019, Time: 6:27 pm**

**Present:** Valerie Schroer, Kevin Marts, Dawn Kilby, Jerry Rowan, Jane McQueeny, Patty Jensen, Stuart Wieland

**Absent:**

**Location:** Brookside Garden Event Space  
624 East 63<sup>rd</sup> Street

**Items for Discussion:**

**Topic**

**Welcome and Introduction**

**Reporter**

**Valerie Schroer**

Schroer introduced current board members.

**1. Guest Speakers**

- a. Mayor Quinton Lucas-Mayor Lucas was sick and unable to attend.
- b. Andrea Bough-6<sup>th</sup> District at Large-Ms. Bough spoke briefly on two issues she thought were important to the District; violence and infrastructure. On the topic of violence, Bough mentioned an incident on Locust in the HOA. She said neighbors had called police about suspicious activity and when police arrived they questioned and released the suspects. At the time of the police arrival the police could not determine if a crime had been committed because the home involved the owners were not home. When the home owners returned and it was determined a crime had been committed, the suspects were charged.

Ms. Bough also addressed the needs of infrastructure in the City and said this was a high priority for her and the counsel. Difficult challenges because of great need and high costs.

Ms. Bough took questions from the audience on the following topics:

- Potholes
- Downtown development
- City manager position and replacing Troy Schulte
- Property taxes
- Streetcar extension
- Hyperloop transit to St. Louis
- Development on 63<sup>rd</sup> street from Troost to Wornall
- Bus routes and ridership

## **2. Presentation of Annual Budget**

**Dawn Kilby**

Treasure Kilby went over the 2018-19 budget and explained areas where budget had been exceeded or not spent. Copies of summary of expenditures versus budget were provided to all members. Kilby then reviewed the Budget for 2019-20 that had been approved by the Board.

There was a question from the members on why we do a newsletter as there appears to be a cost to this that could be avoided if we did electronically. Schroer explained we do not have all email addresses for members. Discussion of whether newsletter needed given updates provided on the website.

## **3. Treasurer's Report/Finance Committee Report**

**Dawn Kilby**

Kilby explained that the Committee met to go over the financials and provide summaries to the Board.

Discussion of delinquency report and efforts to collect dues.  
Overview of some of our budget concerns for the coming year.

## **4. Minor Bylaw Update**

**Valerie Schroer**

Three minor bylaw changes were explained by Schroer and presented to the membership:

- Splitting the functions of the social activities/communications committee into two committees –Communications and Social Activities. The thought was there is too much work for one committee to take on both functions and we could involve more people if the functions split.
- Number of Board Members should be increased to 9. Would allow more involvement and provide greater opportunity for accomplishment of tasks because of more people.
- Add or correct misspellings in the bylaws as needed

Wieland made a motion to accept with a second by Amillac.  
All in favor by a show of hands. All were in favor as there was no opposition or abstentions.

## **5. Committee Reports**

### **a. Introduction of website update**

**Valerie Schroer**

Introduced Mike Artis who discussed update of the Website. All minutes and financial documents are being posted to the website. Adding and updating calendar with events. In the future will add a security section so that the financial statements are available only with a log in. Also working on collecting directory information and updating the overall design of the web page.

### **b. Black Captain/Block Picnics**

**Zoe Kinney**

Co-chair with Carol Cowles. We now have 20 block captains and everyone should be getting regular updates from them. Still need 4-5. Encouraged Block Parties as a fun way to get to know neighbors.

### **c. Social Activities Committee**

**Patty Jensen**

Discussed welcome candle for new neighbors being distributed through Block Captains. J'Adore very helpful in getting this set up. Many events this year including Summer Social, Ice Cream Social, Dumpster Day, Fall Happy Hour. Sought help with the Annual Picnic. Time to start planning now and would like to look at a new location and doing new things.

### **d. Snow Brigade**

**Stuart Wieland**

Is looking for volunteers to help with snow removal for elderly or informed who live in the neighborhood. They plan to work with Block Captains in order to identify those in need or receive requests for help. The group would welcome anyone with a snow blower or a shovel and a strong back.

### **e. Infrastructure Committee**

**Joan Harding**

Surveyed all areas for sidewalks, curbs, streets, and storm drains. Summary sent to Mayor, City Manager, and our District Council members. Also made calls to 311 and some work was completed but not entirely

satisfactory. Neighbors are encouraged to call 311 when they see infrastructure problems that need a repair.

**f. Beautification Committee** **Matt Wright/Jane McQueeny**

Matt discussed the cataloging of the monuments and markers earlier this year and putting them in a spreadsheet with priorities of work needed. The Beautification Committee also worked with Paul Benson, a local monument renovator, to learn how to clean our monuments and markers. The monument work completed this year-Jack and Jill statues, Rockhill and Holmes, Rockhill and Oak and clean up of marble on Cherry Street Island and 65th Terr and Cherry. We want to improve each monument by replacing crumbling stones, adding a limestone cap to considerably extend its life and resecure each finial with a stainless steel rod. The Beautification Committee is also working with Down To Earth KC, a native perennial specialist, to update landscaping after the work on each pedestal. They hope to update more landscaping in the spring.

Jane discussed updates to Cherry Street Island.

**f. PIAC Requests** **Valerie Schroer**

Schroer explained the process and that there was a great deal of competition for the funds. Total funds available are 26 million that is split between all city council districts over a five year period. Each district receives \$4.3 million dollars for projects they can recommend. We have requested money for two PIAC proposals - one for 63rd Terrace, to make improvements to the gateway markers, to resurface the street and provide new curbs and sidewalks (\$66,000). The second proposal is for money to improve the remaining markers throughout Oak Meyer Gardens (\$118,500).

The Board has dedicated a little over \$45,000 for upgrades to monuments, markers and landscaping. This will be spent on projects next year. At that time we will be limited to our \$2,000 per year budget. We will continue to request PIAC funding if we are not successful this year. Announcements will be in April. We are looking for other sources of funding as well.

**g. Nominating Committee** **Jill Adams**

Always looking for new board members and with the new bylaw of nine we can now add members if anyone is interested.

Jill also announced the new Board Members - Cheryl Burbach, John Kilby and Patty Jensen, and introduced Cheryl. John was not able to be present.

## **6. Member Forum**

Questions from the members included the following:

- Price Chopper Parking lot is an eyesore. How can it be improved?
- Academie Lafayette needs lighting in the front of the building.
- Discussion of empty abandoned houses—one has been empty for ten years and is in constant disarray.
- Babysitter bank announcement.

**7. Drawing**—was held and one member received a free membership for a year - Camilo Fontecilla.

## **Move to adjourn:**

Wieland moved to adjourn at 7:57 with a second by McQueeney.

Annual meeting unanimously adjourned by all present.