

MINUTES

Twinbrook Citizens Association
Monthly Executive Committee Meeting
Twinbrook Community Center
September 30, 2008 at 7:00

Executive Committee members present: Christina Ginsberg (President), Judy Miller (VP), Steven Wilcox (Secretary), Rich Gottfried (Treasurer), Geoffrey Wendel (Environment), Bill Neil (At Large, West), Karl Harger (Outreach).

This meeting was called to order as a Executive Committee Meeting (with quorum)

1. Treasurer's Report (Rich)

Rich handed out the June Treasurer's Report, the proposed 2008-2009 Budget, and a draft Statement of Activities for the previous fiscal year. The June, July, and August financial reports had been e-mailed to the Executive committee. Bill moved, rich seconded to approve the budget, which passed.

2. Police Report (Terry Treschuk)

In August, there had been a decrease in calls from 92 to 76, with one serious one, down from four. He reported an assault and a weapons call, but calls are down in the residential community itself. The bad news is an increase in burglaries, while there was a decrease in thefts, mostly from autos. Overall, there was a decrease in crime, but more assaults of various kinds.

Calls from the 7-11 have dramatically decreased—there is a beat officer walking through the area.

There is a new domestic assault resource center coming to Jefferson Plaza.

Rich asked about speed camera statistics (but nothing was prepared). They will be reexamining the locations based on need. Terry noted that people really slow down for the fixed site cameras.

3. Beall's Grant II

A number of prominent civic leaders have petitioned for Judicial Review of the decision of the Planning Commission on the Use Permit for Beall's Grant II.

4. Twinbrook Recreation Center

They have had a very busy Summer and kept the kids busy, looking forward to the Fall Spooktacular.

5. Twinbrook Elementary School PTA (Susan Pickell)

The PTA is urging people to register their grocery store cards and collecting box tops. Their Giant number is 00715, and their Safeway group number is 6579707. They have also had a pizza night to raise money. Their focus has been parent participation. The PTA is doing "Flower Power" (school beautification) for the outside of the building.

The are also concerned about accessibility of the school. In this vein, H.W. Thomas brought up the issue of 5' sidewalks and wide doors.

6. CIP Projects (Christina)

We had decided before to try to put more things in our parks, since we are not getting any more parks, hence the skate park idea. We would like visioning by Twinbrook kids to come up with something for them in the parks.

Christina has been working the system on getting CIP projects funded, which takes time. It takes a year to propose one, a year to approve it, and perhaps a year to implement it. She gave a bit of background on various CIP projects and her proposals.

The Board of Elections is having trouble finding places to run elections due to private developments without public spaces.

Christina is thinking about proposing to fill in the courtyard between the two recreation center buildings, expanding the Center and decreasing parking. Steve suggested looking for places to put new walk-in community centers instead.

Geoffrey pointed out the risk to dogs and herb collectors posed by the spraying in the park.

There was a discussion about the negotiations surrounding Twinbrook Station (involving BECA, TCA, JBG, etc.) and what might come out of them going forward.

H.W. Thomas pointed out that there are a lot of silver maples in Twinbrook that are dying from the top down. He also made an unfavorable comparison between the pedestrian friendliness of the street lighting in the West End versus Lewis Avenue, as the lights on Lewis Avenue are lost in the tree canopies and unusable by pedestrians.

Adjourned.