

Garden District Civic Association Board Meeting - June 30, 2015

The meeting was held at the home of President Eric Troutman. Present were Eric Troutman, Greta Corona, John Williams, Liz Spalding, Dorothy Prowell, Matt Swanner, Jason Dore' and William and Mary Fontenot.

Financial Report: Liz had handouts with the financial report. Jason will e-mail the board when he needs help with thank you notes to new members.

Security: Eric led a discussion about security, including whether to collect separate monies for security and whether some dues could go toward security only if the member so desired. After a great deal of thought it was decided that since the board members are all volunteers and the treasury/membership duties are already divided among several people because they are too cumbersome and time consuming for one person, the board will not make the job more difficult and will keep it as is. Most of the dues go toward patrols already. Patrol hours will be increased in July, August, December and January. Eric will speak to Sgt. Stone about having patrols drive around more, rather than sit and do their paperwork. Jason Motioned and Willie seconded a motion to have Eric ask Sgt. Stone to try to get a fourth officer on this beat. There was unanimous approval.

Doggie Bags: Eric showed the board where the six doggie bag dispensers will be placed.

The Sidewalk Committee is still working. There will be a waiver signed by the property owner. Eric has a copy what is necessary to know when repairing the sidewalk. Owners may use whomever they wish, but the GDCA will have suggested names of contractors. A fixed receipt must be submitted. Mary will ask DPW, street operations if there is anything else we should do. She will inform Tara of the project.

Blighted homes at 2168 Olive and 22nd/Wisteria were discussed. It was suggested that we talk to people running for office about blighted homes during this election year.

Healing Place Men's Home on Government Street has left their tools accessible, so there have been thefts which have spread to thefts at neighboring houses. Eric tried to speak to someone at Healing Place, but couldn't reach the person involved in that program. Jason is going to speak to Pastor Hamon with Healing Place.

Garage Sale: Melanie Samaha has agreed to organize the August 22nd neighborhood garage sale. Paul Miller will make the maps. Lynne Lamia Wallace will send the announcement to the *Advocate*. Mary will be a second contact for the Salvation Army.

The Back-to-School party has been canceled for this year.

The Oct. 18th Fall Picnic from 4:30-6:30 will be held in the Purgeson's backyard.

The Champagne Stroll is scheduled for September. Ray Mack is in charge.

The next board meeting will be August 4th.

Respectfully submitted, Mary Fontenot, July 5, 2015