



Garden District Civic Association Board Meeting Minutes

Thursday, November 19, 2020

7:00 PM at John William's office patio

In Attendance: John Williams, Mike Schexnayder, Mike Helms, Willie and Mary Fontenot, Babette Schlegel and Ted Magee.

Welcome by John Williams and Mike Helms. Mike Helms conducted the meeting.

Alley Update: This week, Mike Schexnayder sent a letter to Kyle Huffstickler, Director of Maintenance for DPW giving him an update. Mike plans to ask him if DPW can do a sample maintenance run in the alleys that have block captains. Babette and John offered to be block captains for their blocks.

Financials: Ted handed out the Associations Financial breakdown for 2020 so far, with Profit and Loss Comparisons. Briefly, it is close to where it was financially last year. Membership and income is down, but so are expenses. The Crawfish Boil, which is a popular activity, had to be canceled this year, so we saved money there.

Membership: The members who previously paid by check do not get the email auto renewal offer that the online members receive. Mike Helms found the list of those previous members and it was decided that they would be sent a letter letting them know that it is time to renew membership and tell them how to do it online, if they wish. If they pay by check, they will be asked to write their email on it. John sent a text to Ari, who said he would put membership signs out this week.

Tree Campaign: Ted spoke with Sage Foley, CEO of Baton Rouge Green, who lives in the neighborhood. Sage offered to have Baton Rouge Green partner with us. Bayou Trees plans to do the work during their off-season, which would be after January 4, 2021. They will trim the trees and pull up any vegetation in the median. Mike Schexnayder suggested we speak to the residents along the trimming routes to let them know what will be happening before it happens. There will also be signs to put people on the "lookout". ("See What's Coming...") There was a discussion about possibly working a tree adoption into the activities at some point. Many of the trees have already been "adopted" however.

Holiday Lighting Contest: Mary brought samples of the signs that she made that will be put in the yards of the winning categories. There will be three winners who will each be given a potted rosemary plant as a prize. There are three more signs for honorable mentions. A list of possible categories will be given to the volunteer judges. The judges will travel the neighborhood on December 15th after festivities at Ted and Janet Magee's house and contact Mary with their votes that night.

Security: There was no crime report. Board members have been seeing the patrols. One member said he saw them checking his house and yard on his camera while out of town.

It was a productive meeting. The meeting adjourned at 7:53 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Mary Fontenot, November 20, 2020