

May 15, 2021
Braeburn Valley Civic Association

Board Members:

Bert Ruiz - Interim President (present)
John Loe - Vice President (present)
Kellie Reedy - Secretary (present)
George Mercado - Interim Treasurer (present)
Roger Willhite - At Large (present)

Meeting called to order: 11:05 Bert Ruiz

Agenda read by Mr. Ruiz

Motion to approve the minutes - Lance Rosborough
Seconded - George Mercado

Treasurers report read by Bert Ruiz

Motion to approve the Treasurer's report - John Loe
Seconded - Dr. Chow

Nominations for the board

President - Bert Ruiz
Treasurer - Darren Spriggs
Secretary - Barbara Haney

Nominees were unopposed and confirmed by acclamation of the secretary

Reported from Councilman Pollard, District J

There have been improvements made on the road on Bissonnet between Hillcroft and Gessner. The curbs have also been under construction, as well as the sidewalks on Bissonnet leading to Sharpstown High School.

Public Safety - Councilman Pollard introduced the DRT Team (Differential Response Team/District J Patrol)- The patrol is a specialized group of officers that will look into low level crimes within the neighborhoods in the district. The team is used for neighborhood violations, panhandlers, illegal encampments, dumping, illegal bars, and spas. The District J Patrol also has Polaris vehicles to allow the officers to go on off road areas where traditional officers are unable to inspect.

Two officers attended the meeting in the Polaris to answer questions and to show the vehicle. The officers explained that a large part of their job is the education of residents. They educate homeowners in the areas frequently reported issues and common violations. The most common problems in our area are illegal dumping and abandoned cars. The typical turnaround time for a call is a week. The best practice for making a report is to use the website, www.districtjpatrol.com.

Instructions for website use:

Select our neighborhood, Braeburn Valley I & II

Insert what your complaint or issue is. You will also be able to upload pictures.

To track your complaint, return to the website and choose the result tab.

The patrol is a supplement to the normal functions of the district. Regular police patrol and response will stay the same. Every neighborhood within the district has a task team representative. Our representative is Bert Ruiz. The representatives bring the issues in their individual neighborhoods to the attention of the Patrol Initiative.

Councilman Pollard addressed the issue of solid waste. In response to the winter freeze the solid waste department got behind on removal of debris. The backlog has been resolved. If there are delays in the future, contact Councilman Pollard's office. Best practice is to first call 311 and get a service request number. You may then provide that number to the councilman's office. Should you look online to track the incident, if it says "closed" that only means that they have seen the complaint and are working on it. Go ahead and give the number to Councilman Pollard's office and they will help complete the process.

Solid Waste has a hot team for illegal dumping through 311. Every neighborhood has a designated day in which the neighborhood is assessed by the hot team. Our day is the third Thursday of the month. If there is a more urgent matter, report it and it will be taken care of in a more immediate manner.

Gus Saper expressed concerns over speeding in front of Fondren Middle School in the morning. The lights for the school zone sign are not working. Although the school is not in his district, the Councilman said that his office would report it.

Mr. Saper also expressed concern for gunshots that he recently heard outside his home on Braeburn Valley Drive. The councilman explained that there is a special gunshot response team that works out of the South Gessner station. The team investigates where the gunshot originated from, traces recurring patterns, and inspects the casings and shells for evidence. Areas that are noticed to be hotspots or that have gang related activity are identified. Gunshots are categorized as an emergency and should be reported to 911. District J is in need of the data. Please be diligent in reporting any activity with immediacy.

The Councilman responded to a question about the deterioration of the conditions at Bissonnet and Hwy 59 due to prostitution. There is going to be an increased police presence this summer. Officials are also looking at changing traffic patterns. They are also interested in opening a wraparound community services center in the area to help persons get the services and training they need to make positive transitions. An officer present explained that even if there are no visible police cars in the area - there are unmarked cars in the area. Bissonnet is never left unpatrolled.

Bert Ruiz - questioned what is being done about street racing in the area. The Sheriff's office and HPD are working on the issue. The traffic division with HPD has started an illegal racing task team/task force. Call 911 to report racing. The call is posted on a board that will be seen by all of the police in the area.

Councilman Pollard requested that should there be any outstanding issues that we call his Chief of Staff, Mr. Paul Young at (713) 205-3473.

Agenda Item - Flood Committee Report

Bert Ruiz has called the county to pick up some construction items left behind from the recent underground repairs that were made to mitigate flooding. Additionally, a team will be coming out to investigate if the small creek behind the detention pond needs to be cleaned.

The Country Club is working on regrading and resurfacing the golf course
Report from Mr. Pollard's office:

"A permit for Fill and Grading of the golf course was just recently issued. The Stormwater Group as well as the Floodplain Management Office reviewed the submitted plans. The drainage and mitigation calculations are in compliance with the City's current infrastructure Design Manual and the Chapter 19 Floodplain Ordinance. The plans showed no negative impacts to the adjoining property owners. Also, Floodplain Inspectors will be monitoring the ongoing work.

A Pre-Fill Mitigation inspection was conducted the week of April 6th. The general manager of the country club has invited representatives from our neighborhood to tour the worksite.

Rita Whilhitte, president of the Braeburn Valley Garden Club gave a brief history of the club. The club has been in existence since 1958. Originally the club handled the duties of the Civic Association. The Civic Association and the Garden Club continue to have a strong relationship and work together on issues concerning the neighborhood.

The Garden Club meets the third Tuesday of every month. The meetings are held at either a member's home or a restaurant. This month's meeting is at Los Tios at 11:30. The membership fee is \$15.00 per year.

Dr. Chow -questioned how many vacant homes in our neighborhood.
Response -approximately 6-7 homes.

The issue of the bright lights from Sharpstown Apartments that affect residents on Nairn was addressed. The board has been in communication with the Manager. Bert is checking in with management on a weekly basis. Bert gave the residents the manager's number, so that they may contact him directly. Bert has also provided pictures to the manager.

Motion to adjourn - Lance Rosborough
Seconded - Demi Welling

Mr. Bert Ruiz, President

Mrs. Kellie Reedy, Secretary