

OEHA Inc.
Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting
4044 Overbrook Lane
July 13, 2010

I. Call to order: The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. A quorum of the directors was present.

In attendance: Scott Grace, Susan Krasner, Madeleine LaFrance, Gary Moss, and Ken Suminski. Also present: Thomas Hemingway (President, Lynn Park HOA), Oak Estates residents Andy Townend and Louise Moss, and Evalyn Krudy (Manager).

Absent: Eddy Blanton and Ken Morris.

II. Business

a. Constable Patrol Service. The Board discussed the patrol sharing agreement with Lynn Park HOA President, Thomas Hemingway. Thomas explained that the Constable sharing agreement between the two neighborhoods was made with a handshake. Evalyn reported on her discussion with Captain Kovar in April about the lack of visibility of the Constable in Oak Estates. The Captain told her that he was following the requirements in the contracts by instructing officers to remain primarily in Lynn Park during the day shift (7 a.m. to 3 p.m.) and in Oak Estates during the night shift (11 p.m. to 7 a.m.). Other neighborhoods with shared contracts have submitted maps of both neighborhoods as addendums to the contracts to ensure the correct area is patrolled. Currently, only the Lynn Park map is included in the Lynn Park constable contract and only the Oak Estates subdivision map is included in OEHA's constable contract. Thomas agreed to request that the day shift patrolman, Deputy Vince Guerrero, spend more time in Oak Estates. Thomas explained that having a single constable contract gives residents round the clock protection, and although a patrolman may not be physically in the neighborhood during a particular shift, residents can always call the constable dispatcher at any time and a patrolman will be sent over from a nearby location immediately. Having a constable contract provides vacation watch, patrolling and a number to call about potential crime before it occurs. It was noted that HPD does not patrol neighborhoods due to budgetary constraints, nor will they respond to nonemergency reports of suspicious persons. Gary noted that there are at least four constable contracts in the immediate vicinity from which officers can be dispatched at all hours. These areas include Eaton Square, Newcastle Condos, Royden Oaks, Upper Kirby, Avalon Place, Lynn Park and Oak Estates.

There was discussion about barring solicitors from entering the neighborhood. Thomas Hemingway suggested Oak Estates amend the organizational documents to prohibit soliciting. Options will be investigated and presented at a future meeting. Evalyn recommended that neighbors be instructed to post 'no soliciting' signs at their doors in accordance with city ordinance, as a way to keep solicitors out of the neighborhood.

Andy Townend (2006 Suffolk) talked about the burglary at his home over the 4th of July weekend. He asked for more visibility of the constable patrol. He and Ken Suminski requested that the constable be asked to monitor the Union Pacific Railroad right-of-way, and to shine their light down the corridor during their patrol shifts. Since the Oak Estates contract is from 11 p.m. to 7 a.m., it was suggested that the constable show its presence in the neighborhood during the night shift by shining a light directly at homes in the neighborhood. Video surveillance cameras and signage options were also discussed.

There was agreement that neighbors should be reminded frequently to call the Patrol to report suspicious persons in the neighborhood.

The Board thanked Mr. Hemingway for his attendance and he left the meeting at approximately 8 p.m. along with Andy Townend and Louise Moss.

Madeleine LaFrance was appointed Security Chairman and will serve as the point of contact with the Constable. Effective immediately she will receive monthly security reports and other correspondence. She will contact the Captain with questions from the Board and will investigate ways to improve visibility and ways to clarify the sharing of the Lynn Park and Oak Estates constable shifts.

b. New architect for Plan Review. Evalyn reported that Howard Merrill has resigned as plan reviewer for Oak Estates and that his former associate, Ed Bullock AIA, has been handling the review for the Selvaggi addition. Ed is monitoring the email address that Howard set up for Oak Estates: oakestatesarch@gmail.com. Evalyn notified Mr. Bullock that he would need to submit his resume to the Board for formal approval, but it was not received before the meeting. Evalyn also reported that two other architects with extensive experience in residential plan review are interested in the position. Steve Grossman's resume was distributed at the meeting. Evalyn will circulate resumes, qualifications and fee requirements for the Board's consideration."

c. Discussion Concerning Election of Officers. Gary Moss will contact absent Board members about their interest in continuing to serve as Directors and Officers. He will notify the Board in the event that changes need to be made. Election of Officers will be held at the next meeting.

There was discussion about ways to improve service to the neighborhood and to dispel the misconception that the OEHA Board does nothing. Directors shared their vision for improving communications and fostering stronger relationships within the neighborhood with social activities. There was agreement that neighbors should be encouraged to work together on community issues through the vehicle of the OEHA.

d. Directory. Gary Moss will sponsor full cost of publishing again. Evalyn will send mailing requesting update information from residents.

e. Policy for electronic new blasts. When crime issues arise, a majority of directors will approve content of blasts sent to the neighborhood. The Board agreed that a quarterly or semi-annual newsletter was also a priority.

f. Other business.

1. Evalyn reported that the city process for requesting speed humps and other traffic calming devices has changed. Neighborhoods must first apply for an area traffic study through the city of Houston. Public Works officials will return recommendations for consideration by the neighborhood. OEHA will submit an application for a neighborhood study. Current concerns include speeding and cut-through traffic on Suffolk and Drexel.

2. The next Board meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 14, 2010 at 7 p.m.

III. Treasurer's report.

Madeleine reported that there are currently 14 members in arrears for 2010. Quarterly reminder notices will be sent again this month. There have been no unusual expenses except the regular annual renewal of the D& O insurance policy last month.

IV. Minutes.

The minutes of the April 19 Board meeting and the May 1, 2010 annual meeting were approved as presented.

V. Adjournment.

There begin no further business, Vice President Madeleine LaFrance adjourned the meeting at 9:40 p.m.

OEHA Meeting Schedule

September 14, 2010 at 7 p.m.

October 12, 2010 at 7 p.m.

January 11, 2011 at 7 p.m.

April 12, 2011 at 7 p.m.

May 14, 2011 at 9 a.m. at Central Market.