

Minutes of Barkley Area Neighborhood Association Bi-Annual Meeting July 31, 2016

The meeting was called to order by Treasurer John Krupsky, as the ranking officer in attendance. The invocation was delivered by Larry Hudson. Attendees introduced themselves. A total of 11 members and guests signed the attendance log. A meeting agenda page was distributed.

Minutes of the January 2016 meeting were distributed, read, and were accepted. John delivered the financial report dated through July 31, 2016, with an ending balance of \$4,936.48. Expenses included the post office box annual fee, new neighborhood watch signs, gift cards for door prizes.

The first item of old business discussed was the subdivision entrance sign on Perkins at Barkley. Two options discussed were:

- Re-paint the existing sign with brighter colors;
- Replace the sign with a new design.

After discussion of these options, attendees favored the option to re-paint our sign. Aubrey introduced a motion to "investigate re-painting our sign, to include getting prices for the work and materials," and the motion passed. Larry illustrated how the construction of our existing sign allows easy re-painting of the lettering and even the replacement of the lattice work, if desired, considerations which should simplify refreshing the sign, and reduce the cost of doing so.

Next on the agenda were proposed written communication with owners and/or residents of poorly-maintained homes in the neighborhood. We discussed the virtues of contacting both the owner and the residents of a home.

Homes with matters of concern:

- A home with damaged roof in the 1300 block of Barkley, whose owner seems to only visit that home occasionally. The owner's main interest is in restoring a home in New Orleans.
- A home on Magnolia Chase that appears to be vacant and has evidence of insect activity (earth mounds or tunnels) on one side wall.
- A home on King James with above-ground pool that is not being maintained and may be a mosquito breeding site that cannot be accessed by mosquito abatement services.
- The corner home on Barkley at Perkins with a poorly maintained lawn.
- A home near White Cross and White Chapel whose owner has expressed interest in hearing from Larry about the condition of his home and the activity of his tenants.

John transcribed Andrew Eames' handwritten draft on the condition of the property on Barkley at Perkins to an editable form, and is willing to work with other members to develop an approved letter (or letters) to the relevant owners.

John then reported on the successful replacement of the Neighborhood Watch sign on Barkley at Perkins, and installation of sign posts and Neighborhood Watch signs at the other two subdivision entrances. He noted that Children at Play signs can be ordered and added to the 3 posts at any time, if deemed worthwhile by the membership. Many tilted signs around our neighborhood have also been straightened by the Department of Public Works, following our providing a list to Mary Fontenot.

The Sanitary Sewer Overflow project (see SSO Program link at www.brprojects.com) work on Barkley and on Perkins was discussed. It was suggested we contact the project coordinator to request replacement of the deteriorated wood fence at the front of the Barkley lot where the facilities were upgraded. John agreed to call the published DPW project coordinator for information on the status of this work. A letter to the project office may be appropriate, with a photo of the fence.

John advised that the election of BANA officers is scheduled in the by-laws for the July meeting. Since we were not prepared for this activity, he suggested that nominations be submitted for voting at our January meeting.

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The importance of our semiannual newsletters was discussed. This is our established method for communicating to the entire neighborhood (members and non-members) about issues and about actions of the association. We can contact many of our members by email, but not all members use email. We can communicate to a wider audience via our web site, but we have no assurance that they will access it.

During an open floor segment, the discussion included security cameras for home and the neighborhood, as well as crime district meetings and mayoral forums held at the main branch of the public library

The meeting ended with drawings for the four gift card door prizes.

The date of the next general meeting is set for January 29, 2017.