

## ALIEF SUPER NEIGHBORHOOD MEETING

Minutes for Tuesday, February 25, 2008

Alief Super Neighborhood # 25 held its regularly scheduled meeting on Tuesday, February 25, 2008 at 7:00 P.M. at the CenterPoint Energy Building, 12330 Bellaire Blvd.

### PROGRAM

Vice Chairman Dave Williams called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. Secretary Henry Williams conducted Roll Call of council members (See attached.). A quorum was met.

Hospitality: Donated by County Judge Ed Emmett. Organized and delivered by Ray Moon. Thanks were expressed for his support of the ASNC and the Alief community. Ray noted that Judge Emmett was instrumental in helping to stop the Highway 6 overpasses.

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS - Guests present included: Rebecca Hubert (Houston Library Department); Greg Myers (Republican candidate for State Representative Dist 149), Dawn Hurd (city council member MJ Khan's office); Tina Tran (TX Senator Rodney Ellis' office); Tanya Sawyer (City Planning & Development dept. for Alief); Chris Fisher and Lisa Johnson, (Houston Parks Dept.); Veronica Hernandez (Mayor's Citizens' Assistance Office); Capt. Richard Gerstner (HPD/Westside); Donald Perkins (City Planning & Development dept.); Melba Martin, (HCC).

### MOTIONS MADE:

1. Dorothea Pindell: to accept the November minutes as presented. Seconded: Ray Moon. Council voted. Motion Passed.
2. Mike Kreinsen: to seat Dr. Steiner on the Board, as the AISD representative. Seconded: Dave Williams. Motion passed.
3. Mike Kreinsen: to adjourn the meeting. Seconded: Jane Perez. Council voted. Motion Passed.

### GUEST SPEAKERS:

CAPTAIN RICHARD GERSTNER, Westside Command Station, gave an abbreviated review of Alief Crime statistics. He noted a grant that enables HPD to go into apartment complexes to enforce zero tolerance, and increase officer presence in the area. Other grants are enabling HPD to increase their efforts to fight crime and get community input. Robberies are up 5%, non violent crime was down 11%, and home burglaries were up 7%. Capt Gerstner provided a web site to report suspicious activities/burglaries/vehicles at [www.westside.tips@cityofhouston.net](http://www.westside.tips@cityofhouston.net). HPD will do a criminal history on material reported on the net vs. tips reported by phone. Burglars are hard to catch. He said a lot of money is spent in high crime areas. He opened the floor to questions. Issues raised included people soliciting from medians, police reports/case numbers, crime in progress, gang problems.

THE HONORABLE HUBERT VO. - State Representative Hubert Vo reported that the overpasses on Highway 6 are officially no longer on the drawing board. In the near future a flyer will be mailed to state same. TX DOT will provide a forum to discuss Highway 6 mobility and safety. He noted that there will be an attempt to bring money back to Highway 6 for safety improvements. The International Management District will become more active including hiring of architectural and marketing consultants, as well as working with the community on festivals/holidays. The residential tax rate was reduced for 2007. Rep. Vo is working to reduce commercial property tax caps. He expressed concern over unfair small business taxes which are based on gross, not net, sales. Anne Williams requested that Rep Vo introduce a bill to require candidates for school board positions to pass a background check. Currently background checks are required for those for those working or volunteering in schools, but school board members are not subject to that law. Since they certainly volunteer in schools shouldn't they be held to the same standards?

LISA JOHNSON, Parks Department, presented a concept called Playgrounds without Limits, for children with disabilities. One such playground is in the planning process and will be installed at the Alief Community Park. The first Houston site was at Memorial Park. Anne Williams asked about what programs were going on at the park. Ms. Johnson also mentioned bike trails status.

### **COMMITTEE & STANDING REPORTS**

CHAIR'S REPORT – Vice Chair, Dave Williams, per Chairman Michael Manning's request, Dave has spoken to members of the by-laws committee and the school district regarding putting a student on the ASNC board.

TREASURER'S REPORT- Ray Moon reported the bank balance was still \$3549.70.

STAKEHOLDER NOMINATIONS – Secretary Henry Williams reported paperwork has been submitted for Dr Stoerner to be seated as the AISD representative. The following positions on the board are unfilled: Youth Services, Social Services, Chamber of Commerce, and Resident-at-Large # 2.

ALIEF COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION, Mike Kreinsen reported the next meeting will be March 17<sup>th</sup>. The major project is the Old Alief Cemetery revamp. Many volunteers have helped with improvements, but more will be needed. Major capital expense will be the fence.

ALIEF LIBRARY, Manager, Shami Gill, reported ongoing programs at different locations. She also noted early voting at the library and tax assistance are currently occurring.

CITY REPORTS - Donald Perkins reminded the group about the form for updating Community Associations/HOA's officers and contact information. Neighborwoods is again offering free 5 gallon trees. He also mentioned the \$500 grant from Houston Beautiful

### **NEW BUSINESS**

UPCOMING SPEAKERS – April. Director of Houston City Library System, DR. RHEA LAWSON

### **PUBLIC SESSION**

A question arose regarding the Houston Community College system's interest in annexing Alief. Representative Vo responded that the community has opposed taxes in the past. Before it can be put on the ballot, there needs to be discussion with ISD and other community associations to weigh the benefits. Mention was made of the new location on Hayes Road and the various programs offered.

The next ASNC meeting will be held at 7:00 P.M. on the fourth Tuesday, -March 25th, 2008, at the CenterPoint Energy Building, 12330 Bellaire Blvd.

The meeting adjourned at 8:00 P.M.

Minutes approved on \_\_\_\_\_

Compiled by Vivien Sugar, Appointed Assistant Recording Secretary

Edited and Respectfully Submitted by  
Henry Williams, Secretary, Alief Super Neighborhood Council