

## Minutes of HSTCA Board Meeting

Sunday, April 10, 2011

Members present: Jeff Duhe, June Pulliam, Allan Williams, Travis Moore, John Sykes

Guests: Doc L'Herrison, Father Pat, Beverly, Father Hall, Pace and Lucy

Jeff Duhe called meeting to order at 6:35 p.m.

Allan Williams, Security Chair, discussed a recent plan that would greatly expand security for Spanish Town, Beauregard Town and downtown business area. All three areas would pay for off-duty officers to patrol the three areas between 8:00 p.m. and 8:00 a.m., seven days a week. This new type of security patrol would be a great improvement over Spanish Town's present system, which only pays for off duty officers to patrol Spanish Town x hours a week. However, this new system would be considerably more expensive. The total estimated cost is \$66,000, and Spanish Town's share would be \$22,000, or one third of that amount. In order to fund this new system, it is necessary for the HSTCA to begin fundraising among property owners. Williams distributed a copy of a letter to property owners that would begin this fundraising campaign.

Williams said that he believed that the downtown area would have no difficulty raising their third of the money as Ben Taylor was talking to downtown property owners.

Father Hall suggested that the fundraising letter make a note that each group is raising \$22,000 towards this effort so that property owners understand know that the onus to pay for this improved version of our security patrol is not wholly on Spanish Town residents.

Travis Moore, Beautification Chair, reported that the Beautification Committee has an extra \$104 due to Mardi Gras fundraising efforts. He also reported that the March 26<sup>th</sup> clean up went well, and that sidewalk access was now greatly improved at Spanish Town Road and 5<sup>th</sup> Street after shrubbery on the median and overhanging limbs were trimmed. Other areas of Spanish Town that were addressed during the March 26<sup>th</sup> clean up included 2 gutters on Spanish Town Road and 5<sup>th</sup> that have been stopped up since the recent rains, as well as the area near the lake. The drain at 7<sup>th</sup> St. near Spanish Town Road and Capitol Grocery, however, is completely clogged, and will require the attention of DPW.

Duhe noted that he will be making a list of items that need the attention of DPW, and the list will be sent to the new DPW director.

Moore also noted that the trees on Lakeland were causing problems for residents in that area of Spanish Town. The trees are near a transformer and several power lines, and knock out residents' power every time there is a windstorm. Duhe added that he had called Entergy this week to request that the trees be trimmed. Father Pat asked how we get mosquito spraying machines into the neighborhood.

Duhe mentioned that Spanish Town is still on track to have legislation required necessary for us to become a security district, and he anticipated that the process should be unproblematic. Duhe also

underscored the need of residents to come to the capitol and speak in behalf of the bill when it is in committee.

Father Pat reported the results of his meeting with the city's traffic engineers, who said that property owners are responsible for repairing sidewalks in front of their property. The engineers commented that other cities don't fix sidewalks, but rather, pay rebates to property owners who fix their sidewalks, and that maybe it would be worthwhile to look into a similar rebate program for sidewalk repair. Moore added that the city is currently offering \$750 grants for bettering an entire city block, and that we might be able to apply for some of this money to use along with beautification funds in order to make sidewalk repairs throughout the neighborhood.

Moore also reported that several residents expressed an interest in the paper mulberry tree eradication program, and suggested that we have a few clean up days dedicated to this effort.

Finally, Moore reported that Jim Rhorer's home was voted Yard of the Quarter by the Beautification Committee.

With no other business, at 7:23 Duhe moved that we adjourn the meeting, without setting a time for the next meeting just yet since we all wanted to take off Mother's Day.