

**West University Place
SENIORS BOARD MEETING
May 13, 2021**

Presiding: Selby Clark

The virtual meeting called to order at 2:05 p.m.

Roll call: **Present** Stan McCandless, Judy Faulkner, George Hilderbrandt, George Baker, Carlos De La Torre, Karen Kenny, Selby Clark (chair), Carol O'Neill, Tom Brombacher, Candace TenBrink, Candyce Beneke, Susan Davis, Elizabeth Wilder, Toby Brooks and Susan White, John Barnes (Council Liaison) Mardi Turner (GNT). **Absent** Ann Crowley, Joan Johnson **Guests** None

Minutes: April minutes approved by George Hilderbrandt, Seconded by Candyce Beneke.

Council Meeting Report: John Barnes

1. Speed limit ordinance: Citywide Traffic study recommended a default speed setting lowered to 25 miles per hour throughout the city, with exceptions. Bissonnet St. will be 35 miles an hour and Buffalo Speedway will remain 30 miles per hour. City Council adopted a City ordinance affecting that.
2. Adopted a Proclamation naming May as Older Americans & Volunteer Month.
3. Awarded a contract to begin work on the Virtual Gate phase 2.
4. Covid-19 report, 583 cases, 581 recovered, 2 fatalities.
5. Week of May 16-22 named Public Works Week, in recognition of their work.
6. Election: Narrow election. Incoming Council composed of Susan Sample (Mayor) John Montgomery, John Barnes, Shannon Carroll, and Melanie Bell. Senior Liaison. TBD.
7. Virtual Gate Phase 1 already in action with seven cameras, and license plates readers. Each location will have a combination of license plate readers and cameras. Secondly a deterrent to crime. WUES is 20 miles an hour during school hours. Cameras are at the perimeter of town. Cars flagged immediately and automatically.
8. Tri Sports possible sponsorship naming rights for leagues. Surplus fund balance in the general fund. Prevent impact on debt rating or taxes or cutting services. Upcoming 2022 Budget will determine funding.

Parks and Recreation: Susan White

1. Ann Crowley served on the Fee Subcommittee of Parks Board and fee changes implemented in 2019. No new changes to fee structures. New policy information forthcoming from Finance Director. Fee change with exclusive Colonial rentals recommended lowering prices.
2. Huffington Park Update: Work to begin May 17. Park will close to the public, reopen the first week of July. Notified neighbors directly affected.
3. Covid 19 Update: Numbers declining. Operational changes: increased capacities for Colonial Pool. July 4th celebrations under consideration.
4. Senior Survey: Staff in the process of reviewing detailed reports. Still waiting on the qualitative data for analysis.

APAC Report: Karen Kenny APAC Minutes sent via email.

1. Attended the APAC meeting on May 6. The State of Texas Emergency (211) is a great resource for seniors. Registrants must have a backup plan in place. Homebound Covid 19 vaccine program. Houston Health Department providing choice of vaccine.
2. Participate in the Texas Health Department Aging Survey. Aging Well in Texas. Survey is still available to complete.

Good Neighbor Team: Mardi Turner

1. Good Neighbor Team resumes in person in June to assemble bags. Deliveries resume from all participants of the GNT for the hurricane preparedness kits.
2. Identified special list of seniors deemed high priority. List consists of 30 folks of 155.

Senior Services report: Toby Brooks

1. "Click West U" possible way to report on seniors in need. Selby inquired. Go Requests App mentioned by Mardi Turner.
2. Senior Center reopened May 3. Classes such as Yoga, Early Risers, Zumba, Watercolor, Best Stretch, Body Pump, Pilates, Chair Volleyball, Bingo, M/W Yoga, Tai Chi, Water Aerobics, Line Dance, have resumed and are successful. Participants are socially distanced and observing mask rules.
3. Some virtual programs have not been successful possibly due to the reopening.
4. Meeting with a personal trainer to facilitate a more rigorous workout for those interested.

Old Business

- 1) Renaming the Senior Center: Subcommittee members, Ann Crowley, Candace TenBrink, and Karen Kenny met to discuss the following issues: 1. General lack of understanding of the Senior Services in the Community with questions on why some classes are offered at the Rec Center and at the Senior Center such as Gentle Yoga or Senior Yoga, along with Scout House utilization. 2. Concluded Community Building does not need to be renamed. 3. Help with Communications and Marketing. 4. Term Limits and elections on Senior Board. Carlos mentioned that he reached out but was not contacted regarding participating with the subcommittee.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 3:10 p.m. Judy Faulkner made the motion to adjourn the meeting and Stan McCandless seconded it.

Submitted: Patricia Noren