



Cochran's Crossing Village Association

Monthly Board Meeting at The Woodlands Township Building

Minutes

March 22, 2022

Members present: JC Harville (president), Lori Riley (vice president), Jim Goldmeyer (treasurer), Cynthia Kessinger (secretary), Shiva Basavanna, Walter Ehrhardt, Amanda Van Dusen, Lisa Doornik, Liberty Christoff, Jaime DiNoia, Terri Larson, Laura Peterson, Pat Lowe, Kayt Sukel, Tricia Danto, Sharon Lavery, and Kathryn D'Andrea. Members not in attendance: Hubert Vaz-Nayak.

Guests: Deputy Carlos Tavaréz, Montgomery County Sheriff's office; Erin Redmon and Amy Tidwell, The Woodlands Township; Terri McArthur, The Woodlands Township; Tom McGowan and Angel Nicks, The Woodlands Township; Hugo Colon, Asakura & Robinson.

The meeting was called to order at 7:04 PM by President JC Harville. Members present constituted a quorum. JC welcomed the new board members and the returning board members.

Law Enforcement Report: Deputy Tavaréz presented the report for the Montgomery County Sheriff's Office. In February, there were 1,027 calls for service in Cochran's Crossing, 7 vehicle accidents, 465 patrol drive-throughs, 6 suspicious person calls, and 4 suspicious vehicle calls. There were 16 welfare checks. Arrests totaled 9. There were 23 vacation watch calls in the village. There were 219 traffic stops made in the village, 1 burglary of a habitat, and 1 burglary of a vehicle.

He reminded the board that April is Autism Awareness Month. Officers are trained to deal with autistic children. Stickers are available for vehicles to let officers know an autistic family may be in the car and to turn off flashing lights. Stickers are available for homes to let officers know that an autistic family member resides there. Registering with the MOCO Sheriff's office allows the officers to know in advance of reaching the home that there is an autistic resident. A registered cellphone number connected to residents of the home will allow the officers to reach out for information before arriving.

He reminded us of the 9:00 PM routine in locking all car and home doors and to leave nothing in plain view. He said there were recently 11 burglaries in Grogan's Mill in one night and all cars burglarized were unlocked.

Deputy Tavaréz said there are many scams currently, including IRS scams and Amazon scams.

Neighborhood Watch programs are active in communities. “See something, say something.” Anonymous tips are accepted. Report suspicious vehicles.

Asked about drone concerns brought up in the February board meeting, he directed the board to a hand-out regarding rules for drone operation. He said the highest a drone may fly is 400 feet, with 83 feet being personal space and above that being air space. Private property and people cannot be legally photographed or filmed from a drone without consent. A license is required for night flights and the drone must have navigational red and green lights. The drone must be registered if .55 lbs or more. While in operation, the drone must be kept in sight by the operator. Shooting down a drone is a felony. See Chapter 423, Use of Unmanned Aircraft in the government code for more information.

He was asked if MOCO has a noise ordinance. Deputy Tavaréz said the noise ordinance cites 85 decibels.

The Woodlands Township Environmental Services Report: Terri McArthur discussed water contamination issues. Storm drains were opened in searching for mosquito breeding grounds. High volumes of pet waste bags were found tossed into storm drains, accelerating bacterial water contamination.

The bacterial problem, which is an issue for both people and fish, is 100% solvable. Put the waste in the trash and the problem is solved.

MUDs purchased storm drain markers to be placed on 14,000 storm drains throughout The Woodlands as a conversation starter to bring awareness to the issues. Door hangers are being distributed to educate residents about yard waste and yard chemicals that are contributing to waterway contamination.

Terri is recruiting residents to install the storm drain markers and to dispense door hangers.

Terri would like volunteers from the CCVA to meet on April 13th at Cattail Park from 4:00 PM to 6:00 PM to learn more about the waterway contamination issues and how to affix storm drain markers, pick up door hangers to distribute, and pick up markers to affix. Bags and holders will be handed out. JC Harville stated that the flyer inviting residents to the event is on the CCVA Facebook page. The flyer includes a QR code to make attendance sign up easy. There are other dates and locations for the same event that may be attended if the Cattail Park event date is not doable for a board member or resident.

Hubert Vaz-Nayak volunteered to distribute “Bag it and Trash it” carabiner and pet waste bags and bag holders at Cattail Park in February. Terri reported that Hubert handed them out at the dog park area and was able to connect with a lot of residents regarding the waterway concerns.

Guest Speaker, John McGowan, Assistant Director, The Woodlands Township Parks and Recreation: John stated that he and Angel Nicks were assistant directors with the Parks and Recreation department. He announced that a needs assessment for parks and special events

would be available in April, sponsored by The Woodlands Conventions and Visitor's Bureau. John introduced Hugo Colon with Asakura & Robinson, consultants for the process.

Hugo explained there are 3 main aspects to the study: to meet the needs of current and future parks and users, to identify gaps, challenges, and opportunities in program offerings and related services, facilities, and maintenance, and to foster economic development through both athletic and recreational tourism. The assessment will include parks, athletic sports fields, aquatics, recreation, pathways, and the trail system. He said they would collect data from residents and analyze the information collected to return suggestions. As part of the engagement with residents, they are visiting each village association to increase awareness in the online survey that will be available to all residents. They are asking that village associations help spread the word of the survey.

The consultants are conducting park visits and site tours to develop concept plans. They are looking for the best locations for elements and amenities, activities to support sports and tourism, etc. They are looking at events already available in the community and at what other events the community may want to bring. Their recommendations will be presented to the CVB.

Parking was brought up as an issue for consideration for events and parks.

Hugo was asked about the CVB's apparent profit motive in sponsoring this survey and in bringing more events to the area. John and Angel explained that the events do benefit the budget of Parks and Recreation and is needed funding for continued enhancements. Hugo stated that they are wanting to find a balance between profit and resident needs.

Traffic and the inability of residents to exit their neighborhoods and/or from reaching their destinations was also brought up as a concern to be addressed before events are held within the community.

Hugo was asked if he would return to a CCVA meeting and share the results of the survey and he said that he could.

The Woodlands Township Program Specialist Report: Amy Tidwell and Erin Redmon shared upcoming events such as the dog walker watch event at Bear Branch Dog Park on April 9. Each board member was sent an email with dates and times of upcoming events and were given a packet at the board meeting with a calendar of events.

Approval of Minutes: Unanimous approval of February board meeting minutes following a motion made by Jim Goldmeyer and seconded by Amanda Van Dusen.

President's Report: JC Harville attended Coffee with a Cop. He and Liberty Christoff attended Neighborhood Involvement Day. Earth Day CCVA attendees were Jim Goldmeyer, Amanda Van Dusen, Liberty Christoff, and JC, qualifying the CCVA to receive education funding.

JC reported he had completed all of the steps and required disclosure for the service agreement with The Township. He presented exhibit A to the board for discussion. Exhibit A lists requests from The Woodlands Township for supplies and equipment for the pool party and fall festival. After discussion, ice will be added for the requested ice chests and a silent gas generator will be added for the pool party if inflatables are allowed at the party. JC will inquire with The Woodlands Township as to the ability to have inflatables at the pool party. Ice will be added to the fall festival requests and the troughs will be removed.

Dates were discussed for the pool party and fall festival. The first choice was May 21st for the pool party with June 4th as the second choice at Bear Branch pool. The first choice for the fall festival is October 23rd with the 16th as the second choice at Shadowbend Park. JC will contact The Woodlands Township for date availability for each event.

Treasurer's Report: Jim Goldmeyer presented the treasurer's report for February and for March to date. Cash balances of \$19,973.22 remained in the General Fund and \$5,047.80 remained in the Education Fund. Lori Riley stated that the financial review conducted after the February board meeting found no issues for the fiscal year ended February 2022. Jim presented a proposed budget for the March 2022-February 2023 fiscal year. Discussion ensued about line items. Noted areas to change include removing the line for donations under revenue because the association does not collect donations, increasing the budget for the fall festival from \$3,500 for games and prizes to \$5,500, increasing the budget for current year scholarships to \$2,500 (up to 5 at \$500 each) from \$1,000 (up to 2 at \$500 each), and increasing the pool party expenditures from \$600 to \$1,000. By motion made by Liberty Christoff, seconded by Kayt Sukel and by vote, the board accepted the treasurer's report as presented and the budget as discussed.

General Business: JC Harville asked for volunteers to serve the Law Enforcement committee and the Parks and Recreation committee. Both committees involve attendance at outside meetings with reporting to the CCVA board. Volunteers as follows: Law Enforcement committee is Kayt Sukel meeting quarterly with April 28 as the first meeting and Parks and Recreation committee is Shiva Basavanna with meetings the first Monday of each month.

Officer Elections: In following the bylaws, JC instructed board members to send nominations for the officer positions of president, vice president, secretary, and treasurer to the currently serving secretary, Cynthia Kessinger. Dates to send nominations are for the period of March 22 through April 5th. The election of officers for the 2022-2023 board year will be held at the April board meeting.

Scholarships: Cynthia Kessinger reminded the board that applications are available at the two local public high schools and on the CCVA website. The due date is April 20, 2022.

Other: Cynthia Kessinger thanked Walter Ehrhardt for renewing his annual digital sponsorship benefitting the education fund.

Resident Concerns: None presented.

Adjournment: With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:34 PM by a motion from Jim Goldmeyer with second from Lori Riley supported by a unanimous vote.



Next meeting: April 26, 2022 at 7:00 PM, at The Woodlands Township building