

**Gaywood Civic Club
Meeting Minutes
Annual Meeting – 26 January 2010
7:00 PM, Rummel Creek Elementary School**

The meeting was called to order at 7:07 PM by the President of the GCC, Jim Petruzzi. A total of 17 Gaywood residents were in attendance representing 17 households.

Constable Report

Jim began by introducing Officer Karen Goetz who gave the Constable report. She began by describing some recent burglaries on Wycliffe in Memorial Glen, which occurred in early November. The burglaries occurred during the middle of the day while the residents were on vacation, and the phone lines were cut to prevent the security systems from alerting the authorities.

Recently several cars were broken into and electronics such as radar detectors, GPS units, and iPods were stolen. All of the cars were unlocked.

In another recent incident, three men in a pickup yelled “Hey you.” to a young girl in Rustling Pines, and she ran home and told her parents. The father then drove around the neighborhood looking for the men. As the story began circulating through the neighborhood it became embellished with additional attributes including a tale of the men getting out of the truck and chasing the girl down the street, but these were not true. Officer Goetz said anyone can check recent crime statistics at the HPD web site <http://mycity.houstontx.gov/crime/optionPage.aspx>.

Officer Goetz encouraged all residents to submit vacation watch forms to the Constable’s office so the officers on patrol know which homes are vacant. The officers perform more thorough checks on the vacant homes during their patrols. The vacation forms are posted on the Constable’s web site (www.co.harris.tx.us/pct5) and on the Homeowner Resources page at www.gaywood.org. She also left phone stickers with Constable contact numbers.

A homeowner asked if Constables could do anything about solicitors in the neighborhood. Officer Goetz responded that they couldn’t do anything about people like Jehovah’s Witnesses, political activists, or people distributing door hangers. But if people are selling things like magazines without a permit, then the Constable would respond.

She also said that if construction or lawn maintenance vehicles are blocking the road then we should notify the Constable and have the vehicles cleared.

ACC Update

Jim Petruzzi gave an update on the activities of the ACC. Six new home plans were reviewed in 2009. The ACC reviews the plans to make sure they comply with the limits on height, size, and dimensions in the Deed Restrictions, but does not review aesthetics. A homeowner asked about the effects on drainage of the larger footprints of the new homes and the increase in impervious cover. Jim answered that the State code regarding drainage is included in the approval letters issued by the ACC, but on the advice of our lawyer there is no specific drainage requirement in the Deed Restrictions. A homeowner asked if the Board was considering tightening the restrictions, and Jim answered that major revisions were made

to the Deed Restrictions in 2001 and it was a very difficult process that we could not easily repeat without a very compelling reason.

2010 Budget

The 2010 budget was then discussed. Operating expenses for 2010 are estimated to be \$43,876, and the current dues levels would cover the expenses without a dues increase this year. However, next year we will probably need to increase dues. After a brief discussion of the budget it was put to a vote and was approved unanimously.

Election of 2010 Officers and Directors

Jim introduced the current officers and directors of the GCC. Elections were held for the four officer positions and for the Director #1 position currently held by Scott Humphrey. All of the incumbent officers and directors were nominated to continue in their present positions. The complete slate of officers being considered for election was:

President: Jim Petruzzi
Vice President: Perry Harrell
Secretary: Steve Gross
Treasurer: Donna Brown
Director #1: Scott Humphrey

This slate of officers was elected by a unanimous vote of those present. Pat Delaune will continue to serve in the position of Director #2, the term of which expires in 2011. Bill Jensen will continue to serve in the position of Director #3, the term of which expires in 2012.

Other Business

A homeowner asked what could be done about inconsiderate builders and contractors who park on lawns next to the street creating deep trenches and damaging sprinkler systems. A number of homeowners have placed stakes and rocks next to the road to prevent these vehicles from parking on their lawns. It was pointed out that while the homeowner is responsible for maintaining the portion of their lawn between the ditch and the road, this area is actually part of the city right-of-way, and the rocks and stakes can be road hazards that expose the homeowner to liability if they cause an accident.

Another homeowner asked that a request be put in the newsletter that people out walking after dark or before sunrise wear brightly colored clothing to maximize their visibility, and that they walk on the left side of the street facing traffic so they are more aware of approaching vehicles.

The meeting was adjourned at 7.50 PM.