

**Gaywood Civic Club
Meeting Minutes
Annual Meeting – January 26, 2015
7:00 PM, Memorial Drive United Methodist Church**

The meeting was called to order at 7:08 PM by the President of the GCC, Scott Humphrey. A total of 30 Gaywood residents were in attendance representing 24 households.

Constable Report

Scott introduced Officers Janice Grizzaffi and Karen Goetz who gave the Constable report. Officer Grizzaffi stated that there had been two recent burglaries on E. Gaywood, one near Memorial and one near Boheme. She said that a 5th Ward prostitution and burglary ring is responsible. They have the license plate of one of the cars used in another burglary and a searching for the suspects. The officers said that a woman with long hair driving a silver Land Rover cases houses and notifies her accomplices of good targets. The Constable is working with other law enforcement agencies to find the culprits. The officers suggested to have the Constable's phone number 281-463-6666 set as their first alarm contact. They also stressed that if someone knocks at your door, always acknowledge them. The burglars don't want to enter an occupied home. The officers also mentioned a burglary at W. Gaywood and Boheme, in which an 800-lb. gun safe was taken from the garage.

A homeowner asked if locks on gates help prevent burglaries. The officers answered that every extra little deterrent helps. Dogs can also help. They mentioned that Lt. Mitch Hutter does home inspections and advises homeowners how to make their homes safer. Homeowners who have had the inspection can qualify for a 10% insurance discount. The officers noted that extra Constables are patrolling the area. A homeowner asked about adding a 2nd Constable shift. The officers answered that they evaluated several options, but most incidents occur during the day when homes are likely to be unoccupied. An extra patrol would cost \$35-\$50/hour. A homeowner asked about putting up 24-hour video surveillance signs, and the officers answered that every little deterrent helps. Another homeowner asked whether alarm system signs help, and the officers answered that burglars prefer homes without alarms. Others asked whether we could have a dedicated Constable patrol just for Gaywood, or a short-term contract with extra coverage. Scott answered that it would require a large increase in dues, and that we can only raise dues by 5% maximum per year without having a special meeting. Scott also emphasized the need to gather the contact information of all Gaywood residents and update the directory for better communication.

2015 Budget

The 2015 budget was then discussed. Scott noted that the GCC had a surplus in 2014, and that was expected to be the case in 2015. Operating expenses for 2015 are estimated to be \$46,462, and income is estimated at \$48,720, resulting in a surplus of \$2,258. Because of the surplus, dues for 2015 will remain at the current level of \$330/year. After a brief discussion the budget was approved unanimously by a voice vote.

Election of 2015 Officers and Directors

Scott introduced the current officers and directors of the GCC. Elections were held for the four officer positions and for the Director #3 position held by John Vassar. 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: Scott Humphrey
Vice President: Gustavo Zapater
Secretary: Steve Gross
Treasurer: Kevin Guggenheim
Director #3: John Vassar

This slate of officers was elected by a unanimous vote of those present. Jim Petruzzi will continue to serve in the position of Director #1, the term of which expires in 2016. Pat DeLaune will continue to serve in the position of Director #2, the term of which expires in 2017.

Other Business

The Memorial Drive widening project was discussed. It was mentioned that the section from the tollway to Kirkwood was not currently included in the project, and that the Memorial TIRZ was trying to annex that section for widening.

The possible Gaywood entrance improvements were discussed. Lori Appel will form a committee to evaluate options for the improvements.

It was proposed that a committee be formed to evaluate enhanced neighborhood security options, such as cameras, lights, and extra patrols. Pat DeLaune agreed to take names of those interested in serving on this committee.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM.