NEARTOWN ASSOCIATION (NTA) MEETING Cherryhurst Community Center, Tuesday November 26, 2002 Minutes

NTA President, Ed Gonzales, called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. A motion to accept the minutes of the previous meeting was moved and approved. Ed Gonzales reported that NTA has a working balance of \$1,516. \$119 was used in October to purchase 3 Polaroid cameras for the HPD Storefront.

Scheduled topics

Martha Wong, newly elected State Representative

Ms. Wong addressed the meeting. She had held recent meetings concerning the freeway spur. She expressed a willingness to help NTA to learn how to work more effectively with Houston City Council. She was scheduled to be inaugurated on Jan. 14.

2003 NTA Officers

The slate of officers was read, moved for approval and approved by voice vote:

President Raju Adwaney
VP Jack Rose
Secretary Dana Padgett
Treasurer Ed Gonzales

NTA-Midtown Freeway Spur Task Force

Mike Mark (Task Force, Co-Chairman, text-adogdoc@aol.com) reported that negotiations were continuing to decouple the spur from the rest of the Hwy 59 project. The leading proposal continues to be for a sunken roadway near downtown with park space above.

Bar Problems, Recent or Planned Meetings

Tavern on Waugh 11/25/2002 - Fact finding walk-around

12/11/2002 - Planned meeting at Councilmember Ada Edwards' office

EJ's 11/25/2002 - Ed Gonzales met with Jane of Ada Edward's office

12/4/2002 - Owner of EJ's will meet with neighbors

Bar Bellemore 12/6/2002 - Meeting with Ada Edwards to discuss parking

and permits (location: 1500 W. Alabama)

Mary's bar may close in a few weeks due to disputes with TABC

SNAPs 2003

Raju Adwaney will turn in 128 street overlay requests for all of Montrose. Requests for the HSPVA and Dunlavy Little League park sites will also be re-submitted. Bridget Jensen, community liaison for Councilmember Ada Edwards' office, reported that a park would be constructed at Mandell and Richmond.

New Webmaster

Alex Maddocks will take over the job of NTA Webmaster.

NTA Little League

The league will begin registering players in December. Funds are available to subsidize players who need assistance.

PIP (HPD Positive Interaction Program)

Party at Montrose storefront December 18, 7 p.m., bring snacks

Civic Association Reports

N. Montrose: The Tavern on Waugh has had a 4th car crash due to DWI. Two people have been hit by patrons. The bar is serving approximately 5000 people per week.

Avondale: There has been an increase in street prostitution and crime, with the "Bar 611" as the apparent focal point.

First Montrose Commons: Main concerns are the Spur and HSPVA.

Richwood: Members have met on the Spur issue. There have been 4 accidents in 3 months at Hazard and Lexington. The most recent involved a roll-over. Residents are requesting more stop signs.

Westmoreland: The home tour and 100 year celebration was very successful. There were 370 people who participated in the home tour.

Hyde Park: Have purchased 170 hardwood trees and plan to have 160 planted by the end of January, 2003.

The meeting was adjourned. Recorded by, Mike Padgett