

Neartown Association Meeting Minutes

July 26, 2016 – 7:00 PM

Cherryhurst Park Community Center, 1700 Missouri St

President Greg LeGrande called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm, 14 in Attendance

1). Introductions

2). Houston Bike Plan – Presentation by Matthew Seubert, Planning & Development Department, City of Houston -- <http://houstonbikeplan.org/>

- 10 year goals – increased access, improve safety, develop & maintain facilities, increase ridership
- Houston has less than 1% Bike ridership, as opposed to most other cities with more than 2%
- To adopt the Bike Plan Chapter 33 has to be amended requiring a hearing and City Council approval.
- Additionally, Mr. Seubert discussed the ongoing Lower Westheimer Study to rebuild Westheimer and improve drainage, pedestrian access, safety and appearance. There will be a public workshop after Labor Day.

3). Other –

424 Westheimer Park Design Community Meeting—> **Tuesday, August 16, 2016 at the Women's Home, 607 Westheimer 6:30 PM.** Ray Valdez discussed the upcoming meeting soliciting community involvement for the park design. The Parks Department will be presenting prospective design plans for the new park.

Flyer:<https://www.dropbox.com/s/yggy7m2h8c6broz/Westheimer%20Aug%2016%20Park%20Mtg%20Invite.pdf?dl=0>

- Officer Wayne Pate – 1) discussed recent area crimes of the robbery at Café Express where the convenience store was held up for one soft drink by the lifting up his shirt and showing the clerk a gun stuck in his pants waistband who was later that day shot by HPD on W. Alabama when he brandished a gun at the officers. The subject gun was a replica pellet gun. 2) National Night Out on October 4 with Officer Victor Besura in charge and Wayne helping out.
- A Peeping Tom was reported in the Mandel Place area, who, when confronted by residents, hits them in the face with pepper spray.

- Krystal Johnson the new supervisor at the Cherryhurst Park & Community Center introduced herself, and gave some background. She loves working with kids. krystal.johnson@houstontx.gov
- Greg mentioned that the Montrose TIRZ has lost some board members, mostly gone to other community support positions, so Avondale has asked the city to put a Montrose person on the board, Sherri Weisner from the East Montrose. Sherry has formerly worked for the City of Houston and is very knowledgeable, available, and is a get it done individual.
- Liz Harper introduced herself as the new president of Vermont Commons, stepping in after the former president served 8 years.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:55.

Respectfully submitted,

Julie Young