

Neartown Association Meeting Minutes

January 24, 2023

The Womens' Home, 607 Westheimer

President Greg LeGrande called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

1. Introductions

2. The Womens' Home – Kaitlin Bunsen, Development Coordinator.

Kaitlin provided an overview of the programs and service of The Womens' Home: Residential Treatment Program in Montrose for homeless women who have a substance use disorder; Family Place, for families, and Jane Cizik Garden Place, for individuals, supportive housing in Spring Branch; and Mabee WholeLife® Service Center in Spring Branch. The organization also operates The Cottage Shop at 811 Westheimer, which serves as a vocational training site for clients and 100% of sales contribute to the mission.

3. Neartown updates:

- CM Abbie Kamin will join us for our April 25th general meeting.
- Kay Warhol reported briefly on the December Presidents' Council meeting. The plan is to have a Presidents' Council meeting quarterly, in lieu of the general meeting that month.
- Steve Longmire gave an update on the ongoing work to reinstate Neartown's nonprofit status.
- Greg reported on the Lower Westheimer stakeholders' meeting where the Bagby to Montrose reconstruction project was discussed. This project is not yet funded or scheduled.
- Ray Valdez shared info from the Montrose TIRZ public meeting on the Montrose Blvd. reconstruction project.
- Jack Valinski with CoH Dept of Neighborhoods acknowledged the current issues with timely trash pickup; he does not know when this will be fixed.
- Sylvia Drew reminded everyone of the upcoming PIP meeting, the first Tuesday in February.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 pm.

Recorded by Kay Warhol, Vice President.