

# San Jacinto Neighborhood Association Meeting Notes

Meeting Date: February 11, 2015 7 PM

Location: Hotel Galvez

Attendees: Brenda Donalio Lee, Craig and Angela Brown, Hank Thierry, Julie Ann Brown, Barbara and Patrick McGuffey, Tom Ford, Lee and Sue Coe, Brian Mitchell, Fred Huddleston, Patrick and Karen Geary, Barbara Canetti, Sylvia Horne, Janet Morris, Allison Buchtien, Kevin Carrigan, Nancy Neil, Joanne Griffin, Joan Mertens, Ron Venable, Tony and Carol Marsh, Denice Franke, Kim Walters, Laura Burns, John Koloem, Philip and Michael Fairchild, and Ralph McMorris.

Meeting Notes by: Allison Buchtien

Approval of Minutes from January Meeting: Joanne Griffin approved minutes, Fred Huddleston seconded. No discussion. All voted in favor to approve minutes.

Treasurer Report: Tom was unable to attend the meeting, but passed on information to Angela.

Bank Account: ~\$900

CD: \$5000

Expenses: \$11/month for electricity at garden

\$569/year for insurance for the garden

Report from City Councilman Craig Brown

a. 1328 Seawall Hotel:

Rick Vasquez, Planning Dept. Director attended the meeting and went over the comments from his department in regards to the questions the association sent to the Planning Department and Legal Department. He only commented on the issues from the Planning Department stance and any legal questions would have to be referred to the city attorney. He mentioned that the project was approved based on use and not a certain brand of hotel. (i.e. Aloft, Holiday Inn, etc.) Mr. Vasquez noted that the city council that approved the hotel at the time had unlimited authority in regards to building height.

*(The comments from Planning and Legal will be attached again for review)*

On February 12<sup>th</sup>, City Council will be voting to strip council's authority to override the height and density on the Seawall from the Land Development Regulations (LDR).

b. Land Development Regulations (LDR) update:

Updates to the Urban Neighborhood (UN) designation by San Jac group has been given to the Planning Department. Lost Bayou rep. Joanne Griffin has been working with the other Historical neighborhoods for those changes.

Council is tentatively looking at 2/26 to approve the LDR.

A rough draft is expected to be sent to council members on 2/16 for review. At 2/19 council meeting, council members will give consensus opinions on changes to the LDR.

Signage: An ad hoc committee was created to look at this portion of the LDR. Council member Brown is on the committee. They met this past Monday (2/9) and they narrowed to issue down to four sign types: digital, illuminated, electronic, and off premise signs. The committee made the decision that they needed council's direction on how to proceed. I.E. should signs be approved with the LDR or should that section be pulled out to look at later? Council will vote on

2/12 on digital signs in regards to brightness and change the time allowed between messages. They will also vote on a 90 day moratorium on applications for intermittent digital signs. The February 19<sup>th</sup> workshop will also discuss signs.

#### Chairman Report

a. Approval of Sylvia Horne as SJNA representative to South Beach Committee.

Councilman Ralph McMorris has requested city council to form a South Beach Committee. CM McMorris is the chair and CM Brown is the vice chair. Sylvia has agreed to serve. Joanne Griffin approved Sylvia as the SJNA rep. on the South Beach committee, Brenda Lee seconded, and all voted in favor.

b. Social Chair:

The previous chair had to step down and we are in need of someone to organize the Pot Luck Dinners. Duties just include rounding up neighbors to hold a gathering at their home. Usually from 5-7pm on a date of the host's choosing. Please contact Angela if you are interested in being the Social Chair or if you want to host a Pot Luck!

#### Board Members Reports:

a. Karen Geary (Bryan Museum): The museum applied for a parking variance. Notices went out to neighbors within 200 feet of the museum for comments. Neighbors were not in favor of the changes they saw to the site and the change from on site parking to street parking. On February 20<sup>th</sup>, neighbors that would be affected by the change are meeting with museum representatives at the museum. Karen will give an update on the meeting at the next SJNA meeting in March.

b. Richard Batie (Picnic and Police Reports): not present

c. Julie Ann Brown (Membership and Signs): Dues are due once a year, usually in January. Please pay if you have not done so yet. So far we have 11 new members this year! Also, Julie Ann and Denice head up the sign committee. They place signs in designated spots in the neighborhood. There are also many fellow neighbors who put them out at well. If you would like to put out at sign contact Julie Ann! You will get a reminder notice when to put out the sign each month.

d. Joanne Griffin (Lost Bayou): Joanne has been working with the other Historical Districts to modify the LDR for those areas. She is also trying to get an email list for all the residents in Lost Bayou so she can keep everyone aware of any issues/news for Lost Bayou. Please email Joanne your information if you live in Lost Bayou. If you're not sure, send her the address, and she can let you know.

e. Kay Sandor (Garden): not present

f. Brenda Lee (GAIN): At the last meeting, LDR and the Seawall Hotel were discussed. The meetings are the third Wednesday of the month at 5:30pm at the East End Cottage (1501 Post Office). The public is welcome.

#### Announcements:

At next month's meeting, look for updates on South Beach, Bryan Museum, feral cat committee, and possibly a speaker on the effects of feral cats on birds.

## Councilman Craig Brown

Craig Brown contact info: [craigbrown@cityofgalveston.org](mailto:craigbrown@cityofgalveston.org) or 409-692-3638

District 2 Updates: [www.craigbrownfordistrict2.com](http://www.craigbrownfordistrict2.com)

### CONTINUING EFFORTS:

**Galveston Diaper Drive:** Donate diapers in the boxes at MOD Coffee House and the Galveston Children's Museum. Did you know that food stamps cannot be used to purchase diapers? The diapers will be given to moms that attend required parenting classes.



**San Jacinto Clean up Team:** Look for our next Saturday work date followed by breakfast at ShyKatz soon.

### UPCOMING EVENTS:

**April 11:** The East End Historical District will be putting on the play *The Odd Couple*. SNJA resident Andy Horne will be performing! (18<sup>th</sup> and Church)

**April 18:** McGuire-Dent Recreation Center Healthy Living Event  
Adopt a Beach event- sign in at 27<sup>th</sup> and Seawall 9am

## Helpful information

**Street Sweeping Schedule:** 2nd Tuesday of the Month - North & East Side of Streets (Even Address)  
4th Tuesday of the Month - South & West Side of Streets (Odd Address)



### **Large Debris/Trash Removal:**

If you notice a large amount of trash contact City of Galveston Public Works and they will remove it ASAP. Make sure to have location/address of debris.

**Contact info:** 409-797-3630 or [publicworks@cityofgalveston.org](mailto:publicworks@cityofgalveston.org)

### **Recycling Options:**

The City of Galveston offers **FREE** home collection to residents who are elderly or disabled. To sign up for this service please call **409-741-1446** or email

[publicworks@cityofgalveston.org](mailto:publicworks@cityofgalveston.org)

Crews will collect materials the second Friday and Saturday of the month, excluding holidays. *Note: items must be separated.*



Galveston Urban Ministries offers a home collection service for \$30/month and they provide a bin. The items do not need to be separated. Items will be picked up once a week. To sign up for this, contact [lewis@galvestonurbanministries.org](mailto:lewis@galvestonurbanministries.org) or call 409-497-2460.



### **Nextdoor San Jac Community:**

There is an online community for San Jac/Lost Bayou residents. If you would like to join go to <https://nextdoor.com/invite/hbndnvvyxuehxjsary> Here residents talk about activities in the neighborhood/city, crime, missing pets, etc. Other neighborhoods in Galveston are also active on the website and it is possible to communicate with them as well. There is also an app for your Smartphone!