



## HRA BOARD MEETING

### MINUTES

3-30-11

President Teresa Edgerton called the meeting to order. Board members present were Barbara Ramsey, Marsha Millican, Tina Kendrick, Julie Payne-Johnson, Kelly Gay, Tom Arceneaux, Andy Shehee, Robin Ramsey and Gayle Simmons.

Teresa recognized guest Erin White. Order of business was suspended to allow Ms. White to give an overview of her thesis research on Beverly Hills subdivision north of Centenary in Highland.

#### **Old Business:**

The minutes of the February meeting were approved as distributed with a motion by Tom, second by Kelly and board approved.

A disbursement statement for February expenses was distributed. Tina moved to approve and Tom Seconded. Treasurer's report was approved as distributed. Teresa explained that HRA has not received signed NIP contract. She was told they were being processed and are on the CAO's desk.

#### **New Business:**

Teresa presented her President's Report as follows:

- Five HRA-related phone calls were fielded and assisted callers
- Teresa spoke with Rachel Scott at Noel Methodist and she said Noel received a grant to make substantial renovation to the "scout hut" at Highland Park. The church is another interested party in Highland Park when HRA begins talking about park improvements using our NIP grant.
- Emailed potential members
- Numerous meetings, calls and emails regarding The Highland Experience

Tina Kendrick gave the Program Report.

General Membership meeting is 6:00 pm, April 12<sup>th</sup> at the Randal T. Moore. Charlotte Crawley has accepted our invitation to address Highland school closings, and she indicated she will bring a Caddo Schools staff member with her. An invitation was issued by HRA to Dr. Dawkins for his participation but we have had no response. Columbia Café will cater our light supper to follow meeting. Tom agreed to issue a press release on the event.

Tina also reported on the Highland Experience. A detailed planning document was issued in the board packet. Tina reported that ten restaurants have agreed to participate with a table, representing a wide selection of Highland eateries. Two additional restaurants ( Julie Anne's and Tacqueria) will provide food for volunteers. Amy Loe has prepared the contract and is securing the two bands that we received contact information on-Twang Darkly and A.J. Cascio and the Two-Tone



Blues Band. Publicity is proceeding on all fronts. The Highland Experience Banner/Poster was revealed by Tina and the board agreed that it looked top notch. Posters will be displayed in and around Highland leading up to the event. Tina has engaged a wide number and variety of volunteers in this event. It was emphasized that all volunteers and board members who want to eat must purchase a ticket. Scarlett Hendricks is securing a sampling of area artists, and three Highland historians (Sue Ball who will have the HRA history table, Gary Joiner and Eric Brock) will also have tables and displays. Teresa made notice to Tina that the State Licensing for liquor to be served at the event had arrived.

Tom reported on two Highland items on the MPC agenda. The first is The Munker triplex on Rutherford. After some discussion it was realized that some board members did not have the information that was previously circulated when this issue was first presented. Teresa agreed to email the plans and site drawings to the board. Tom motioned to support, Tina seconded and the board approved.

The second is at 1258 Dalzell. That residence is for I-2 to I-2-E to allow for a multi-purpose facility to permit concerts and seminars. This is former Collective and is outside Highland boundaries and is for a teen club- no action is recommended by HRA.

400 Block of Boulevard home seeking zoning change for addition. Tom believes this is to extend to the alley. Tom also reminded members to be diligent in reporting tractor trucks parking in and around Highland and at various Highland Parks. He recommended calling Officer Amy Bowman or the police department when you witness this.

Kelly and Barbara updated the board on the Neighborhood clean-up, the Great American Clean-up scheduled for April 9<sup>th</sup> at 8am, meeting in the front parking lot of the Highland Center. Volunteers will concentrate on areas south of Olive because Noel Methodist is having one on May 14th as part of day of service that all Louisiana Methodist churches are doing. They will concentrate on areas north of Olive and Highland Park. We plan to secure Dale Grauke's trailer and Kelly and Julie's father's truck to pick up tires left in common areas. Teresa asked members to please write down location of tires as you see them. A Creswell brownie troop will clean around Creswell Elementary and from school to Centenary on Columbia, then they plan to go to the Fairgrounds. They will not be part of our group. A group from St. John's will pick up around Robinson Place in preparation of May 1 Highland Experience. HRA will treat volunteers to lunch at Lila's. Kelly agreed to issue a press release on this and to put the information on the HRA blog. Members agreed we should do postcard reminders on the upcoming events.

Julie reported that membership needs work from all board members and to please keep recruiting members. Barbara suggested writing hand-written notes to members that have not been active or present lately to invite them back. Julie agreed to do an email blast to drum up membership.

Teresa updated the board on the Landscaping. Sue has not been able to do much work on the HRA flower beds due to her surgery. Sue is trying to get Heath to work on the beds and she will get the sprinklers turned back on. Proceeding is difficult without NIP funds being released. Sue will also check to see if we lost rose bushes due to the hard winter.



Garden of the Month recipients were nominated and discussed with Chairperson, Barbara Ramsey..

Kelly and Teresa reported that the Newsletter committee will meet Sunday, April 3<sup>rd</sup> at 5:15pm at Teresa's, 549 Wilkinson. Interested members have been invited to participate. Planning for the upcoming newsletter will be done and they are hoping to get it done in a timely manner so they can attend the event Downtown.

Marsha reported on the Neighborhood Improvement Awards. Two awards have been issued: 351 Jordan, The Arc of Caddo-Bossier and Katherine Brandl-323 Washington. Two properties have been nominated, 622 Kirby and 1021 College, for consideration.

There were no additional reports on fundraising and Public Relations.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:15.

Submitted by Robin Ramsey, HRA Secretary