

Letter from the President



Howdy Hyde Park,

Hope you're enjoying the cooler weather and the end of the 2020 election! In a normal year, this letter would find you fresh off of celebrating Halloween with trick or treaters (on a Saturday night!) and preparing for large gatherings on Thanksgiving. Instead, Halloween was likely a lonely affair and your Thanksgiving shopping list includes a smaller than usual turkey. At least we still have candy corn, pumpkin spice and our health!

GENERAL MEETINGS

Instead of celebrating National Night Out in Lamar Park, members met on October 6th via Zoom. **Catherine Fraser** with Environment Texas was our guest speaker. It was a fantastic meeting, and we learned a lot about what Environment Texas does to protect our rights to clean air and water and what we can do to join the effort. Please check out the general meeting minutes on page 2.

Our next meeting will be via Zoom on November 10th at 7 pm. We are delaying the meeting a week so that we avoid a conflict with the national election. Our guest will be **Dena Marks** with the Anti-Defamation League. We asked Dena to speak to our group because of recent anti-Semitic and racist images appearing in the Montrose area. I hope you can join us for this important discussion.

The log-in details for the meeting are noted on page 3. You can join the Zoom call even if you do not have a computer. There is a dial-in number that will allow you to participate with audio only. We will also post the login information on our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/HydeParkUnited>.

Please consider ordering take-out or delivery from one of our local restaurants! Please note that we will not be meeting in December nor hosting our annual holiday party.

ELECTIONS

At our November meeting, we will be electing the following positions for two-year terms:

- Vice President
- Treasurer
- Deed Restrictions Committee Position #1 (Chair)
- Deed Restrictions Committee Position #3

Current, paid civic association members are eligible to run for election, per the association bylaws which can be found at hydeparkhouston.org. Voting is open to current, paid members as well. If you have any interest in any of these positions, please reach out to me at president@hydeparkhouston.org.

This Month

> Virtual Civic Association Meeting

Nov 10th @ 7pm via Zoom

Dena Marks from the Anti Defamation League

Civic Association Board Elections

Details on page 3!

> Hyde Park Clean Up

TBD

Next Month

> Trimming the Tree in Hyde Park

December 5th

All are welcome!

> No Holiday Party or Civic Association Meeting in December.

WHAT'S GOING ON

Even though we are cancelling most events, we decided that we would continue with the tradition of decorating a Christmas tree in Lamar Park. Niko Niko's restaurateur **Dimitri Fetokakis** and his family will once again donate the tree. We plan on trimming it on Saturday, December 5th. Details will be posted to Facebook.

In preparation for the Christmas tree trimming, we will have a clean-up in Lamar Park in late November. We are finalizing the date at the moment. If you would like to pitch-in, send me a

Letter continued on page 2



President's Letter

continued

note at president@hydeparkhouston.org and I will put you in touch with the organizers.

VOLUNTEERS

We are in desperate need of volunteers for Hyde Park Civic Association. If you have any time to give, giving back to our neighborhood by getting involved on the Board or in one of the other volunteer positions is a truly worthwhile endeavor! Reach out to any of us if you are interested.

Thank you for continuing to follow the guidelines on social distancing and wearing a face mask. It does make a difference! Stay safe everyone.

See ya,

Chris Delphin, President

2020 Monthly HPCA Meeting Schedule

Updated by Heather Almquist

Monthly meetings are open to the public and held on the first Tuesday of each month at 7pm, with the exceptions of holidays and others noted below. We anticipate meeting through Zoom for the remainder of the year.

Volunteers work to secure guest speakers of general interest to the community each month. If you have a topic that you'd like to learn more about or want to suggest a guest speaker, contact president@hydeparkhouston.org.

- November 10th
- December - CANCELED

October Civic Association

Meeting Recap

Submitted by Ellen Pollard

The meeting, held through Zoom, was brought to order at 7:00pm by **Chris Delphin, President**. About 30 people attended logged into the Zoom session. Our guest speaker was **Catherine Fraser** who is the Clean Air Associate with Environment Texas. Environment Texas is a non-profit organization that advocates for clean air, clean water, and open spaces. Ms. Fraser works primarily on Environment Texas' Clean Air Project. The project is working to reduce illegal air pollution from industrial facilities, like refineries, chemical plants and coal plants across the state.

Ms. Fraser began by naming the 3 sources of air pollution which are Mobile, Stationary, and Natural. Examples of mobile are cars, trucks, and other moving vehicles. Stationary would be industrial plants and concrete plants. And natural sources of pollution would be wild fires, volcanos, and dust storms. Illegal air pollution is on the rise with 135 million pounds in 2018. In 2018, Houston saw 3 months of unsafe air. There have been five chemical disasters in Houston in the last few years. Enforcement actions from the State are down. The goal of Environment Texas is to reduce illegal air pollution by 50% by 2025. Some ways of doing this are:

- Draw media attention and awareness to air pollution issues.
- Put pressure of the State of Texas and TCEQ (Texas Commission on Environment Quality) to better hold polluters accountable.
- Highlight the current failure of public policies to properly protect the health and safety of Texans.
- Increasing the number of citizen's subscribed to and submitting complaints through Neighborhood Witness.
- There is some good news:
- TCEQ's Executive Director admitted that enforcement efforts have "been lagging".
- Last month, TCEQ proposed modest improvements to the agency's penalty policy.
- It's a sign that TCEQ is listening and working to improve accountability.

You can become a witness in your neighborhood and stop polluters from breaking the law by joining the Neighborhood Witness Program. Find information at www.neighborhoodwitness.org Ms. Fraser said that the more people who join, the better it will be.

Several questions followed. Texas Environment is funded by donors and grant money. There are three members on TCEQ and they are appointed by the Governor. She answered questions about EPA's role, authorized vs unauthorized releases and how data is published. For more information you may visit the website <https://environmenttexas.org/>

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HPCA Zoom Meeting Details

There are two ways to join:

Enter the following into your browser and hit return (or click the link):

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87341801393>

Dial +1 346-248-7799 and follow the prompts to enter the meeting ID number followed by the pound sign (873 4180 1393 #)

The meeting ID will change each month, so make sure to check the number each time you join our monthly meetings.

Hang out with
us and Dena
Marks from
Anti-Defamation
League - Nov
10th @ 7pm!



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HPD Crime Reports for September 2020

Submitted by Jim Pollard

Crime	Date	Address	Location
Aggravated Assault	9/6/2020 20:00	1400 BLOCK HYDE PARK BLVD	Residence, Home (Includes Apartment)
All other larceny	9/4/2020 2:00	1200 BLOCK WILLARD	Speciality Store
All other larceny	9/9/2020 15:00	1300 BLOCK W GRAY ST	Residence, Home (Includes Apartment)
All other larceny	9/18/2020 8:00	1300 BLOCK W GRAY ST	Construction Site
All other larceny	9/19/2020 11:00	1300 BLOCK BOMAR ST	Drug Store, Doctors Office, Hospital
All other larceny	9/29/2020 19:00	1300 BLOCK PEDEN	Residence, Home (Includes Apartment)
Destruction, damage, vandalism	9/17/2020 16:00	2500 BLOCK YOAKUM BLVD	Bar, Nightclub
Driving under the influence	9/11/2020 19:00	1200 BLOCK WESTHEIMER RD	Residence, Home (Includes Apartment)
Drunkenness	9/4/2020 5:00	1400 BLOCK INDIANA ST	Parking Lot, Garage
Forcible sodomy	9/19/2020 11:00	1000 BLOCK WESTHEIMER RD	Residence, Home (Includes Apartment)
Intimidation	9/12/2020 21:00	1000 BLOCK WESTHEIMER RD	Residence, Home (Includes Apartment)
Intimidation	9/22/2020 9:00	1200 BLOCK BOMAR ST	Residence, Home (Includes Apartment)
Intimidation	9/24/2020 1:00	2000 BLOCK WAUGH DR	Residence, Home (Includes Apartment)
Intimidation	9/27/2020	1100 BLOCK WESTHEIMER RD	Residence, Home (Includes Apartment)
Motor vehicle theft	9/13/2020 1:00	1400 BLOCK CALIFORNIA ST	Parking Lot, Garage
Motor vehicle theft	9/21/2020 22:00	2700 BLOCK MONTROSE BLVD	Parking Lot, Garage
Shoplifting	9/7/2020 16:00	1000 BLOCK WESTHEIMER RD	Commercial, Office Building
Simple assault	9/9/2020 11:00	2500 BLOCK YOAKUM BLVD	Highway, Road, Street, Alley
Simple assault	9/13/2020 10:00	2700 BLOCK MONTROSE BLVD	Other, Unknown
Simple assault	9/15/2020 12:00	1500 BLOCK CALIFORNIA ST	Residence, Home (Includes Apartment)
Simple assault	9/26/2020 12:00	1000 BLOCK WESTHEIMER RD	Residence, Home (Includes Apartment)
Simple assault	9/27/2020 1:00	1500 BLOCK HYDE PARK BLVD	Liquor Store
Trespass of real property	9/8/2020 9:00	1400 BLOCK HYDE PARK BLVD	Restaurant
Trespass of real property	9/25/2020 10:00	1200 BLOCK W DREW ST	Highway, Road, Street, Alley
Trespass of real property	9/26/2020 19:00	1400 BLOCK MISSOURI ST	Residence, Home (Includes Apartment)
Weapon law violations	9/6/2020 21:00	1300 BLOCK WESTHEIMER RD	Residence, Home (Includes Apartment)



Would you like to reach out to more than 1,500 of your Hyde Park neighbors? Contact Carlos Fernandez at advertising@hydeparkhouston.org

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Did You Know

Submitted by Chris Delphin

Trees play a critical role in the health of a neighborhood. Numerous studies have demonstrated that the presence of trees in an urban setting can improve people's mental and physical health, especially children. They also improve property values. Trees can help us create sustainable environments and should be, in my view, considered an important tool for civic leaders to reach our sustainability goals.

If we want to have the benefits of urban trees, we must think of our urban forests as an investment. If we do not care for our trees, they, like any investment, depreciate in value and may become liabilities. New trees are important, although our neighborhood doesn't have much space for new trees. Consequently, we need to protect the investment we have in our existing trees.

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October General Meeting Recap

Continued from page 2

General Meeting

A few guests were present-**Traci Buttram** with CM Robinson's office spoke and said to get in touch if any help is needed or problems arise. **Linda Trevino** was also present. She is with Metro and let us know that Metro will be offering free rides to voting places. You may contact her at Linda.Trevino@ridemetro.org.

James Spear spoke and let us know that **Dena Marks** will be speaking at the November 10th meeting. She is with the Anti-Defamation League (ADL). Elections will also be held that night for positions on our Board. James praised **Melissa Zarikian** for all of her hard work in Lamar Park.

Lamar Park

The Lamar Park irrigation and sprinkler system has been repaired. The City generously donated and installed a Weather Track System that monitors how much water is needed in the park. Thanks to Southwest Irrigation, as well as the Houston Parks Board for coordinating efforts for the repairs. The Forestry department met HPCA members at Lamar Park to discuss pruning the trees. We are scheduled for maintenance to take place in the coming month. Going out this month will be a letter of request the HPB to initiate a proposal for the Susan Vaughn Foundation. Monies from this foundation will be utilized for park maintenance and are traditionally awarded in January.

Treasurer

The month of September began with a balance of \$10,317.12. After expenses and revenues, the balance is \$6,891.88. The Civic Club paid Southwest Irrigation \$3,152.47 for the sprinkler system in the Park. This amount has been returned to HPCA and Houston Parks Board will directly pay the invoices to Southwest Irrigation from HPCA's funds on deposit with the Houston Parks Board.

The meeting ended at 8:20.

BLOCK CAPTAINS

Bomar
Greg Jeu & Jim Hurst 281-541-6756

California / Westheimer
Cecilia Kammer 832-788-1586

Commonwealth
Laura Lark 713-550-6226

2516 Commonwealth
Mark McCreary

Fairview
Irene Dahlgren 713-299-5190

Hyde Park / Hyde Park Apts.
Linda Carter 713-524-2952
Pat Courtney 832-860-1814

Hyde Park Crescent
Carlos Fernandez 713-520-7017

Hyde Park Townhomes
Clint Harbert, 832-428-0158

Indiana / Yupon
Alice McCarthy 713-521-5807

Jackson
Nelson Vergel 713-539-1978

Maryland
Finis Cowan 713-582-6066

Michigan
Tom Whitworth 713-523-8035

Missouri
OPEN

Montrose/Waugh
Carolina Sierra 713-446-8213

Peden
Lori Corwin 832-582-6520

Vermont
Peter Forbes - 832-921-3464

Welch
Scott and Lina Rigrod 713-528-2791
Cliff Jones 713-524-3055

West Drew
Mike McKann 713-526-6777

West Gray / Hazel
OPEN

Willard
Delia Isabel Cuellar 832 819-0813

Yoakum/Van Buren
Macy Bodenhamer 713-201-5810

Block captains: Notify
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of any changes in contact information.

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volunteer@hydeparkhouston.org

Want to **join** and **benefit** from our commitment to serving Hyde Park neighbors?

Sign up on our website: hydeparkhouston.org

CITIZEN'S PATROL

Editor's Note: Due to the Stay Home, Work Safe order, all patrols have been temporarily suspended. Be sure to know who your neighbors are and check in on them!