

## Letter from the President



Howdy Hyde Park,  
Summer has reached its end! We all know that September is no different than August, except for the reasonable hope for

a cold front or two. As I am writing this letter, Houston is in the eyes of two potential hurricanes (Tropical Storms Marco and Laura). I hope this letter finds you in great health and safe from harm. I also hope that those of you with children or grandchildren in school are able to navigate this difficult time and find the best way to keep your family safe and the child educationally engaged.

I am excited that the Fall is upon us. I enjoy the turning of the seasons (in peoples' minds at least). It's this time of year that I start using fragrances like spiced apples around the house and buying squashes and gourds for either soups or casseroles ... or to put on display.

It is also a time when we need to be vigilant. Unlike years before, this Hurricane season is happening while the pandemic continues to upend our lives. As I mentioned last month, maintaining a healthy state of mind requires faithful attention to our own needs and wellbeing. If you need help during this challenging time, consider reaching out to your neighbors on our Facebook page.

### GENERAL MEETINGS

We met for the first time in months via Zoom on August 4th. It was great to see many of you. We had an open forum and discussed the status of the

deed restrictions and the cancellation of National Night Out, among other issues. Check out the meeting minutes on page 2.

We will meet again, via Zoom, on September 1st at 7 pm. District C Councilmember Abbie Kamin will be our special guest.

The login details 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>.

Consider ordering takeout or delivery from a local restaurant on the day of our meeting. This is the time to give back!

In lieu of National Night Out, we will meet via Zoom on October 6th. We will be joined by Catherine Fraser, the Clean Air Associate with Environment Texas. Catherine will present on illegal air pollution from petrochemical facilities in the Houston area and talk about the work Environment Texas is doing to address Texans' concerns about air and water quality. We also hope that you remember that those local restaurants and businesses donated generously to our NNO event in years past. It's time for us to repay that generosity!

We also decided to delay our November general meeting to November 10th. Usually, we would meet on the first Tuesday of the month; however, the Board felt that the conflict with the national election

## This Month

### > Virtual Civic Association Meeting

Sept 1st @ 7pm via Zoom

District C City Councilmember -  
Abbie Kamin

Details on page 3!

## Next Month

### > Catherine Fraser with Environment Texas

October 6th via Zoom

It's never too late to  
join The Hyde Park Civic  
Association!

Join now on our website:  
[www.hydeparkhouston.org](http://www.hydeparkhouston.org)

Letter continued on page 2



# President's Letter

*continued from page 1*

warranted a delay for a week.

## WHAT'S GOING ON

I am pleased to announce that James Spear has been appointed Vice President of the Civic Association. James and his partner Seth are recent additions to Hyde Park. Some of you may have met James and Seth at the Lamar Park clean-up. They are a great addition to our 'hood.

We will have board elections at our November meeting. The positions up for election include Vice President, Treasurer, Deed Restrictions Committee Chair and Deed Restrictions Committee Member. Current, paid civic association members are eligible to run for election, per the association bylaws which can be found at [hydeparkhouston.org](http://hydeparkhouston.org). Voting is open to current, paid members as well. If you have any interest in any of these positions, please feel free to reach out to me at [president@hydeparkhouston.org](mailto:president@hydeparkhouston.org).

Please stay safe and continue to follow the guidelines on social distancing and wearing a face mask. Stay safe everyone.

National Night Out is scheduled to occur on Tuesday, October 6th. However, given current conditions, the Board decided to cancel this year's NNO activities for Hyde Park. We also don't expect our local restaurants and businesses to be able to donate at the level they have in years past. We would like to give thought to alternatives to National Night Out. For instance, we could solicit discounts from the area restaurants for take-out or delivery on October 6th. We could also help block captains set up small events with participation limited to immediate neighbors. Or we could hold a general meeting and invite a speaker to address a salient issue for the neighborhood. Please let me know your preference at our next virtual meeting in August.

Please stay safe and continue to follow the guidelines on social distancing and wearing a face mask. Stay safe everyone.

See ya,

Chris Delphin, President

# August 4th Civic Association Meeting Recap

*Submitted by Ellen Pollard*

This was the first Civic Club meeting in several months. The meeting was done using Zoom with Chris Delphin, our President, moderating. 16 people attended. The meeting began with all introducing themselves and **Chris Delphin** welcoming **James Spears** who has volunteered to be Vice President. The Board will vote on this issue at their next meeting. **Chris** also applauded **Melissa Zarikian** for all of her work improving Lamar Park.

The Deed Restriction Committee has suffered a few setbacks. The property on Peden has been replatted to include 7 structures instead of 6. In many cases, home owners are ignoring restrictions placed on their properties. Letters were sent to **Councilmember Abbie Kamin** and also to **At Large Member Sallie Acorn**. The City won't acknowledge deed restrictions when pertaining to replatting. It was suggested that Chapter 42 might be a better way to approach this problem. We would need a group to get every street already not covered by Chapter 42 to join in. But Chapter 42 won't solve all of the problems-it does not address tree removal, for example. **Mike McKann** and **Barry Baumgarten** are working very hard and could use some help with this committee.

**Chris** announced that the Board had voted to cancel National Night Out (NNO) this year due to Coronavirus. There were several ideas bounced around about how to best celebrate NNO on our own or with small groups. It could be Neighborhood Take Out Night, with all ordering from the restaurants that have helped us in the past. It was suggested to create a coupon or ticket to be presented at the time of pick up to let the restaurant know that we are supporting them. This coupon or ticket could be on Facebook and the individual could print it and then present it. Having food trucks on certain streets was another idea. A resident will check and see if streets could be blocked off. We would like to have someone to co-ordinate this effort. If you are interested please let Chris know at [president@hydeparkhouston.org](mailto:president@hydeparkhouston.org).

**Chris** next addressed the issue of the Lower Westheimer improvement project. It was cut from the City's Annual CIP approved by City Council in June. **Council Woman Abbie Kamin** will be our speaker at the September meeting and hopefully she can give us more information.

**Linda Trevino**, Senior Public Affairs with Metro was a participant at our meeting. She said the buses are being cleaned twice a day. Metro is doing their best to keep everything as clean as possible. All riders must wear a mask. Masks will be provided to riders who need them. Every Friday Metro receives a report about companies allowing its workers to return to work and they adjust their schedules accordingly. If you have questions you may send them to [www.ridemetro.org](http://www.ridemetro.org). When you are age 70 and above, you may ride the buses for free but must get a new card. You can do this at the Metro building at 1900 Main.

*continued on page 3*



# 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/81221743551>

Dial +1 346-248-7799 and follow the prompts to enter the meeting ID number followed by the pound sign (812 2174 3551 #)

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



**John Williams**, a former resident of Hyde Park was also a participant. He wanted to address the graffiti issue that seems to be popping up in our neighborhood and surrounding area. He mentioned the graffiti at the Buffalo Soldier's Museum and also near his apartment on Hawthorne, an Imperial German flag was being flown. This flag appears to have Nazi connections. WD40 may be used to erase the graffiti. There are several websites available to learn more information about this subject or to report and incident you may see. You may visit [www.adl.org](http://www.adl.org), or [www.adl.org/reportincident](http://www.adl.org/reportincident). To learn about the Imperial German flag, go to <https://adl.org/education/references/hate-symbols/imperial-German-flag>. Thank you, **John** for bringing this issue to our attention. A suggestion was made to have someone from the ADL (American Defamation League) as a speaker, maybe in October.

## Reports

**Treasurer's Report-** Our opening balance was \$10,589.49. We had expenses of \$1,122.73. This included \$32.46 to remove the lock on the Sprinkler Box at Lamar Park and also \$787.50 which was a diagnostic for Lamar Park Sprinkler Repairs. As of July,31,2020 we have \$10,000.04 in our Treasury.

**Lamar Park-** **Melissa Zakirian** along with **Joe Epstein** will be meeting on August 5th with members from the Houston Parks and Recreation Department (HPRD) at

Lamar Park. The meeting was held to walk the park and review HPCA requested repairs on the irrigation and electrical systems. **Marilou De La Fuentes-HPRD Adoption Program Administrator** recommended replacing the existing outdated irrigation controller with a WIFI controlled unit that is able to monitor the amount of water needed. She graciously requested the unit for the park and we are pleased to announce that it was installed the following day, Thursday the 6th! The non-working and uncovered electrical outlets were also addressed. They have been repaired and covered as of the 6th. **Southwest Irrigation team member Ronald** met the group at the park. He had the opportunity to speak with HPRD members and explained in detail repairs needed to get the system running. A sketch identifying where work is needed as well as the necessary parts for repair was drawn and will be forwarded to **Marilou** for final approval to begin the repairs on the irrigation system. **Marilou** recommended calling 311 and requesting Forestry Service to schedule a time for tree inspection and cutting. The Forestry Service will be contacted as soon as the final repairs to the irrigation system are finalized.

The very successful first ever Zoom meeting of Hyde Park was ended at 7:55. Please plan to hear **Abbie Kamin** at the September meeting. In October join us for a possible presentation by ADL, and hear from Catherine Fraser, Clean Air Associate, from Environment Texas.

# HPD Crime Reports for June 2020

Submitted by Jim Pollard

Crime	Date	Address	Location
Aggravated Assault	7/19/2020 22:00	2700 BLOCK MONTROSE BLVD	Church, Synagogue, Temple
Aggravated Assault	7/25/2020 22:00	2700 BLOCK MONTROSE BLVD	Commercial, Office Building
Aggravated Assault	7/26/2020 0:00	2500 BLOCK MONTROSE BLVD	Residence, Home (Includes Apartment)
All other larceny	7/28/2020 14:00	1500 BLOCK MICHIGAN ST	Commercial, Office Building
Burglary, Breaking and Entering	7/8/2020 4:00	1200 BLOCK CALIFORNIA ST	Residence, Home (Includes Apartment)
Burglary, Breaking and Entering	7/20/2020 2:00	1100 BLOCK WESTHEIMER RD	Highway, Road, Street, Alley
Burglary, Breaking and Entering	7/20/2020	2300 BLOCK MONTROSE BLVD	Residence, Home (Includes Apartment)
Burglary, Breaking and Entering	7/23/2020 3:00	2300 BLOCK MONTROSE BLVD	Parking Lot, Garage
Destruction, damage, vandalism	7/8/2020 15:00	1100 BLOCK WESTHEIMER RD	Highway, Road, Street, Alley
Destruction, damage, vandalism	7/12/2020 18:00	1200 BLOCK JACKSON BLVD	Highway, Road, Street, Alley
Destruction, damage, vandalism	7/19/2020 19:00	1400 BLOCK HYDE PARK BLVD	Shopping Mall
Destruction, damage, vandalism	7/20/2020 4:00	2500 BLOCK MONTROSE BLVD	Residence, Home (Includes Apartment)
Disorderly conduct	7/11/2020 19:00	1200 BLOCK JACKSON BLVD	Residence, Home (Includes Apartment)
Drunkenness	7/8/2020	1200 BLOCK WESTHEIMER RD	Residence, Home (Includes Apartment)
Intimidation	7/4/2020	1000 BLOCK WESTHEIMER RD	Residence, Home (Includes Apartment)
Intimidation	7/13/2020 12:00	1300 BLOCK WESTHEIMER RD	Commercial, Office Building
Motor vehicle theft	7/1/2020 9:00	1500 BLOCK HYDE PARK BLVD	Other, Unknown
Motor vehicle theft	7/16/2020 20:00	1400 BLOCK VERMONT	Speciality Store
Simple assault	7/9/2020	1000 BLOCK WESTHEIMER RD	Drug Store, Doctors Office, Hospital
Simple assault	7/11/2020	1500 BLOCK MISSOURI ST	Parking Lot, Garage
Simple assault	7/21/2020 13:00	1400 BLOCK CALIFORNIA ST	Residence, Home (Includes Apartment)
Simple assault	7/22/2020 17:00	1500 BLOCK CALIFORNIA ST	Church, Synagogue, Temple
Simple assault	7/23/2020	2500 BLOCK WAUGH DR	Shopping Mall
Theft from motor vehicle	7/11/2020 14:00	2400 BLOCK MONTROSE BLVD	Residence, Home (Includes Apartment)
Theft from motor vehicle	7/30/2020 16:00	1000 BLOCK WESTHEIMER RD	Restaurant
Theft from motor vehicle	7/30/2020 21:00	1300 BLOCK WESTHEIMER RD	Parking Lot, Garage
Trespass of real property	7/8/2020 17:00	2500 BLOCK WAUGH DR	Restaurant
Trespass of real property	7/14/2020 17:00	1100 BLOCK W GRAY ST	Restaurant



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

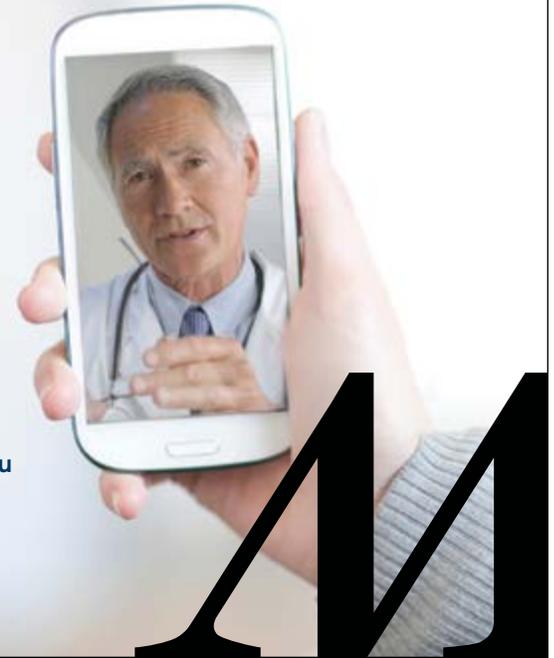
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## **BOARD/COMMITTEE CONTACTS**

President – Chris Delphin  
[president@hydeparkhouston.org](mailto:president@hydeparkhouston.org)

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Lamar Park – Melissa Zarikian  
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Volunteer Coordinator – VACANT  
[volunteer@hydeparkhouston.org](mailto:volunteer@hydeparkhouston.org)

# Advertise with us!

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## 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!

## DO-ALL SERVICES

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Mail form and check to:  
Hyde Park Civic Association  
PO Box 66422  
Houston, TX 77266-6422  
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[www.hydeparkhouston.org](http://www.hydeparkhouston.org).

(Check one)  New  Renewal  
(Check one)  Individual (\$30)  Couple (\$60)

I/We would like to make an additional donation  
to the Lamar Park fundraising of \_\_\_\_\_

**TOTAL** \_\_\_\_\_

Check No: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date Paid: \_\_\_\_\_

## BLOCK CAPTAINS

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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

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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

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# Going Back to School...

Submitted by Chris Delphin

The new school year has been nothing less than chaotic. HISD is starting the school year – virtually – on September 8th, with plans to start in-person instruction on October 19th.

Your child may have already started the school year if they are enrolled in private or parochial school. In any event, your child is likely experiencing their own concerns with going back to school. My partner is a teacher in Aldine ISD and he tells me that the kids in his virtual classes appear anxious, excited and under- and over-stimulated. There is no one way to react to a pandemic and your kid is likely having their own unique experience. There are loads of resources online to help you answer your child’s questions about Covid and HISD may have additional resources and tips for making the transition back to school. Now is the time to make sure your kid’s mental health is a top priority.

## Hungry? Check Out Houston Restaurant Weeks!

Benefiting the Houston Food Bank August 1 to September 7, 2020, local restaurants will donate money to the Houston Food bank when you order their special Prix Fixe menus. Check out <https://houstonrestaurantweeks.com> for details and participating restaurants. Support local!

## 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](mailto:president@hydeparkhouston.org).

- September 1
- October 6 - NNO TBD
- November 10th
- December TBD Holiday Party

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## Speaker Profile: Councilmember Abbie Kamin

Abbie Kamin is proud to be a fourth-generation District C resident representing fifteen unique super neighborhoods. Born and raised in Houston, Council Member Kamin was part of the first graduating class of The Emery/Weiner School, going on to Tulane University and American University’s Washington College of Law where she focused on government administration and civil rights. Prior to being elected to Houston City Council in 2019, Council Member Kamin advocated for our community at every level of government.

Council Member Kamin Chairs the Public Safety and Homeland Security Committee and is Vice Chair of the Quality of Life Committee. She is also a member of the following committees: Budget and Fiscal Affairs, Childhood and Youth, Economic Development and Ethics, Elections and Council Governance.