



Cherryhurst Civic Club Newsletter

June 2001

Next Civic Club Meeting Tuesday June 5th

Please attend the next meeting of the Civic Club in the Cherryhurst Park Clubhouse at 7 p.m. Tuesday, June 5th.

Area Development Continues

by Ian Gordon

The real estate report by Patrick O'Neil at the last meeting noted recent home listings and sales in Cherryhurst. Current values have increased to \$145 a square foot. With the upward cost of gasoline, our in town properties will continue to increase in value. Recent tax appraisals were discussed and the fact that increased values in our neighborhood are outstripping the norm. Our growing pains that need to be addressed.

Please join us at the June meeting Tuesday to learn about problems and solutions. Real estate reports will continue on a quarterly basis. We are blessed to have several real estate agents living in Cherryhurst to share this duty. Real estate agent and co-Cherryhurst Civic Club Vice President Jeff Kuchar will present the July quarterly report.

Areas of development within Cherryhurst will be reviewed. The upscale Mexican restaurant at the corner of Westheimer and Mandell is scheduled to open in September. The proposed Asian TeaHouse at the corner of Westheimer and Yupon is scheduled to open next year. The razed 1717 Haver property, which is being rebuilt for the current owner as a two story residence in the cottage fashion. We have a new homeowner at 1605 Fairview who will be introduced.

June Yard of the Month

by Lynn Pannill

Yard of the Month for June goes to



Joe Wynne of 2615 Yupon. This wonderful shaded front garden, with palms and trees, is a delight the entire year.

Crime Watch

by Ian Gordon

A recent robbery at Cherryhurst Street near Mandell will be discussed by William Treash of the 2400 block of Mandell at the upcoming meeting. He was robbed of his wallet on the evening of April 12th. He missed speaking at the last meeting, but will describe his experience at the upcoming meeting, tell us about other incidents he is aware of and give us advice on how to report and avoid such experiences.

Anyone with the unfortunate experience of graffiti, tire slashings or other incidents, please come to the meeting and tell us about your experiences.

We are forming a crime watch committee. Two retired gentlemen in the subdivision have expressed interest in becoming crime watchers on their daily walks. Dog walkers also make excellent crime watchers. There is no substitute for our own homeowners to take responsibility for these activities.

If a percentage of the 175-plus homeowners in our subdivision paid a retired resident the \$120 a year we paid

to an off-duty police patrol in the past, we could afford a retired resident a \$20,000 a year position for full time crime watch and landscape care.

Come to the meeting and discuss noting and reporting suspicious activities while staying out of harms way. As property values and care we give our neighborhood improve, careless lots stand out more and more, drawing crime.

The empty rental unit at the corner of Mandell and Missouri is now being updated for occupancy, which should cut back on graffiti there and across the street at the proposed restaurant.

Take Note!

by Ian Gordon

The November City election for mayor and other offices approaches with more interest than other years. Mayor Brown may get a serious challenge for his third and last run for mayor. Our city council seat, District D chaired by Debra Danberg for several years, is also generating more interest than usual.

Two people interested in running for this and open seats on council have asked to speak to our civic club at this early date. They are Gerald Womack, running for District D, and Andrew Burks, running for 3rd open council position. We need to decide if we want to meet and hear personally from these and other candidates, their ideas and what interests we might have to convey to them.

A promise to fight for new concrete streets and a functional gutter system is high on many residents concerns. Come to the meeting Tuesday and let's decide how to approach upcoming November election candidates.

Marshall Broadway, Cherryhurst

Parks Department Supervisor, and Cherryhurst Children Activities Committee Chairperson Mia Engel will speak at the meeting about recent activities and the children's need for a television, rolling TV stand and an answering machine for the park building.

John Foster, of 1724 Cherryhurst has generously donated a television; only the paperwork of acceptance by the city is holding up the transfer. We need to vote on approving the expenditure for a TV stand and get Marshall's position on accepting an answering machine.

Cherryhurst Park is the focal point of our citywide renowned neighborhood. Other near town civic clubs use the park and building for their monthly meetings and activities, including children's birthday parties and an annual Easter Egg Hunt.

The civic club Park Cleanup Committee meets at the park Saturday mornings for general cleanup duties including leaf sweeping, litter clean up and plant trimming. While the city meets its minimum obligation to cut and trim grass at the park and empty trash cans, but we need to make a personal effort for a more manicured, cared for look that we can be proud of and take pleasure in the beauty of. This requires personal involvement.

Property values of homes facing the park are increased by at least \$50,000, while the amenity of a park enhances all our property values. If you have the time, if your home faces the park, if you have an interest in landscape or the beauty of our neighborhood, come out and work on the park, it's good exercise! Consider joining us early Saturday mornings for a short time before the heat takes over to care for our wonderful park.

While the popularity of inner city "gentrification" is a recent development in Houston, Cherryhurst has been in an improvement cycle for well over twenty years. We are far ahead of other near town subdivisions in this respect. It seems that every new buyer makes major improvements on their new purchase, which improves all of our prop-

erty values.

Most of us take responsibility for yard and home upkeep seriously, but there are extremes in care that we need to be aware of. Consider that early morning weekend yard care may disturb your neighbors, and that if your grass is more than six inches high, it needs cutting.

The city recently posted a citation at 1601 California, warning the owner of the non occupied home to care for the property or face a \$200 fine and the cost of cleanup. Cherryhurst Deed Restrictions do not include care requirements, but the City of Houston has laws concerning this.

Consideration is being given to activities and committees that may be of interest to you. There is now a Cherryhurst Golf Club with four members. There is also a cruise/vacation club with four members. Do you play golf, do you cruise? Come to the meeting and let us know. Scheduling will soon take place.

Committees are also being formulated for the following concerns: care of properties; park cleanup and improvement; crime watch; improvement of streets, sewers and sidewalks and social activities.

If you have the time and interest in any of these activities, please come and discuss them at the meeting. June Yard of the Month

Cherryhurst Civic Club

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Send Us Your E-Mail Address!

If you're one of the Officers, Committee Members or Block Captains listed and would like your e-mail address published, please e-mail it to mtjohnson@omnisky.net --Editor

Newsletter Notes:

Thanks to Ian Gordon and Lynn Pannill for the articles in this month's Newsletter. Your comments and letters about the Newsletter are welcome! To send articles or letters to the Newsletter Editor, contact:

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