

Recap of Tejas Trails Neighborhood Association Quarterly Meeting, April 11, 2023

The meeting was called to order at 6:10 pm by Association President, Bernard Parks.

Forty (40) attendees, including board members and guests. The Neighborhood Association Officers and Committee members attending were:

Secretary: Donna Bogaski
Past President: Cyndy Mccoy
Membership Committee: Sharon Loveall
Keep It Clean Committee: Bob Benda
Zoning Committee: Rob Marshall,
Webmaster Committee: Donna Bogaski
Landscape of the Quarter: Cyndy McCoy

Guests:

Commander Stephanie Ricks, FWPD
Officer Joe Spragins, Neighborhood Patrol Officer (NPO)
Officer Paul McEwan, Neighborhood Patrol Officer (NPO)
Caleb Backholm, District 7 City Council Candidate
Jason Ellis, District 7 City Council Candidate
Macy Hill, District 7 City Council Candidate
Gary Hogan, Chapel Creek HOA president

President Bernard Parks welcomed members and guests and introduced board, committee chairs and guests.

Update of activities

President Bernard Parks provided update for the Majestic project. Development is proceeding as scheduled, with construction of both Silver Creek and Western Trade Drive expected to complete by July. First building estimated to complete in August of this year.

Bernard also reported other activities:

- membership is up to 61 homes out of approximately 230
- TTNA participated in litter pickup last March
- Residents donated funds for a lidar for the police department
- Resident Mary Murdock of 112 Verna Trl N passed away in March

Cyndy McCoy provided an update on the Landscape of the Season. She is looking for volunteers, so contact her if you want to help out. Guidelines have been posted on the website and she showed the proposed sign to be placed in the winners' yard. First award will be May and the winner will get a certificate and gift card to Archies Gardenland.

Guest Speakers

Officer Spragins NPO from the Fort Worth Police West Division spoke next. Issue with speeding yellow corvette has been handled. He also mentioned not to confront trespassers, call him first.

Next to speak were the three city council candidates. Each introduced him/herself and gave a brief description of their reasons for running and the focus of their campaign.

- Caleb – wants small government and will concentrate on tax cuts and improvements to roads and infrastructure <https://www.electcalebbackholm.com>
- Macy – Focus is maintenance of quality of life and will focus on infrastructure, public safety and tax cuts <https://www.macyhillcampaign.com>
- Jason – wants to work for the people, listen to what they want and focus on those areas that actually affect their lives <https://jasonellisforfortworth.com>

Question: how can you provide improvements and cut taxes at the same time?

- Macy – tourism can be a primary source of funds for infrastructure
- Jason – run city more like a business, currently no incentive for department heads to cut budget; need to slow development until infrastructure can support
- Caleb – cut unnecessary budget items such as diversity initiative; use sales tax to lower property tax (see his website); prioritize budget spending items

Question: how do you envision to pay for new schools?

- Jason – starts with good budgeting; developers should absolutely contribute; only raise taxes on current property owners as last resort
- Caleb –he is open to use of impact fees and special tax district;
- Macy – need to work with school board and fit needs into master plan

Question: what is your vision for the future of Fort Worth?

- Macy – this is a great place to live and work, but still growing quickly and need to take care of what we have
- Jason – clean, safe city is responsibility of government but traffic and infrastructure issues are driving people away. Can't stop development, but need to catch up on supportive infrastructure. Step back, focus on fixes, talk to residents about what they want and don't cater to developers
- Caleb – moved here intentionally for quality of life issues; this is a "small" big city and need to keep this feel; focus on family environment; low taxes, good schools, not high density

Question: how to get city to listen to issues of residents (such as potential traffic problem caused by development of 233 ChuckWagon)?

- Jason – city councilman is who should assist and be willing to fight for constituents
- Caleb – councilman needs to understand both sides of any issue and assist with negotiating differences
- Macy – city staff is responsible for issues such as this and councilman needs to hold them their responsibility

Question: Tejas Trails is a unique neighborhood due to its agricultural history, etc. and needs a councilman that understands the precedent of maintaining the ag/ranch/country feel.

- Jason – every neighborhood is different; voices will be heard if numbers speak up; he will stand up and fight for majority opinions
- Caleb – has track record of political action having been on school board and state republican convention delegate; moved here due to unique qualities of fort worth and understands
- Macy – councilman is strongest advocate; must go through proper channels and collaborate; can't just address squeaky wheel, but understand underlying issues

Update of activity regarding Chapel Creek Fellowship

Resident Christie Vennel spoke next to provide an update of a meeting held with city department personnel regarding work at 233 Chuckwagon Trail. The city is currently waiting on the property owner to finalize the defined use of the property. Status of permits:

- The owner has applied for an Occupancy Change of Use (PO23-00744) to *“Interior remodel of existing building for the proposed use of a ministry of church”*, with a use description of *“Childrens Daycare”*. This has caused confusion on what the actual final use should be childcare facility or church as permitting requirements differ for each.
- A Commercial Razing Permit (PV23-00083) was issued for remodel/demo of the residence. This was in error since it is not a commercial property, therefore a new Residential Remodel Construction Permit (PB23-04401) was issued and approved for the residential remodel.

Depending on the final use, the outstanding issues are:

1. Traffic – potential for up to 90 children being brought in and out will worsen traffic issues on White Settlement Road.
2. Septic - not sufficient for large numbers of proposed people and will need to be updated to aerobic system.
3. Water – current property is on well which is not allowed for childcare facility
4. Drainage – Both increased septic use and paving of a significant portion of acreage may cause drainage issues with neighbors due to lack of storm sewer system in Tejas Trails.

City can take no further action regarding these issues until the final use is defined.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 pm.