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**OAKRIDGE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCTATION**

**GENERAL MEETING USING ZOOM**

**JUNE 25, 2020**

* **CALL TO ORDER:** 7:00 PM Attendance 43 -47 members, quorum met.
* President Scott Barnes gave a recap of the year, discussing the positive results of volunteers in environmental improvements, crime watch monitoring and zoom meetings.
* City Council member Dylan Hedrick spoke about the many issues facing the City

Council: Covid 19, with 1661 cases in Garland, 895 people have recovered and 24 have passed away. Half of the new cases are in the 28-34 age group. The VA hospital is open and can accommodate 200 Covid patients. Garland businesses must follow Dallas County protocols of wearing masks, and social distancing is encouraged. The city of Garland has authorized Catholic Charities to manage the Covid relief funds.

Dylan mentioned that the PAID program seen in our utility bill is tax deductible. Those funds are used to pay city bills that cannot be paid by owners.

The Black Lives Matter march was 100% peaceful and very impressive according to Dylan. There were approximately 340 people gathered in the downtown square. Community Conversations have started among multi-racial and multi age groups. The Police Department has said it is in front of other cities in responding to racial issues.

Dylan reported that the city has finally achieved an agreement with the North Texas Municipal Water District which will significantly reduce our water rates. Within the next 14 years, all member cities in NTMWD will be at the same rate.

Dylan stated that the design aspects of the bond projects are on schedule. On July 9, 2020 there will be a ribbon cutting for the Dog Park at Central Park. A video of planned downtown square improvements is available.

The city of Garland has determined that GISD will hold classes in school or at home.

* Officer Tommy Barnes continued to praise the Oakridge Neighborhood for low crime rates and police support. Officer Barnes and ONA member Mike Rose encouraged people to take the Citizens Police Academy training. Officer Barnes also told people to keep their cars locked to avoid car burglaries. Joan Nichols said there was a video surveillance program available. Sign up was encouraged to share your videos.
* Sharon Parrish, ONA Secretary, presented the February 27, 2020 General Meeting minutes. These minutes were motioned for approval by Mike Rose, seconded by Balon Bradley and approved unanimously.
* The new Board nominees were presented to the membership. These nominees were motioned for approval by Mike Rose, seconded by Dianne Winter and approved unanimously.
* ONA Treasurer Keith Engler presented the financial data based on the 2019-2020 membership of 285. This information was motioned for approval by Michelle Mizerak, seconded by Billy Ray Thomas, and the report was approved unanimously.
* It was also noted that 75 new members were added from last May’s May picnic. So, in light of our restrictions this year, we may want to consider virtual happy hours or other means of spreading the word about membership.
* ONA Communications Chairperson Heather Englebretson reported that most people want to receive hard copies of the newsletter. As a result, it is still less expensive to send hard copies to all rather than select mailings. Michael Betz said he would submit articles from time to time. Dylan Hedrick said he would pick up the finished print from Sir Speedy.
* ONA Environmental Chairperson David Parrish thanked all the volunteers who had been instrumental in the improvement to the entrance beds this past year.
* **ADJOURN:** The meeting adjourned at 8:35 PM.