

UNIVERSITY HILLS ASSOCIATION OF HOMEOWNERS

MONTHLY BOARD MEETING

TUESDAY, JANUARY 4, 2011

The meeting was called to order at 11:31 by president, Arnold Martin.

Board members present were: Arnold Martin, Charles Schmidt, Charles Hosler, Esther Nachimson, Garland Sherrod, Jim Wells, Nell Anne Hunt, Anna Walther, and Jennifer Davis. Committee chairs present: Pat Andres.

Board members not present: Martin Kahn and Don McGee. Committee chairs not present were Margeaux Black. Katherine Pennington, TLCA representative.

Arnold Martin asked for a motion to accept the minutes for December, 2010, as posted on the internet. Jennifer Davis motioned to accept the minutes as posted. Arnold seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Jim Wells, discussing the UHAOH directory drive, stressed the importance of the wording of the letter to be mailed to all residents. It should emphasize the importance of being or becoming a member of and supporting UHAOH. He asked that all returns be given to him before going to the treasurer. He felt this will help to prevent as few errors as possible keeping an accurate account of past and new members.

Jim suggested a three step process in gathering information needed for the 2011 directory.

1. Mail information brochures with the letter to every household.
2. Send emails to remind members to return their dues and information.
3. Have the block captains walk door to door to get information.

Accurate lists are necessary to generate labels. Return mailings are costly. The most effective wording of the labels was discussed to prevent "returns." It was agreed all labels should have the addressee plus "or Current Resident.

The directory will go to the printer on April 1. Last year we had several businesses that did not pay for their advertisements. They will not be contacted this year. Full page ads and ads larger than a business card will be negotiable. Directory advertising generated \$1,400 last year. We would like to see an increase this year.

Arnold reminded everyone that beginning this January 1 all homes with automatic sprinkler systems must have a rain gage with a rain free sensor. They can be purchased at Home Depot or Lowes. Installation costs are \$95 to install.

Jim said that we needed a backup hard drive and one can be purchased for \$99.00. Arnold motioned that we purchase the hard drive, recommended by Jim, for \$99.00.

Esther Nachimson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Charles Schmidt reported excellent compliance from the signs put out informing our residents about the change in the City of Irving garbage pickup schedule for the Christmas and New Years holidays: 95% compliance for Christmas and 90% for the New Year Holiday.

Charles stated that he had not received the papers to submit to the city for annual grant consideration. Arnold suggested that we needed lighting for the University Hills sign on Rochelle. The present one is hard for people to see.

Nell Anne Hunt reported there were many foreclosures in University Hills sold recently, but foreclosures were down 50% from 2009.

Arnold, reporting for Catherine Pennington of TLCA, said that commercial properties in TLCA amounted to zero sales for 2010.

There are several projects in the works for obtaining more than one Charter School in Irving. One is to open in south Irving next year and another is being pinpointed for Las Colinas.

Arnold invited everyone to attend the Breakfast Forum at the Las Colinas Country Club at 7:00 AM on Wednesdays. This week they will be discussing the plans for Las Colinas Boulevard. The shovels are ready to break ground in 60 days. This effort has support at the state level.

A UHAOH resident, Richard Olney, has approached the board about the feasibility of having an astronomical viewing in one of the parks in the near future. Nell Anne volunteered to head this great opportunity for our residents. The date and time will be announced.

Treasurer, Charles Hosler, projected budget for 2011 to be:

1. \$27,400 in cash, down \$600 from 2010.
2. \$13,100 from memberships, down from \$15,000 for 2010.
3. \$2,797.00 celebrations of Lights. The amount was \$1,500.00 less for this year.

No bill has been received from Steve, our electrician, for Deck the Hills.

Pat Andres reported that our Yard of the Month Award for January is 305 Tampico, the home of Jesse and Diane Orsini.

In the past we have been able to obtain gift certificates from a local nursery to give to our YOTM awardees. Ideas are needed to have something to give to them.

Terry Peters, on San Jose, has a beautiful yard and should be able to get the YOTM award were it not for some shrubbery in front of his windows, which is not in compliance with our YOTM rules. Arnold motioned to revisit the YOTM rules and regulations and make revisions deemed acceptable to the board. Anna Walther seconded the motions. The motion passed unanimously.

Pat Andres announced that on the 1st Thursday in April her garden club, The Turf Turners, will tour 4 or 5 YOTM homes. This tour is for members only.

Charles Schmidt and Pat Andres reviewed how homes are chosen to become Yard of the Month winners.

1. Curb Appeal-no weeds or bushes obstructing front windows.
2. Unique landscape.
3. Manicured.
4. Uniform
5. Seasonal color.

President, Arnold Martin motioned to allocate \$5000.00 for our Spring Fling. Chuck Hosler seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Fred O'Dell expressed the need to set a date for the Spring Fling so he can go forward with getting his plans set. The day of Saturday, May 14, 2011 was agreed upon by the board. Esther Nachimson motioned that Saturday, May 14 from 4:00 PM until 7:00 PM be the date and time for our annual Spring Fling. Anna Walther seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. For simplicities sake, Arnold suggested that our main food choice be limited to Pizza.

Anna Walther informed the board that school rules require anyone working at the school in a volunteer position would need to fill out forms for a police check for any past felonies, etc.

Anna Walther accepted the position as head of the block captains. She said the first thing she wanted to do was to have a general meeting on Saturday, January 29th. Esther Nachimson volunteered to have the meeting at her home.

The next UHAOH monthly board meeting will be Tuesday, February 1, 2011 at the Las Colinas Country Club at 11:30 PM. For those who wish to order something to eat, please come at 11:00.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:11 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Esther Nachimson

Secretary