



**GENERAL MEETING MINUTES  
DECEMBER 13TH, 2010**

PLACE – BERING MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

PRESIDING: MARCUS DUFFEL, PRESIDENT

OFFICERS – JOHN DASCOULIAS, VICE PRESIDENT

SPECIAL GUESTS –

WALTER PATE – HOUSTON POLICE DEPARTMENT

EDUARDO LOPEZ – OWNER OF EL PUEBLITO RESTAURANT

THE FOLLOWING IS A SUMMARY OF OUR DECEMBER 13<sup>TH</sup> MEETING AND A FEW FINAL 2010 NOTES. THERE WERE 29 RESIDENTS IN ATTENDANCE.

**SECURITY**

OFFICER PATE LED OFF THE MEETING WITH A BRIEF SUMMARY OF CRIMINAL ACTIVITY IN THE AREA. WHILE THERE ARE TWO PEOPLE IN CUSTODY THAT HAVE BEEN LINKED TO THEFTS IN OUR AREA, THEY MAY NOT BE THE PEOPLE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE THEFTS IN WHICH VEHICLES ARE USED TO REMOVE HOUSEHOLD VALUABLES.

OFFICER PATE SAID RESIDENTS CAN REPORT ALL SUSPICIOUS AND NON-EMERGENCY ACTIVITY TO THE HPD DISPATCH AT **713-884-3131**. CALLS THAT REPORT VISIBLE WEAPONS OR BREAK-INS CURRENTLY IN PROGRESS ARE MORE LIKELY TO GET A FASTER RESPONSE THAN “THERE IS A STRANGE PERSON WALKING DOWN THE MIDDLE OF THE STREET”.

OFFICER PATE URGED EVERYONE TO TAKE PICTURES OF ALL VALUABLES AND MAKE NOTE OF THE SERIAL NUMBERS. THE SERIAL NUMBERS ARE THE PRIMARY SOURCE FOR TRACKING THE ITEMS THROUGH PAWN SHOPS, WHICH BY LAW HAVE TO ENTER THE INFORMATION TO A DATA BASE (“LEADS ON LINE”) ON A DAILY BASIS FOR ALL ITEMS RECEIVED.

THE HPD VIP PROGRAM WAS ALSO DISCUSSED. THE NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH PROGRAM REQUIRES A 6-MONTH CERTIFICATION PROCESS AND AT LEAST 8 PEOPLE TO TAKE A SHORT 45-MINUTE COURSE. UPON COMPLETION OF THE 6-MONTH CERTIFICATION PROCESS, SIGNS ARE PLACED AROUND THE NEIGHBORHOOD INDICATING A NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH PROGRAM IS IN EFFECT.

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THE CERTIFICATION PROCESS, IN ESSENCE, REQUIRES 6 MONTHS OF WEEKLY REPORTING TO OFFICER PATE BY THE RESIDENTS WHO TOOK THE SHORT COURSE REFERENCED ABOVE. THESE WEEKLY REPORTS MUST CONTAIN AT LEAST 40 CUMULATIVE HOURS OF PATROLS DURING A ONE-MONTH PERIOD. THE PATROLS CAN BE AS SIMPLE AS WALKING YOUR DOG AROUND THE NEIGHBORHOOD.

SO, IN MY CASE WE WALK OUR DOGS 4X A DAY AT ROUGHLY 15 MINUTES EACH TIME. OVER A MONTH'S TIME THAT'S 28 HOURS CREDITED TOWARD THE CERTIFICATION. WITH 8 PEOPLE DOING SIMILAR ACTIVITY THE CERTIFICATION PIECE SHOULD BE A SNAP. ANYONE WHO WANTS TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PROGRAM NEEDS TO FILL OUT AN APPLICATION. I WILL POST THE APPLICATION ON OUR YAHOO GROUPS SITE, AND/OR CONTACT ME DIRECTLY. AS SOON AS WE HAVE 8 VOLUNTEERS I WILL START THE PROCESS WITH OFFICER PATE.

THERE WAS A QUESTION REGARDING HIRING A HARRIS COUNTY CONSTABLE TO PATROL THE WAMM AREA. THE COST OF THAT CAN BE BETWEEN \$60,000 AND \$80,000 AND, OBVIOUSLY, IS TOO MUCH FOR OUR WAMM RESOURCES.

HOWEVER, I PLAN TO INQUIRE WITH SURROUNDING NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATIONS AND THE NEARTOWN ASSOCIATION ABOUT INTEREST OTHERS MAY HAVE IN PARTICIPATING, THUS LESSENING OUR FINANCIAL BURDEN. THERE ALSO A BRIEF DISCUSSION ABOUT THE SECURITY PATROLS SPONSORED BY THE HARRIS COUNTY IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT #6, EAST MONTROSE DISTRICT. NOW I KNOW MANY OF YOU HAVE NOT HEARD OF THAT GROUP BEFORE, BUT IF YOU OWN A BUSINESS IN THIS AREA THEN IT WILL BE IMPORTANT TO YOU. YOU MAY WANT TO VISIT THIS WEB SITE: [WWW.MONTROSEDISTRICT.ORG](http://WWW.MONTROSEDISTRICT.ORG). IN BRIEF, THEY HAVE SECURITY PATROLS FOCUSED ON THEIR BUSINESS MEMBERS IN THE 77006 AREA. WITH A LITTLE DISCUSSION WE MAY BE ABLE TO ADJUST THEIR ROUTE OF TRAVEL THROUGH OUR NEIGHBORHOOD. MORE ON THIS LATER.

#### **STREET REPAIR PETITION UPDATE**

OUR STREET REPAIR PETITION IS STILL IN THE CERTIFICATION PROCESS. I WAS EXPECTING A DECISION BY OUR MEETING ON THE 13<sup>TH</sup>, BUT THE LETTER DID NOT ARRIVE FROM THE CITY. I WILL ALERT EVERYONE ONCE I HAVE ANY UPDATES FROM THE COH.

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### **WAMM FINANCIAL REPORT**

THE WAMM BANK ACCOUNT CURRENTLY STANDS AT \$1,587.68. IT WAS AN UNUSUAL YEAR FOR BOTH EXPENSES AND DUES RECEIPTS. THE BIGGEST SINGLE SOURCE OF FUNDS (\$1500.00) THIS YEAR WAS FROM THE GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH. NORMALLY THEY CONTRIBUTE \$500 TO OUR WAMM COFFERS. WHEN I BECAME PRESIDENT OF WAMM AND SORTED THROUGH THE RECORDS, I DISCOVERED 2 UN-DEPOSITED CHECKS FOR \$500 EACH, ONE WRITTEN IN 2008 AND ONE IN 2009. I RETURNED THEM TO THE CHURCH WITH A NOTE ABOUT HOW I DISCOVERED THEM AND TO MY SURPRISE THEY SENT WAMM A NEW CHECK IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1000.00 TO REPLACE THE EXPIRED CHECKS.

WAMM ALSO HAD ONE OUT OF THE ORDINARY EXPENSE THIS YEAR, A LEGAL EXPENSE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,480.13 ASSOCIATED WITH THE CHALLENGE BY AOS TO OUR DEED RESTRICTIONS. THANKS TO A CONTACT PROVIDED TO ME BY ONE OF OUR RESIDENTS, I SPOKE WITH AN ATTORNEY IN THE CITY'S LEGAL DEPARTMENT ABOUT THIS AOS CHALLENGE. THE END RESULT IS THAT THE CITY WILL DEFEND ALL FUTURE CHALLENGES. GOOD NEWS FOR WAMM.

I ESTIMATE THAT IN A NORMAL YEAR OUR EXPENSES SHOULD BE LESS THAN \$750.00. ASSUMING THE ANNUAL CONTRIBUTION FROM THE GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH OF \$500 TO WAMM CONTINUES, DUES FROM RESIDENT MEMBERS SHOULD EASILY COVER THE BALANCE.

SEVENTEEN (17) RESIDENTS AND 2 BUSINESSES PAID DUES DURING 2010 EQUALING \$650.00 WITH SOME RESIDENTS GENEROUSLY PAYING MORE THAN THE \$25 DUES. IT WOULD BE DESIRABLE TO HAVE 30 RESIDENTS PAY DUES. ASSOCIATION DUES ARE DUE IN JANUARY AND AS I WRITE THIS I HAVE RECEIVED DUES FROM 3 RESIDENTS ALREADY.

THE COMPLETE 2010 FINANCIAL SUMMARY AND 2011 BUDGET IS ONLINE AT OUR WAMM YAHOO GROUPS SITE IN THE "FILE" FOLDER. ANYONE WHO IS NOT A MEMBER OF THE WAMM YAHOO GROUP SHOULD REGISTER AT [HTTP://GROUPS.YAHOO.COM/GROUP/WAMMLIST/](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/wammlist/)

### **GUEST APPEARANCE**

EDUARDO LOPEZ, OWNER OF EL PUEBLITO RESTAURANT ON RICHMOND SPOKE BRIEFLY. HE RECENTLY PURCHASED WARREN DRY CLEANERS JUST EAST OF HIS RESTAURANT. HE THANKED THE RESIDENTS FOR THEIR

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BUSINESS AND SUPPORT, AND HANDED OUT COUPONS FOR USE AT BOTH RETAIL ESTABLISHMENTS TO THOSE IN ATTENDANCE.

**GENERAL BUSINESS**

THERE ARE STILL VACANCIES FOR THREE BOARD POSITIONS, SECOND VICE PRESIDENT, SECRETARY AND TREASURER. ANYONE WANTING TO VOLUNTEER TO ASSIST JOHN AND I LET ME KNOW.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS AND A GREAT NEW YEAR TO EVERYONE.

MARCUS DUFFEL  
WAMM PRESIDENT

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