



March 2011 Newsletter

(Happy St. Paddy's Day – one day late!)

The annual meeting of the Meadows Neighborhood Association was held at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, February 24, 2011, in the Hillcrest High School library. For those who were unable to attend, following is a brief summary of the items that were discussed and any action taken on those items. Many thanks to Gail Seward for providing minutes of the meeting.

Bylaw Changes

On the motion of Ken Horowitz and a second by Katherine Gorrell, after thorough discussion of the matter, the members in attendance voted unanimously to delete the revision under Section F, ARTICLE IV that read “however, attendance at board meetings by non-board members may be limited or excluded if there is not adequate space at the meeting location,” and to add “and notice shall be given 14 days in advance of any board meeting to all Association members.”

Jan Gragg reviewed all of the revisions submitted by the Bylaw Committee. On the motion of Bobbie Horowitz, and a second by Ron Cohen, the revisions as amended above were approved by unanimous vote.

Walnut Hill Development Property – Eric Anderson

Eric reminded everyone that Stanley Kroenke, owner of the Denver Nuggets and husband of Anne Walton (one of the Walmart heirs) recently purchased the development property from Wells Fargo. Eric said that the Joint Task Force, made up of representatives from the Meadows, Glen Lakes and Windsor Park neighborhoods, is waiting to see what comes out

of the new development group before taking any action. He also stated that they want to create a positive, cooperative environment with the developers. Eric and City Councilmember Linda Koop have agreed to contact each other if either one hears anything from the development group.

Crime Watch

Keith Kinney announced a new “app” called “iWatch” that is available for smart phones. It can be used to take pictures of and report suspicious activity. Find more information on the Dallas Police Department website at http://www.dallaspolice.net/index.cfm?page_ID=10322&subnav=53&openid=11

MEADOWS NEIGHBORHOOD ANNUAL FLOWER SALE

DELIVERED TO YOUR DOORSTEP! Our annual Homeowner's Association Fundraising Flower Sale is here! The prices are competitive with the home improvement stores – the quality is superb by comparison. Look for your email forms next week! Order deadline Monday, April 4 - Delivery Saturday, April 9!

UPDATE ON IMPROVEMENTS AT FRANKLIN STADIUM

A few months ago, Meadows neighbor, Gail Seward, investigated the proposed zoning amendment posted at Franklin Field and found that the requested PD (Planned Development District) would allow improvements to the stadium, including a press box elevator, a new concession stand, and upgraded restrooms and locker rooms. Recently, another neighbor, Roger Harris, took Gail's lead and provides this update on the project which began construction this week.

As a result of our City Councilperson Linda Koop's involvement, the City Council approved the PD as described above with the following additional requirements:

- Require one tree per 50 lineal feet along the parking lot frontage facing Airline & Lakehurst
- Install a vinyl coated chain link fence along Airline from Meadow to Lakehurst and continuing to the new stadium entrance
- Replace the parking lot gate at Glendora

- Paint the storage structures at the Northeast corner of the field to blend in with the stadium
- Screen or remove the trash dumpsters
- Provide landscaping around the new box office/ concession building

A follow-up meeting with the DISD Project Manager provided this additional information:

- The funds for the improvements come from voter approved bonds for improvements to school facilities like parking lots, stadiums, and running tracks. As understood, the funds cannot be used for school building or classroom improvements.
- The new construction will replace the existing ticket/concessions building with a larger – but not significantly taller – building housing ticket booths, concessions, locker rooms and public restrooms.
- The scoreboard will be moved to the North end of the stadium.
- The addition to the press box will house stairs, an elevator and a restroom. The height of the addition is only slightly taller than the existing press box, which will be getting a guardrail around the perimeter for roof-top observation and photography.
- The old “locker rooms” on the east and west sides will be removed.
- Sideline drainage will be improved.
- There will be no additional seats added to the stadium and the hours available for use will not be increased.
- The project is schedule to be completed in August, and the field will continue to be used throughout the construction.

Some neighbors have expressed concern about increased traffic as a result of the improvements, but since the capacity is not being increased this should not be the case. However, the new facility will be a great improvement and therefore more desirable – and more use might naturally occur. For that reason the neighborhood will continue to work with the DISD to minimize any negative impact the improvements might have – and further improve the existing facility. This primarily will involve working to improve the fencing and landscaping around the perimeter of the parking lot. Any questions, comments or suggestions can be addressed to Roger Harris (roger@harris-tx.com), but don't wait too long. The dirt will be flying fast and furious to finish before start of school this fall.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next [Meadows Neighborhood Association Board Meeting](#) is scheduled for April 7, 7:00 pm, at the home of Keith Kinney, 7116 Blairview.

Monday, March 21 -- Monthly Brush Pick-Up

Place on the curb as early as Thursday (March 17).

Wednesday, March 23 – “Drama Divas”, Preston Royal Library, 2pm

Local historian and former TWU adjunct professor, Jane Guzman, discusses the off-screen rivalry between Joan Crawford and Bette Davis. Ms. Guzman’s lectures are always very popular as she is quite the entertainer. All are welcome. Free.

Monday, April 4 – Deadline to order flowers for annual flower sale.

Congratulations to Meadows neighbor and Hillcrest High School senior, Patrick Crowling. Patrick won 1st place in the Mr. HHS Senior Talent Show with his four minute dance performance to the “Cotton-Eyed Joe”. Patrick choreographed an interpretive dance of rural southern culture in America which included tap, river dance and break dancing. Way to go, Patrick!!!

Preston Hollow Elementary has been designated an Exemplary school and is a jewel in our neighborhood with only 350 students enrolled. For more info, watch this video with Principal, David Chapasko:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Mw92kTib2Jk&tracker=False>

IN MEMORY OF...

Meadows resident, Edgar (Ed) Miller, had lived in the Meadows since the late 50's when the Meadows was originally being developed. Edgar and his wife, Zoe, bought their lot on Blairview and built a home on it so that their five daughters could be close to Hillcrest High School and have lived there since then. Edgar was a home builder and went on to build many of the homes in this subdivision.

Mr. Miller, 92, passed away January 6.

WON'T YOU JOIN US?

Our fiscal year at the Meadows Neighborhood Association starts on April 1 of each year. We hope that all Meadows households will support the association by joining as a member. Membership dues help to fund a variety of projects that support our Meadows community – the Spring and Fall block parties, website, median landscaping each season and our fabulous street sign toppers. We would love to be able to continue these activities and can do so with everyone's support. Suggested dues are \$25 per year.

Meadows Neighborhood Association Membership Form

Name _____

Address _____

Phone – Home _____ Cell

Email Address _____

Amount Paid _____

Please return form and dues to:

Meadows Neighborhood Association, P.O. Box 12865, Dallas, TX
75225

We thank you for your support!!