

SENDERA

Volume 10, Number 5

May 2015
Sendera Homeowner's Association

Official Community Newsletter

Sendera Owners Association Annual Meeting

The annual meeting of the membership was held Tuesday, April 14, 2015. It began like so many other membership meetings have with a scramble to get enough proxies to meet the quorum requirements to conduct business. Many thanks to the three dozen folks who were in attendance and to those who sent in their proxies.

While several people put out appeals to gather more proxies, we heard from Butch Smith with the Hill Country Conservancy. Butch reviewed the status of the Violet Crown Trail project. While there are several phases to this trail, Phase 2 is the one that most directly impacts Sendera. This part of the project is either in the planning or permitting process. Butch said that they hope to start construction by this fall. For more information, check out www.hillcountryconservancy.org.

Our next presenter came with videos, maps and handouts to help us visualize some proposed changes to the intersections of Slaughter/MoPac and La Crosse/MoPac. Melissa Hurst, Community Outreach Manager with Central Texas Regional Mobility Authority, explained that her organization and the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) are studying mobility and safety improvements at these two intersections. They are looking at an innovative design called Diverging Diamond Intersection (DDI) that addresses congestion by allowing vehicles to travel more quickly through an intersection. In addition, MoPac north/south lanes would be dropped below Slaughter and La Crosse so that through traffic will not have to go through the intersections. The traffic patterns are a bit difficult to explain with words. Even the photo included with this article is confusing without someone explaining all the details. To look at a conceptual video and see a photo of a DDI in use in Springfield, Mo., go to www.MoPacSouth.com.



If the proposed improvements are environmentally cleared, the project will transition from the Mobility Authority to TxDOT, the agency who will design, construct and maintain the project. Currently, construction is slated to begin in 2019 and should take 18 – 20 months to complete. Melissa was hopeful this date might be moved up.

We moved from guest speakers to reports from committees and officers. The Energizer Bunny of the Recreation Committee, Suzann Vera, reported on the activities sponsored by the HOA during the last year including Christmas caroling, square dances, Easter egg hunts, ladies' night out, fun runs, and movies at the pool. Suzann encouraged more residents to get involved with the Recreation Committee. It's a great way to meet neighbors and have a good time. The Board recognized the efforts of volunteers like Suzann, Sharon Boatwright and others that make Sendera such a wonderful neighborhood.

Angie Flores let us know that the Sendera Web Site (www.senderahoa.org) is not currently being maintained as we don't have a webmaster. If a volunteer isn't found soon, the HOA may consider paying for web maintenance. Angie mentioned that the web site is where all of our governing documents are available for review by residents. She also provided information on NextDoor, a web site that lets members post information, ask questions, make recommendations and list items for sale. NextDoor Sendera is specific to our community but we are connected to other neighborhood sites near us. It is a great forum for intra and inter-neighborhood communication.

Ron Urias reported on improvement to the Sendera Swim Center
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Sendera HOA Web Site: www.senderahoa.org

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Continued from Cover

(a subject about which he is obviously very passionate). Ron was especially excited about the new handicapped access chair, the new surface of the deck and the swimming lessons that will soon be offered by Cruzin Aquatics (pending board approval of their proposal). He confirmed that the pool opened on April 1. All pool cards that qualify have been reactivated. Anyone needing a pool card should contact Pioneer Real Estate Services at 512-447-4496.


Angie reviewed the 2015 budget noting that we had to dip into our reserve fund to complete some major improvements last year. Expected increases in operating costs plus the requirement to relocate the Norman Trail playground (built without permits over a protected sink) mandated the raise in monthly dues and the reduction of the discount for paying annual dues in full. She said the discount may be discontinued due to accounting difficulties and the need to build our reserve fund. Ron noted that delinquent dues accounts have been reduced from over \$31,000 to under \$21,000 by the efforts of our management company over the last two years.


By this time, President Todd Moore was able to report we had achieved a quorum and called the meeting to order. The minutes were approved and the final committee report was given by Tom Franke for the Architectural Control Committee. He reported 75 requests had

been received, 50 were approved, 4 were not approved and 21 were waiting for more information. New issues that the ACC members are considering are the impact on landscaping of potential further watering restrictions by the City and the possibility of allowing wood-grained garage doors. Ron explained that ACC guidelines are always evolving due to changing situations and the creativity of residents. Judy Phelps, our association manager at Pioneer, reported that she was learning all about retention ponds since the large pond off of Corran Ferry has some maintenance issues. She reminded all that deed restriction violations generally increase in the Spring when landscapes require more attention. She also discussed the progress in collecting outstanding HOA dues and explained that the regulations on collecting unpaid dues are different from those for the collection of fines.

The final item was the election of Directors. There were two open seats to be filled. Ron reported that Director Derick Mason has resigned as he plans to relocate to Dallas. Angie Flores was already on the ballot and Patrick Pulido was nominated from the floor. There being no other nominations it was moved, seconded and approved to elect Angie and Patrick by acclamation. The meeting was then adjourned at 9:00.

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MAY 2015

Sendera Recreation Committee News

Submitted by Suzann Vera

A huge THANK YOU to all of the Easter Egg Hunt volunteers

- Angie Flores (photographer- Sat, 4-8 Prize table Set-up, Egg Scattering- Saturday, Clean-up Sat, Baker cupcakes for Sat)
- Misty McCleary (Food Table Organizer both Sat and Friday night, Photographer Friday, Baker Friday)
- Ryan McCleary (Griller for Saturday Hunt and 4-8 Piñata)
- Dennis Murphy (Egg Scattering and 4-8 Prize Table Set-up Saturday)
- Melissa Steger (Easter Bunny)
- Morgan Olivia (Baker Extraordinaire – cupcakes, Rice Krispie Bunnies, and Egg cookies for both Friday and Sat; 4-8 Coordinator helper and Set-up/Clean-up/help on both Friday/Saturday Hunts)
- Allie Pepe (Baker – cupcakes Sat)
- Maruxa Murphy (Baker – chocolate chip cookies – Sat)
- Meredith Fausett (Baker – brownies)
- Sarah Thompson (Baker – Brownies)
- Suzann Vera (9+ Coordinator, Prize table setup, Stuffer of eggs, etc.)
- Sara Pulido and Sons- stuffing & scattering eggs, help the day of event
- Peggy Scherr (3 and under Coordinator, prize table setup, stuffer of eggs, etc.)

- Todd Moore + Son (egg stuffers)

Many others also helped with prize tables, clean up and filling in anywhere needed day of the event. Thanks! We (Sendera Recreation Committee) could not have done this event without you. All three age groups got plenty of food and prizes. Everyone had a fantastic time. Weather was perfect. Can't wait until next year! See you all again the WEEK before Easter. Sharon Boatwright

Movie Nights at the Pool- sponsors wanted! Remember how much fun the movie nights at the pool were last summer and in previous years? Sponsors are needed to plan and implement the events including equipment rental and set up/break down. There is a Sendera budget for this which will cover the expenses. We just need volunteers to organize the event and help with equipment. Any businesses willing to sponsor a movie night(s) would be recognized in the newsletter and would be welcome to pass out other advertisement materials at the event. Contact Suzann, 512-291-0714, if interested.

Additional events like cook-offs, scavenger hunts, pool parties, adult mixers, and fun runs are being discussed. We need volunteers and coordinators!

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PLEASE KEEP OUR SIDEWALKS SAFE

Submitted by Ron Urias

When was the last time you walked on the sidewalk in front of your own home? Sendera is now 18 years old so many small trees, shrubs, bushes and cactus are now fully grown. Quite frankly, some of them are a nuisance to the many walkers and runners who have to negotiate the obstacle course they create. There are some homeowners who've allowed their foliage to crowd or in some cases take over the sidewalk. Trees also need to be trimmed up from the sidewalk to allow people to pass without having to duck under them. This can create dangerous conditions for pets, children and residents in wheelchairs that have to dive and dodge around these obstructions. The sidewalk was designed to allow two people to walk side by side and not have to resort to passing by in a single file. Those residents with red tipped photinias must be aware that this fast growing shrub can quickly get out of hand and prevent you from seeing pedestrians when backing out of your driveway. Please take the time to aggressively cut back your cactus because it's not a matter of IF they will grow out thorns, it's a matter of WHEN they will. By the way YOU are liable for injuries to people and pets under your home insurance for injuries caused while on your property. This includes the sidewalk in front of your house. If you notice a residence where plants or trees are impinging on the sidewalk, please report it to our management company.

DON'T MAKE YOURSELF A TARGET

Submitted by Ron Urias

Summertime brings a rash of car thefts, home break-ins and vandalism in our neighborhood. I can't stress enough not to leave any valuables items in your vehicles. It's not a matter of IF you will become a victim of property damage; it's a matter of WHEN you will. Unfortunately our neighborhood is very porous with easy access to Davis Lane, Slaughter and Copano Drive. There are several streets that are more susceptible to these types of crimes. In particular are Hoffman Drive, Ramies Run, Sendera Mesa, Copano Drive, Norman Trail, Bremner Drive and Corran Ferry, and a few others with EASY escape routes. Leaving for a much deserved vacation this year? Don't post your plans on social media or even worse post photos of you and your family while on vacation. You are much easier to find than you think. How easy is it to break into your home? Well the old fashioned way is to kick in your front or back door or break a window but why go to all that trouble? Someone can break into your car or truck and simply use your remote control to open your garage door. Please HIDE your remote somewhere other than attached to the visor of your vehicle. Three yellowing newspapers in your driveway tell the world you're not home, so make sure to stop delivery or have your neighbor pick up those newspapers. Please keep an eye open for vacant homes (rentals or in the sale process) as they can quickly become an attractive nuisance to teens and the homeless.



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HOPE4MINDS EXPANDS ITS MISSION

TO SUPPORT MORE TEXAS CHILDREN WITH SEVERE BRAIN INJURIES

Austin, Texas — April 8, 2015 – Less than four years after it was founded, a Southwest Austin nonprofit organization has decided that it's got more than enough hope to go around.

That's the thinking behind a new mission and a name change for the Southwest Austin nonprofit organization known as HOPE4JD, which was founded in 2011 to support families whose children suffered brain injuries due to nonfatal drownings. As of April, the organization will be known as Hope4Minds whose mission is to foster hope and enrich the lives of children with an acquired brain injury by providing support and education.

With a new name and more families to serve, Hope4Minds also will expand its community outreach services to include parent support groups and concussion baseline screenings, in addition to the services it already offers such as CPR/First Aid training and family care packages.

"Our board of directors and supporters see the opportunity to

do more and help more Texas families," says Ronda Johnson, executive director, Hope4Minds. "Our community rose to the challenge over the last few years, helping us make a difference in the lives of families in Austin, San Antonio and Dallas. Our work has showed us the needs of more children who are living with an acquired brain injury and whose families need our support."

According to the Texas Brain Injury Alliance, fewer than 1 in 20 children with acquired brain injury will get the rehabilitation they need for recovery. Injury may occur during events such as non-fatal drownings, choking, car accidents, sports and recreational activities, falls, lightning strikes and even abuse.

Since 2012, the organization has provided more than \$211,248 in services to families, 841 hours of recovery therapy services, nearly 100 family care packages to Texas hospitals and rehab centers, and free CPR training for 216 adults.



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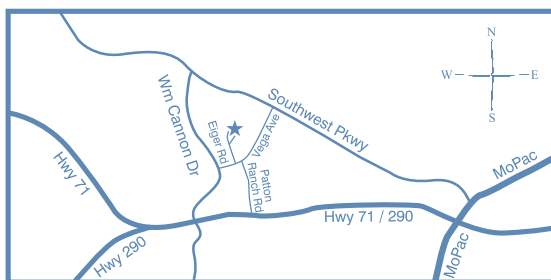
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