

Election Canceled

Due to the fact that all those running were uncontested, the September POA board election has been canceled. New board members will be appointed at the Annual Meeting on September 15th at 6:30 p.m. Visit briarhillspoa.org for more information.

BRIARHILLS FIRST ANNUAL TENNIS TOURNAMENT

The Briarhills Tennis Committee is hosting a tennis tournament on Saturday, October 3rd, 2020 at the Briarhills Tennis Courts. All residents (tennis and non-tennis playing) of Briarhills POA, HOA and Terraces on Memorial and guests are invited to participate in the tournament.

The Briarhills Tennis Committee (established May 2020) was formed to represent the interests of tennis players residing in Briarhills and Terraces on Memorial and to raise funds for improvements to the tennis courts.

The Tennis Committee hopes to fund the below projects with the proceeds from this year's first annual tennis tournament:

- Add an additional light pole and fixture at the west court
- Re-surface the tennis courts
- Replace the broken/warped backboard

The Tennis Committee will have a COVID-19 protocol in place utilizing CDC guidelines to ensure the safety of all tennis participants and spectators. Masks will be required for everyone (except during play time on the court) and social distancing will be encouraged.

The vision is for this initial event to be a 1 to 3 day tournament for adults only depending on the number of entries. A teen and child division could be added if there is enough interest.

To register, please visit briarhillspoa.org and download the "Tennis Tournament Entry Form".

The Tennis Committee hopes to make the first annual 2020 tennis tournament a great success so please get involved, help us create a fun and successful event and be sure to sign up to play!

Financial donations are also greatly appreciated.

If you have any questions, ideas or feedback please email Steve Ashy at steve.ashy09@gmail.com. Your voice can help shape the format of this event so let us hear from you!

Thank you and we hope to see many of you at the tennis tournament on Saturday, October 3rd!



IMPORTANT NUMBERS

GOVERNMENT SERVICES

Emergency	911
Constable (<i>Closest Law Enforcement</i>).....	281-463-6666
Poison Help	1-800-222-1222
Library and Community Center.....	832-393-1880
City Services.....	Call 311
Citizens' Assistance.....	713-247-1888
Public Works.....	713-837-0600
Neighborhood Protection.....	713-525-2525
Animal Control.....	713-229-7300
Wild animal problem	713-861-9453
Hazardous waste.....	713-551-7355

OTHER UTILITY SERVICES

Street light problem.....	713-207-2222
.....	(then 1 then 4)
Power out/emergency	713-207-2222
Gas leak suspected.....	713-659-2111
Before you dig.....	Call 811

BRIARHILLS SERVICES

Trash collection	281-368-8397
Amenity tags	281-558-7422
Tennis courts.....	281-558-7422
Pool parties.....	281-558-7422
Clubhouse rental	281-558-7422

ADVERTISING INFORMATION

Please support the businesses that advertise in the Briar Hills Beat. Their advertising dollars make it possible for all Briar Hills residents to receive the monthly newsletter at no charge. If you would like to support the newsletter by advertising, please contact our sales office at 888-687-6444 or advertising@PEELinc.com. The advertising deadline is the 8th of each month for the following month's newsletter.

NEWSLETTER INFORMATION

Article Submission.....	briarhills@sbcglobal.net
Advertising.....	advertising@PEELinc.com

POA OFFICE INFO

2020

By appointment only

OFFICE CONTACT

Street Address

.....14300 Briarhills Parkway, Houston, TX 77077

Mailing Address

..... P.O. Box 940548, Houston, TX 77094-7548

Telephone..... 281-558-7422

Email..... officemanager@briarhillspoa.org

Website..... www.briarhillspoa.org

To help you get acquainted with the neighborhood, please visit **www.briarhillspoa.org** and learn about current events and news happening in Briarhills. Please also take the time and register for an online account so you may access various features of the website that are not available to the public. You will also be able to immediately receive important BPOA announcements by email. Your information will only be used for official BPOA communication and will not be shared.

BRIARHILLS AMENITIES & ELECTRONIC ACCESS CARDS

Available for the use and enjoyment of each resident is the Briarhills POA Recreation Center. The Recreation Center includes four and two-tenths (4.2) acres equipped with a swimming pool for the family, a wading pool for tots, lighted tennis courts, playground equipment, a community clubhouse, basketball court and off-street parking. Electronic access cards are required to access the pool, unisex restroom and tennis courts. Registered property owners and tenants may receive 2 cards per property address. Check the website or contact the POA office to obtain access cards.

SWIMMING POOL

The swimming pool is normally open from Memorial Day weekend through the start of school in August, six days a week (Tuesday through Sunday). The pool is staffed with certified lifeguards during swim season and maintained by a reputable pool management company.

TENNIS

Tennis courts must be reserved through the online reservation system at **www.briarhillspoa.org** (log-in account is required).

Monthly Stats for the Month of April 2020

Burglary of a Habitation: 0

Burglary of Motor Vehicle: 0

Open window/ Car Door: 0

Criminal Mischief: 0

Theft Residence: 1

Theft Other: 2

Property Lost/Found: 0

Suspicious Vehicles: 1

Traffic Stops: 6

Vehicle Speeding: 1

Suspicious Person: 6

Local Alarms:

Alarm Rep. Site: 0

Disturbance: 1

Disturbance loud Noise: 0

Disturbance Fireworks: 1

Fraudulent Use of ID: 1

Discharge Firearm: 0

Animal Humane: 0

Meet the Citizen: 17

Information Call: 5

Welfare Check: 1

Special Assignments: 5

Incident Report: 3

Follow UP: 4

Contract Check: 115

Check Public Infrastructure: 0

Check Park: 7

Vacation Watch: 3

Neighborhood Check: 105

Unknown Medical Emergencies: 0

Traffic Initiative : 0

Minor Accident: 0

Accident FSGI : 0

COMMUNITY CENTER

The Briarhills Community Center may be reserved by residents for private events. Check the website or contact the POA office to make a reservation.

MONTHLY BOARD MEETINGS

The BPOA board meets at the Briarhills Community Center on the second Monday of every month at 6:30 p.m. Residents are invited to attend these meeting where the board will discuss and make decisions on issues that will impact the Briarhills POA community.

POA MAINTENANCE FEES

Invoices for BPOA dues are mailed in early December. Please contact the POA office if you do not receive your invoice by December 15. Non-receipt of the invoice does not preclude payment of the dues.

The above information is subject to change without prior notice.



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Diversity in Briarhills by Natalia Ibañez

One of the things I appreciate most about our neighborhood is its diversity. I am always pleasantly surprised to encounter families from multiple nationalities and different races at the playground. Children, spared of all stereotypes and prejudices, usually play together and enjoy our great community.

In the last few months, after the death of George Floyd, this country has experienced significant racial unrest. We've seen on television and read all over the news about protests in the country's major cities, including Houston. The Black Lives Matter movement has gained much attention and racial justice has become, for some of us, a matter at the forefront of our minds.

Recently at Briarhills, there have been instances where racial tensions have been noted by neighbors such that this was a topic discussed in July's POA meeting. Although learning about this was somewhat disappointing, I believe it also created an opportunity to start a conversation about race and diversity in our community in a respectful manner and has created a space to do so. If we want to continue to live in a community where our kids play together and adults respect each other and live in harmony, we need to address racial tensions and hidden biases. We need to speak up whenever we see or hear something that is disrespectful or demeaning in any way and always be prepared to have an open mind and engage in respectful dialogue with our neighbors.

A Personal Story and a Form of Action by Hernan Zapata

Some of the injustices we see and come to learn as adults, can, at least for me, bring about a feeling of helplessness. There are days when it is easier or healthier to exercise or entertain myself with other things. Although, eventually, there's a whisper near my ear encouraging me to do something about injustice. A few months ago I went to a nearby store, one in which I have gone before, and where I normally enjoy being greeted with a nice hello and a friendly face. Except this time, I entered with a friend of mine, who happens to be black. I could feel both the tension and the eyes from the clerk on us as we walked the store. I also noticed that to my friend, this was not uncommon. In that brief moment, I experienced a glimpse into something that he has experienced time and time again.

My initial reaction was to never return to that store. But, later on I approached the clerk. Not knowing their history, I listened. We agreed that in the past, we have both been incorrectly judged by others.

Change will take time, and probably many conversations,

but injustices are too important to avoid working on them. I hope that in the future, the clerk is more aware of the feelings their actions inherently communicate to others. Who knows, something may whisper in their ears next time.

The reason I want to share this story is that I believe our neighborhood's culture is influenced by the behaviors we accept. Regardless of our best intentions, not responding when we hear or see disrespectful comments and/or behaviors towards people is a form of acceptance. If you feel uncomfortable about injustices, I encourage you to start a dialogue with those close by as a form of action. As you walk the streets, try to engage in short conversations with a neighbor who may be of a different background, experience, or decade than yourself.

It is likely that you'll be uncomfortable, but keep going – we are human and don't need to have all of the answers to make a difference.

Conversation ideas:

Discuss a current issue and ask your neighbor for their opinion.

How do they think we can make progress on a certain issue?

What is working?

It will take many small conversations to help us understand biases and work on them. Above all else, I encourage you to seek out and value opinions, ideas and perspectives that are different from your own. With the diversity in our community, you'll be amazed at what you can learn from others; you'll also be making Briarhills a more welcoming, accepting and knowledgeable community for all.

A message from the Deed

Inspection Committee

A BIG THANK YOU

TO ALL POA RESIDENTS!

The number of deed restriction violations found during the August monthly inspection was at an all-time low. Thank you to each and every one of you for taking pride in your home, maintaining your lawn and keeping the exterior of your home in tip top shape. Your hard work has paid off and our neighborhood has never looked better! Keep up the great job!

Call for Submissions

The Briar Beat is
looking for submissions!

Please email

briarbeat@briarhillspoa.org
for more information.



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TOO SOON TO STOP

TOGETHER, WE CAN STOP THE SPREAD.

When COVID-19 first hit our city, Houstonians rallied together to stop its spread. But the job's not done yet. It's simply too soon to stop practicing the behaviors we know help protect ourselves, our loved ones and our communities.

- **Wear your mask**
- **Wash your hands**
- **Keep 6 feet apart**
- **Stay home when you are sick, except to get medical care**

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