November-December 2013

WINL Place

A WINNING DEED-RESTRICTED NEIGHBORHOOD OF OVER 400 FAMILIES RIGHT IN THE HEART OF HOUSTON!

Visit for

ww.winlowplace.org

WINLOW PLACE

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 3

St. Stephens Church, 7:30 p.m., Pecore Hall

Elections!

President Russel Garrison and his nominating committee, composed of Tony Carroll and Caroline Garry, have suggested the following slate of officers for the 2014 year.

Pres ident Russel Garrison

VP Caroline Garry

Treas / Membership—Lindsey Aldrich

Secretary—Brandy Laakso

Deed Restrictions—Ben Garry / Ryan Hicks

Historian—Argo Georgandis

Social—Tony Carroll

Neartown—Kay Warhol

Yard of the Month—Steve Helton/Debbie Leflar

Newsletter-M. Needham

In addition we have had an outpouring of interest from other newcomers to WP as well as long-time members and we welcome the opportunity to broaden the involvement in the Civic Club.

The slate of officers will be voted on at the December meeting, so please come!



HEAVY TRASH PICKUP DATES

Remember that the city is changing our pickup to the FIRST WED of the month!

Dec 4 -Junk, Jan 1 - Trees; Feb 5 -Junk, March 5 -- Trees

Regular trash remains the same; Monday pickup, & the green bin recycling also on Monday, every second week.

NEWSLETTERS

Thanks to all our block captains for the work they do in getting the newsletters and notices out. Many of our residents do not have email, or subscribe regularly to the email updates, and it is important to keep everyone as informed as possible.

DEED RESTRICTIONS

How YOU can help to keep them valid

The Open Records Act encourages neighborhoods with deed restrictions to do some of their own checking before some corner-cutting developers get too much on the ground. We have all watched for the garage being built too close to the street, for instance, and the new rule which says that a replaced sidewalk must be 5' wide instead of the old width of 4'. Waiting until there is a clear violation is waiting too long.

Any citizen is entitled to request information from the City; Fax a written request to City of Houston at 832-395-9620. If you lose this number, call 311 and they will eventually connect you with Ms Belinda Garcia at 832-394-9236. Or email to hpc.openrecords@houstontx.gov

Any builder is supposed to have permits in place before starting demolition, so it is useful to know that his intentions have to be put in writing before they start digging, and we encourage all WP residents to use this function to keep informed.

SIGNING UP!

We only need a few more signatures to update our Deed restrictions and tie down the last "red-tape" potential loopholes. Call Mary Needham (Notary) at 713-526-5924, come to the meeting, let's get this finished off!

Have you signed the Amended Winlow Place Deed Restrictions?

Over the past two years, your Winlow Place Civic Club board has been working to collect the signatures of 51% of Winlow Place property owners in order to execute a critically important update and clarification of our deed restrictions. We now need fewer than 10 signatures to complete this task and make the amended deed restrictions effective.

We are so close! Our goal is to collect the last few signatures needed by the end of November. If you have not yet signed the amended deed restrictions, please contact us. There are a number of notaries in the neighborhood and we'll be happy to arrange a convenient time with you to execute the document.

Just send an email to president@winlowplace.org and tell us your address. (If you're not sure whether you've signed, we can also confirm your status.)

Why is this so important?

Our deed restrictions are one of the key assets that help us retain the character of our neighborhood that we all love and that makes it an attractive place to call home. We are working to keep the restrictions upto-date with revisions that 1) acknowledge that today many people have home offices and studios that do not in any way infringe on the neighborhood's residential quality; 2) establish a side setback that prevents construction of the primary structure right up to the property line; 3) modify the height limit to better reflect the range of heights found among the original homes in the neighborhood.

Perhaps even more importantly, the restated restrictions clarify what properties are covered (e.g., not the property occupied by Lanier, which appears on the original WP plat), and in doing so, remove any question regarding the authority of the deed restrictions.

Should you have any lingering questions about the need to sign, please be sure to ask one of your Winlow Place board members, or send an email to president@winlowplace.org.

MORE ABOUT GARBAGE!

Whereas many in Houston have been pressing for the big green bins and single-stream recycling to replace the small green bins, the City apparently has a proposal under consideration to just dump everything into the trash again, thus encouraging waste and diminishing the effect of even the current recycling programs.

For more explicit information on this, look at www.texasenvironment.org and write to the city in protest! Our landfills are already overflowing and incineration is NOT the answer to reducing pollution. As it is now, Houston offers recycling only to about half it is residents.

Also, if you would like to add your voice to those hoping to show the city how logical it would be to add Winlow Place for the single stream big bins, please drop a note indicating enthusiasm to one of the people below in the Solid Waste Dept. This is a great program and we would love to be part of it.

Harry Hayes is the Director of the Solid Waste Dept (harry.hayes@houstontx.gov) / 713-837-9103). also

Helvia L. Quinones, GISP, CPM, Staff Analyst/GIS Manager-, Office of the Director Solid Waste Mgmt; 611 Walker, 12th Floor. T. 713.837.9108, F. 713.837.9243 helvia.quinones@houstontx.gov

Lastly, all solid waste bins / containers are supposed to be stored out of sight of your neighbors or passers by except on collection days. Please be mindful of others and keep your bins and any other material destined for city pick-up tucked out of the way until trash day..

If you would like to receive periodic emails from Mayor Annise D. Parker and the City of Houston on topics of interest to you and your neighborhood, please go to http://www.houstontx.gov and register with CitizensNet.

SOCIALS

NEXT COCKTAILS AND CONVERSATION—Join us!

Friday December 13, 5:30—8 p.m.

At 1731 Marshall, Home of Amanda & John Mariano

All are welcome

YARD OF THE MONTH

November 2013 Yard of the Month Homeowners

are Brian "Kent" Ferguson and Landy Bauman of 1802 Marshall.

Congratulations to them, and all the other winners who have been

Previously announced electronically,

September/October, 2013—Paul Feldman, 1730 Hawthorne

August—the Hoefner family, 1748 Marshall

The December award will be based on a holiday theme—get your nominations in early!

CRIME STATS

We have been relatively fortunate so far this year in not having large numbers of crime reports. Unfortunately that nice record was spoiled on November 4 (Monday evening) when two teen agers who were walking home at about 10:30 p.m. were accosted in front of Lanier (on Woodhead) by three armed gangsters who jumped out of a car which pulled up beside them. They were not physically hurt, but the robbers stole their money, wallet, purses, keys etc.

With the holidays coming, and the economy still not exactly booming, it is time to reassess your security precautions—keep those porch lights on / try to walk on lighted streets, and generally be vigilant about your surroundings. Program your cell phone to call 911 with a press of the button and keep it in a separate pocket if you can.

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NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

2013 DUES ARE DUE

Recommended amounts are below. If you have been hit by these tough economic times, please pay what you can.

Mail to: Treasurer, P.O. Box 980712

Houston, TX 77098

Or, just pay at the meeting and save the stamp!

Patron: \$100.00

Regular: \$50.00

Sr. Citizens: \$10 or what you can afford.

Name:

Address:

Email

2013 OFFICERS

PRESIDENT Russel Garrison

VICE PRES Kay Warhol

SEC. Argo Georgandis

TREASURER Denise Hanks

2013 COMMITTEE CHAIRS

WEBMASTER	J. Francis	
DEED RESTRICTIONS	R. Hicks	
PUBLICATIONS	M. Needham	
MEMBERSHIP	D. Hanks	
YARD OF THE MONTH	S. Helton	
SOCIAL	T. Carroll	

Other News Sources

- 1. www.citizens.net
- 2. www.neartown.org
- 3. www.winlowplace.org
- 4. www.richmondrail.org

1700 Hawthorne	Pam Jenkins	1707 Hawthorne	713.927.2880
1900 Hawthorne	Paul Cobb	1900 Hawthorne	713.522.8030
1700 Harold	Jan Ossman	1716 Harold	713.529.3191
1800 Harold	Connie Reilly	1829 Harold	713.524.9821
1900 Harold	Ken Wiesehuegel	1911 Harold	713.446.2472
1700 Kipling	Kris Kelly	1756 Kipling	713.523.2721
1800 Kipling	Lee Loe	1844 Kipling	713-524-2682
1900 Kipling	Donia Casperson	1902 Kipling	713.522.6543
1700 Marshall	Michael Drifmeye	r 1724 Marshall	713-523-0624
1800 Marshall	Steve Dennis	1825 Marshall	304 685 5626
1900 Marshall	Denise Hanks	1911 Marshall	713.520.1277
1800 w. Alabama	Teri Frankel	1902 w. Alabama	

2012 BLOCK CAPTAINS/ NEWSLETTER

YARD OF THE MONTH;

Send your nomination to Steve Helton.

SHelton@utmdaccptc.org

EMAIL ADDRESSES?

Do you get the email updates on the crime stats? In-between-newsletter news? If not, send your address to

president@winlowplace.org

WWW.WINLOWPLACE. ORG

Please check our website frequently

You can improve our neighborhood security

