

**THAN**  
**TAMPA HOMEOWNERS, AN ASSOCIATION OF NEIGHBORHOODS**  
**MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 12, 2007**  
**HELD AT THE COMMUNITY CENTER IN CYRUS GREENE PARK**

The members and guests present are listed on the attendance roster.

1. President Wofford Johnson called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m. He called for a moment of silence to reflect on our purpose and to reflect on the tragedy that befell our country six years ago on September 11, 2001. He thanked the East Tampa Business and Civic Association for hosting the meeting and Sunset Park Area Homeowners Association for providing the refreshments. He then asked that we salute the flag.
2. Fredric Zerla gave the Secretary's Report. The minutes of the August Meeting were approved as presented. He also noted that every association that was a THAN member last year had rejoined. Further, five associations not members last year have also joined. We owe special thanks to Shannon Edge and the Neighborhood & Community Relations staff for their help in increasing our membership.
3. Margaret Vizzi reported for the Zoning Committee that the July cycle of proposed revisions of the Zoning Code, Chapter 27, will soon be presented to City Council at a workshop. She distributed copies of these proposed revisions to the THAN Zoning Committee for their review. Also, next Thursday, September 20, at 9:30 a.m., Council will hear the second reading of the ordinance amending Chapter 20.5, the Sign Code. The neighborhood signs on city property announcing the meetings of our associations will now be legal. Al Steenson said they are also legal along county and state roads as long as they do not impede traffic or remain standing for more than five days .
4. Richard Formica, THAN's liaison to the Riverwalk Project announced that the few responses concerning the graffiti on the bridges have been largely positive. However no decision has been made as to whether the graffiti will be allowed to remain.
5. Shannon Edge reported for the Office of Neighborhood & Community Relations. The Mayor will host a town meeting on October 16 at Sheehy Elementary School, just south of the bridge on 40<sup>th</sup> Street. Also, on Thursday, September 27, Home Depot will host "Kaboom". For information, see the Home Depot web site.
6. To answer a question raised at the August Meeting, the Mayor's Holiday Party WILL be held in December at Union Station. The Mayor so assured the THAN officers when they met with her on August 15.
7. After the November Meeting, THAN will no longer be able to use Union Station as a meeting place. It is being converted to a for-profit rental facility. Only two more centrally located community centers are currently available for our use. These are the Cyrus Greene Center in East Tampa and the Loretta Ingram Center in West Tampa. Discussion revolved around the feasibility of selecting one (which?) as opposed to alternating between them. As no consensus was evident, President Johnson appointed an ad hoc committee to study the issue and report at the October Meeting. This Committee consists of Abby D'Oronzio, chair, Margaret Vizzi, Martha Lorenzo, and Joseph Robinson.

8. Bill Duvall gave the Treasurer's Report. With the three checks for \$25@ he received for membership this evening, the treasury now contains \$8422.44.
9. President Johnson appointed Richard Formica to be our liaison to the Green Building Committee.
10. Mayor Iorio arrived and the members introduced themselves to her.
11. The Mayor addressed the group.
  - a. She presented a citation to Bill Duvall to recognize his presidency of THAN and his work with *Paint-Your-Heart-Out, Tampa*.
  - b. She reported that in response to the requirement that the city cut its budget by \$20 million, her first priorities of protection are the Police and Fire Departments. She would like to buy more Rescue Cars for medically related events.
  - c. The Crime Prevention Bureau had to be diminished.
  - d. Most of the cuts were sustained by Parks & Recreation, \$7.6 million.
  - e. She said that the Sulphur Springs Community Center will be built because it had been funded previously. However, the money to operate it is not available. The city is looking to non-profit groups to help.
  - f. Clean City is popular and makes the city look good, so it has not been cut.
  - g. Some cuts were made in Code Enforcement and in general office support.
  - h. More money is being invested in Neighborhoods in things such as signs and storm water run-off. One pipe that needed to be replaced, she said, runs from Sulphur Springs to East Tampa and costs \$12 million. The city is seeking \$30 million in bonds to replace water pipes.
  - i. The Museum of Art will begin construction next February. It will be among the other construction projects, Curtis Hixon Park, the Children's Museum and the Tampa Bay History Center.
  - j. The Mayor is now a member of the Tampa Bay Regional Transportation Authority governing seven (7) counties.
  - k. She said she intends to increase fees to have Construction Services become self-sufficient. It now costs \$3 million a year.
  - l. Her report was followed by a long discussion with the members on neighborhood concerns and suggestions of wasteful spending in the city.
12. The meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m. For our next meeting, on Wednesday, October 10, we return to Union Station with our usual starting time of 7:00 p.m. The theme of the October Meeting is "Celebrating Your Neighborhood".

Respectfully submitted,

Fredric Zerla, Secretary