

THAN
TAMPA HOMEOWNERS, AN ASSOCIATION OF NEIGHBORHOODS
MEETING OF FEBRUARY 11, 2009
HELD AT UNION STATION

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

1. President Wofford Johnson called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. He asked for a moment of silence to reflect on our mission. He then asked that we pledge allegiance to the flag. He then asked the members and guests to introduce themselves.
2. Fredric Zerla gave the Secretary's Report. The January Minutes were approved as presented.
3. Bill Duvall gave the Treasurer's Report. As January began, the treasury contained \$6942.74 of which \$1025 is the Mike Flynn Memorial Fund. No deposits were received in January. Withdrawals in the month were to Sue Lyon for expenses, \$37.35, and Wofford Johnson for expenses, \$44.74. The corporation fee was \$61.25. Also, last year's fee was \$61.25. The balance in the treasury as February began was \$6738.15, of which \$1025 is the Mike Flynn Memorial Fund.
5. Shannon Edge reported for the Office of Neighborhood & Community Relations. Among the items she mentioned are these.
 - a. She warned that crimes of opportunity are on the increase in the city. Be aware of thieves who dress as service personal to gain admission to a home.
 - b. She sent a copy of the Mayor's request from the Stimulus Package to the presidents of the Neighborhood Associations.
 - c. She asked that we include her on our e-mail lists. She needs to know that we shared her announcements.
 - d. The Neighborhood Registry update is due. She will mail it to the presidents soon.
 - e. She asks that we visit our web sites on the Neighborhood & Community Relations site to update our neighborhood description.
 - f. She announced that *Paint-Your-Heart-Out, Tampa* has begun this year's program. Again, they are looking for houses to paint.
 - g. She asks for comments on the Gasparilla festivities.
 - h. She and Carla will meet again with the residents of the area once served by the North Tampa Civic Association to try to revive this organization. The meeting will take place on March 17 in the classroom at the Copeland Park Gymnasium, assisted by members of the University Square Civic Association.
6. David Homan addressed the group on behalf of the Gasparilla Marathon and associated races. He said that the marathon attracts a large number of runners but too few pedestrians to cheer them on. He urged us to come to the Bayshore to encourage the athletes.
7. Councilman John Dingfelder came as an unannounced guest to discuss the urgent matter of digital billboards. He explained the details of the proposed agreement and discussed the light pollution these signs would cause in the city. A lively discussion

followed. President Johnson urged us to attend the Council Meeting of March 5 to express our feeling on this issue. THAN expressed its opinion in the following

MOTION: THAN urges City Council to vote the proposed Bill Board Agreement down. (Spencer Kass, seconded by Eric Armstrong. Passed unanimously.)

8. President Johnson expressed appreciation to the Zoning Committee for its diligence in keeping abreast of issues of importance to neighborhoods. He thanked its members, Margaret Vizzi, Chair, Randy Baron, Bill Duvall, Sally Flynn, Steve LaBour, Spencer Kass, Sue Lyon, Richard Formica, Bobby Ann Tarcza, and Ben Wiles. Woffard Johnson, as President, is also a member of this committee.
9. Randy Baron, acting for the Zoning Committee, engaged the group in a long discussion of zoning issues. Many concerns were addressed.

MOTION: THAN is opposed to the Wet Zoning request of the two largest malls in the city, Westshore Plaza and International Plaza. If the malls reject compromise, we suggest that wet zoning be handled as before, all cases must be heard directly by City Council. (Spencer Kass, seconded by Randy Baron. Passed unanimously.)

10. Richard Formica, THAN' Liaison to the Riverwalk Project reported. His report is appended to the announcement of the February Minutes. He emphasized that anyone who would like a free boat ride along the Riverwalk should contact him. He said that pavers (embossed bricks) will be sold or use on Kennedy Plaza. The Riverwalk is 31% complete now. By the end of the year, the goal is 50% complete.
11. Randy Baron reported for the Outreach Committee. He asked the Board's stance on the issues of struggling Neighborhood Associations. Would THAN be willing to waive the membership fee for a year? He presented a revision of THAN's Guiding Principles for our review. He also suggested that THAN sponsor seminars on specific topics as has been done in the past. These would be one topic meetings usually held on a Saturday morning at a central location. He recommended a new Alert System to replace the Secretary's THAN e-mail list. We are asked to explore this service at www.constantcontact.com.

MOTION: That THAN adopt the Constant Contact System. (Spencer Kass, seconded by Sally Flynn. Passed unanimously.)

12. Spence Kass, THAN's representative to the Budget Advisory Committee, reported that the budget process has just begun.
13. President Johnson asked for Neighborhood Reports. Many issues were discussed.
14. The meeting adjourned at 9:09 p.m. Our next meeting will be on Wednesday, March 11, 2009, at Union Station. Our guest will be Bonnie Wise who will discuss the City Budget.

Respectfully submitted,

Fredric Zerla, Secretary