

THAN
TAMPA HOMEOWNERS, AN ASSOCIATION OF NEIGHBORHOODS
MEETING OF NOVEMBER 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 and that we pledge allegiance to the flag. He then asked the members and guests to introduce themselves.
2. Our guest was Tonja Brickhouse, Director of the Division of Solid Waste. She reported that major changes are coming to the Division. The pick-up routes have not been adjusted for nearly 30 years. In the meantime, improvements in technology and changes in demographics have put these routes seriously out of balance. The trash pick-up routes are being studied now and will be revised, she hopes, by February. The lawn waste and recycling pick-up routes will not be affected at this time. The level of service will not be changed; trash will still be collected twice a week, but the time of collection may change. An observation was made that some patrons have a large quantity of trash to be collected while others have so little they only take the bins to the curb occasionally, yet both are charged the same amount. Director Brickhouse replied that she would like, eventually, to go to a *pay-as-you-throw* system. She noted that the standard bins are 95 gallons, but that one may request a 35 gallon bin. Also, senior citizens (65+) and those with disabilities who generate little trash may request a 10% discount. The request form is on the division's web site.
3. Fredric Zerla gave the Secretary's Report. The minutes of the October Meeting were approved as presented. He reported that on November 3 he sent the following e-mail message to the Hillsborough County Commissioners on the Georgetown Property. *THAN ... strongly urges the county to purchase all or a major part of the Georgetown Property for a park. Hillsborough County, and the City of Tampa in particular, is in need of park land. The Georgetown Property would make an ideal park situated as it is in a densely populated part of the city and fronting Tampa Bay. It is in an ideal location for a low impact recreational area and will preserve forty acres of bay front property forever. Please give serious consideration to its purchase.* He received replies from the following commissioners, listed in order of receipt: Mark Sharp (acknowledged receipt), Rose V. Ferlita (she agrees with us and sent a letter of support to the ELAP staff in September), Al Higgenbotham (gave a summary of the state of the project and a thanks for our "interest in preserving valuable land in Hillsborough County"), Kevin White (acknowledged receipt), and Ken Hagan (completely agrees that this would make an ideal location for a park). Further, Commissioner Sharp asked for time at an upcoming meeting to present a slide-show presentation called *Blueprint* to THAN. This presentation focuses on how Hillsborough County can better compete with other growing regions by attracting high-tech, high-wage jobs.
4. Bill Duvall gave the Treasurer's Report. October began with a balance of \$6340.53, which included \$1025 in the Mike Flynn Fund. No deposits were made. A check for \$85.11 went to Wofford Johnson for expenses. The ending balance was \$6255.42.

5. Shannon Edge, Director of Neighborhood & Community Relations, reported. A copy of her report is attached.
6. Randy Baron reported that City Council has scheduled an Information Meeting on Digital Billboards on November 17 in the Mascotte Room. A Workshop will be held on this topic on December 3. He then explained the aspects of the digital billboard controversy.
7. Spencer Kass reported that Council intends to legalize newspaper boxes. The locations of these boxes were not discussed.

MOTION: THAN requests that any organization that takes staff time to pull a permit should pay for it. Specifically, newspaper box permits should incur a charge.

(Randy Baron, seconded by Spencer Kass. Passed unanimously.)

8. Wofford Johnson reported that he informed Council that THAN supported the civil citation process and that Council passed it.
9. Richard Formica reported that portions of the Riverwalk have been completed. Pavers are available at \$100 for individuals and \$250 for corporations. [At THAN's suggestion, the Friends of the Riverwalk will ask non-profit organizations \$100.]

MOTION: That THAN purchase a paver.

(Patt Fosnaught, seconded by Fred Zerla. Passed unanimously.)

10. Randy Baron rotated off the Outreach Committee and was replaced by Martha Jean Loranzo, who now chairs the committee. Bill Duvall remains a member.
11. Randy Baron asked for suggestions as to the content of a proposed brochure THAN can use to explain its purpose and accomplishments.
12. Wofford Johnson asked for help in designing stationery for THAN. Patt Fosnaught offered assistance.
13. Fredric Zerla reported on *Census 2010*. Commissioner Rose Ferlita, Community Leader for Hillsborough County Census 2010 Complete Count Committee, invited THAN to participate. President Johnson asked Secretary Zerla to represent THAN. At the two meetings he attended, the census was explained and the governmental services that use its data enumerated. We were asked to encourage the citizens in our neighborhoods to participate in the Census. Specifically, the Census Committee is hoping for 100% compliance. They are seeking workers, temporary of course. For information about such employment, visit www.2010CensusJobs.gov.
14. President Johnson discussed the current proposal by Councilwoman Mary Mulhern to pump highly processed reclaimed water into the Hillsborough River above the Rowlett Park Dam. The environmental impact is being investigated.
15. President Johnson asked for neighborhood reports. Several were given.

16. The meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m. Our January Meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 13. The members of City Council will be our guests. The site for this meeting has not yet been determined.

Respectfully submitted,
Fredric Zerla, Secretary