

THAN
TAMPA HOMEOWNERS, AN ASSOCIATION OF NEIGHBORHOODS
MEETING OF OCTOBER 12, 2011
HELD AT UNION STATION

1. President Jerry Frankhouser 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. The first of our invited guests were Chief Tom Forward and Chief of Operations Scott Ehlers of Tampa Fire Rescue (TFR). Chief Forward told of the mission and resources of TFR since its inception in 1895, then he introduced Operations Chief Ehlers. Chief Ehlers enumerated the changes in TFR in the past few years. For instance, 70% of the personnel on fire trucks are now paramedics. He was proud that TFR is one of only 48 nationally accredited units of the more than 25,000 in the country. The benefit of TFR to the community goes beyond its mission. Fire departments play an important role in the underwriting process for insurance companies and TFR has maintained the same high ranking since the ratings began in 1967. Chief Ehlers offered to visit our association meetings to discuss TFR. He invited us to contact him at 274-7011 or at scott.ehlers@tampagov.net.
3. Our second guest was Thomas Snelling, Acting Director of Growth Management and Development Services. He explained the **Mayor's Economic Competitiveness Committee** that he heads. Its first task of is to examine the development regulations to see if they can be made easier for businesses to follow. This involves rearranging the City Code for easier access, not changing regulations. He emphasized that this phase of the Committee's work will neither add nor eliminate regulations but only consolidate them into a single section development code. A later phase of the Committee's work involves reviewing the code requirements to determine which are really necessary, which should be modified and which eliminated. Mr. Snelling emphasized that the Committee itself has no power to enact any changes to the City Code but will only recommend them to the Mayor. The Mayor, then, will determine those changes he would like to see enacted and will inform the public of them before they are implemented. The citizens, then, will have a chance to express their opinions before action is taken. We are invited to visit the committee's website for the latest information on its progress. I repeat the instructions given in the September Minutes. Go to the city's website, www.tampagov.net. In the Search Box, type *Economic Competitiveness Committee* and click the first entry that appears.
4. Fredric Zerla gave the Secretary's Report. The final version of the September Minutes, extensively modified in parts from the first draft, was approved. The Secretary also noted that this October Meeting ends the grace period for last year's THAN members to renew their membership. He said that he would send a final plea to those associations that had not renewed.

5. Bill Duvall gave the Treasurer's Report. Dues from Beach Park Isles, The Marina Club and Stoney Point, totaling \$75, were deposited. A withdrawal of \$95.23 for expenses for our meeting with City Council in September was made.
6. Shannon Edge reported for the Office of Neighborhood & Community Relations. The Mayor's Holiday Party is scheduled for Tuesday, December 6, from 6:00 till 8:00 p.m. at the Tampa Museum of Art. This allows THAN to have its regularly scheduled December Meeting on Wednesday the 14th. She said that she had sent the newly designed photo enhanced *City of Tampa Neighborhood News* to the presidents of the associations on the Neighborhood Registry. She said that she would send it also to the THAN Secretary for distribution to the THAN e-list. She distributed the new information card produced by the Office of Neighborhood & Community Relations containing a long list of "Helpful Phone Numbers". She would send 100 of these cards to each president of an association on the Neighborhood Registry. She and Carla want to tour neighborhoods with officers. Please contact her.
7. Richard Formica told of the meeting on *Tampa's Urban Forest Management Plan* he and three other THAN members attended. The information given was too extensive and too detailed for these Minutes. He invited us to visit their website, www.tampabayforest.org/TampaUEA2011.htm. As a follow-up to Richard Formica's report, Wofford Johnson reminded us to have our Neighborhood join **Tree Watch**.
8. Steve LaBour announced that THAN will sponsor a workshop on *The ABC's of Zoning* from 8:30 a.m. till 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, November 12, 2011, at the Gandy/Sun Bay South clubhouse, 4207 W. Oklahoma Ave. (between Dale Mabry Hwy and Manhattan Ave.) hosted by Al Steenson, President of Gandy/Sunbay Bay South Neighborhood Association. The zoning code will be examined as well as information provided on how to present before City Council. The fee for attendance must be paid in advance and will include a box lunch. While all Neighborhood Associations are welcome to attend, THAN members will receive a discount. RSVP's and advance payment are necessary as Al Steenson needs to know how to set up the hall and how many box lunches to provide. Details will follow shortly.
9. Bill Duvall announced that **Paint-Your-Heart-Out, Tampa** for April, 2012, is in the planning stage. The problem of finding eligible houses to paint is again here.
10. Margaret Vizzi, reporting for the Zoning Committee, reminded us that the Economic Competitiveness Committee will meet on Tuesday, October 25, 2011, beginning at 1:30 p.m. at the Construction Services Center, 3rd floor, 1400 North Boulevard.
11. The Meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m. Our next meeting is on Wednesday, November 9, 2011, from 7:00 till 9:00 p.m. at Union Station.

Respectfully submitted,

Fredric Zerla, Secretary

