

LANCASTER COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

Virtual Meeting of the Members

March 17, 2022/ 6:00 P.M.

In Attendance

Maria Adams, President
Phyllis Bass, Secretary
Amanda Gallardo, Member-at-Large
Yami Torres, Community Manager

Not in Attendance

John Guyton, Officer

Call Meeting to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Maria Adams.

Establishment of Quorum

Quorum was established by Maria Adams.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

The meeting minutes from January were approved by Phyllis Bass and seconded by Maria Adams.

CAD Services - Ms. Marie Sivils

Community Manager, Yami Torres, introduced attendees to Ms. Marie Sivils with Precinct 4, Commissioner Jack Cagle's office. She attended the meeting via Zoom. Due to redistricting by Harris County Commissioner's Court, our area is now being served by Commissioner, R. Jack Cagle. Ms. Sivils stated that Commissioner Cagle previously served Harris County as an attorney, elected judge and now as a Harris County commissioner.

A slide presentation highlighted the County Commissioner's duties, redrawn district lines, our location in the western sector of Harris County and the district's amenities, such as its 48 parks. Precinct 4 serves 1.2 million people, has 1423 miles of road, 6 libraries and 8 community centers.

Commission Cagle's office is responsible for maintaining roads and bridges, as well as infrastructure. If homeowners observe problems, such as potholes, a maintenance report should be filed on the Harris County Precinct 4 website at www.hcp4.net.

Yami Torres asked if an app is available so that maintenance reports can be filed using mobile phones and Ms. Sivils stated that the capability doesn't currently exist, but that she will present the suggestion to her office for consideration because it is a good idea.

Contact information for Precinct 4 was shared:

Email: service@hcp4.net

Phone: (832) 927-4444

Website: www.hcp4.net

Discussion with Lancaster's Assigned Patrol Officer

Officer Brad Curtis with Precinct 5 is patrolling the community on a temporary basis. He introduced himself to attendees and shared basic safety tips that all homeowners should utilize. First, turning on porch lights at night helps deter the criminal element. Also, when away from home, leaving the television on and loud enough to be heard at the door can lead others to believe that someone is home, thereby deterring criminals.

Officer Curtis spoke about the crime triangle where the victim is on one side of the triangle, the perpetrator is on the other and the bottom line is the line of opportunity. Utilizing basic safety techniques can eliminate the line of opportunity and enhance safety by taking away a criminal's opportunity to commit crimes.

He suggested that we should be 'nosey' and proactive neighbors by keeping an eye out for others and for suspicious activity in the community. For example, call police dispatch to report suspicious vehicles in the community because they could belong to criminals who are in the commission of a crime. Law enforcement would prefer to address issues, such as suspicious vehicles, as a preventative measure. Finally, we should be alert and aware of all times, whether at home or away.

He stated that he works in faith-based locations with chaplains and other religious leaders and wanted to share that they are praying for this community's safety. He then opened the floor to questions and a homeowner asked how to contact him if problems within the community need to be reported. The phone number for the HCSO non-emergency line was provided to the homeowner. Also, Yami pointed out that the phone number is located on the website.

Officer Curtis was thanked for his time, and he exited the meeting.

Deed Restrictions

Maria Adams stated that all homeowners must adhere to deed restrictions and ensure that lawns are cut and edged, trees are trimmed and pruned, driveways are clean, trash bins are out of street view and fencing is in good repair. Yami reiterated that we are closely enforcing deed restrictions, but if homeowners need additional time to cure violations after receiving a letter, they should contact the office. A homeowner said that her husband is willing power wash for seniors and the disabled in the community free of charge. Maria also stated that Best Trash offers a concierge service to seniors and the disabled. They will collect trash bins from the front of the home and return it, but the homeowner is then responsible for placing it away from street view. As Maria spoke, a disruptive homeowner posted derogatory comments in the chat. She addressed the comments posted by Jimmie and stated that they were unnecessary. Yami suggested eliminating his access to the meeting, but Maria disagreed and allowed him to stay, though he continued posting negative comments. Zoom was notified of his comments.

Homeowner Q&A

The floor was opened to homeowner's questions, but there were none.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:56 p.m. by Maria Adams.

The next Open Session Meeting will be held on April 17, 2022, at 6:00 p.m. via Zoom.

By: Phyllis Bass, Secretary