

Berkner Park Neighborhood Association
2017 Spring General Membership Meeting Minutes
March 28, 2017
Donna Buhr, Secretary



The following are the Minutes of the Berkner Park Neighborhood Association 2017 Spring General Membership Meeting held Tuesday, March 28, 2017 at Berkner High School.

Call to Order

Berkner Park Neighborhood Association President, Gene Lawrence called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

Board Members Present

President, Gene Lawrence; Vice President, Stephen Beyer; Treasurer, Holly Goodside; Secretary, Donna Buhr

Leadership Team Members Present

Membership Chair, Carol Weldon; Newsletter Editor, Delphia Lawrence; Beautification Chair, Judy Bergstrom; Communications Chair, Ben Beazley; Section Leader Coordinator, David Holmes

Visiting Dignitaries and Speakers

Richardson Mayor, Paul Voelker

Richardson City Council members: Place 3, Scott Dunn; Place 4, Mabel Simpson and Place 5, Marta Frey

Guest Speaker: City of Richardson Mayor, Paul Voelker

Mayor Voelker provided a recap of the 2017 “State of the City” address. Mayor Voelker highlighted the city’s many successes of 2016, focusing on four of the City Council’s main Statement of Goals – Financial Position, Internal Processes, Economic Development and Cultural Experience. Other topics of discussion were the Cotton Belt Rail Line, increasing water rates, city recognition and upcoming elections. Meeting highlights include:

- **Financial Position:** For the eighth year in a row the City of Richardson maintains the highest credit rating from Moody’s and Standard & Poor’s “Triple A” rating. Richardson is one of only seven Texas cities to receive the AAA status.
- **Internal Processes:** Ensures that internal processes are clear and easy to understand
- **Economic Development Projects:** Updates for Cityline, Palisades, Northside, Eastside and New Old Downtown
- **Cultural Experience:** Eisemann Center \$500,000 upgrade | Grant Funds \$300,000 | Wildflower Festival’s 25th Year
- **Other Topics of Discussion:**
 - **Cotton Belt Rail Line:** A dual track commuter line will take passengers to DFW Airport in about 45 minutes. The new rail line could potentially be completed by 2022.
 - **City Challenge, Water Rates:** Richardson joined with Garland, Mesquite and Plano to ask the Public Utility Commission of Texas to review water rates set by the North Texas Municipal Water District, (NTMWD).
 - **Richardson’s City Council was recognized as the Texas City Managers Association Council of the Year**
 - **Reminder, May 6, 2017 Elections** Early voting begins April 24, 2017 and ends May 2, 2017

Unfinished Business

None

New Business

Important Updates & Announcements

- **Treasury Report** presented by Treasurer, Holly Goodside
- **Membership Update** presented by Membership Committee Chairman, Carol Weldon

- **Neighborhood Enhancement Status Report**
 - **Berkner Park Sign Project Phase II, Butterfly Garden** completes Phase II of the Berkner Park Sign Project. The Butterfly Garden, located on the slope behind the Berkner Park sign, is a City of Richardson Matching Fund Beautification Project. The Butterfly Garden Grand Opening Celebration will be held in conjunction with the 2017 Spring Fling on April 22, 2017. Phase III of the project will be the electrical outlet installation expected to be completed soon.
 - **Neighborhood Entry Feature Project** has not begun due to lack of bids; therefore, the entry feature project will be bundled with another larger city masonry project. Project completion is anticipated to be late Q2 or Q3

Upcoming Events

- **Trash Bash 2017 - Saturday, April 15, 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.**
- **Spring Fling / Butterfly Garden Ceremony - Saturday April 22, 11 a.m. to 1 a.m.**
- **Taste of Richardson - Saturday April 22**
- **Wildflower! Arts & Music Festival - May 19 -21**
- **Wildflower Festival Patio Party - May 21**

Meeting Adjourned at 8:13 p.m.

Refreshments donated by

**Dickey's Barbeque Pit restaurant provided BBQ sliders
Kroger provided chips, cookies and water**



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