

Berkner Park Neighborhood Association
2022 Annual Membership Meeting Minutes
November 1, 2022
Donna Buhr, Secretary



The following are the Minutes of the Berkner Park Neighborhood Association 2022 Annual Membership Meeting held Tuesday, November 1, 2022 at Berkner High School.

Call to Order

Berkner Park Neighborhood Association President, Gene Lawrence called the meeting to order at 7:01 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; Beautification Co-Chair, Judy Bergstrom; Beautification Co-Chair, J.J. Wampler; Welcoming Chair, Cindy Read; Newsletter Editor, Delphia Lawrence

Visiting Dignitaries and Speakers

Richardson City Manager, Don Magner
Assistant City Manager, Michaela Dollar
Interim Assistant City Manager, Bill Alsup
Management Analyst, City Manager's Office, Haley Alsabrook
Richardson Mayor Pro Tem - Council Member Place 3, Janet DePuy
Richardson City Council Members:

- Place 1, Bob Dubey
- Place 6, Arefin Shamsul

Opening Remarks and Introductions

- President Gene Lawrence offered greetings to members and introduction of guests.

Treasury Report presented by Treasurer, Holly Goodside.

Beginning Balance January 1, 2022	\$6,798.06
2022 Deposits to date	5,837.00
Current PayPal Balance	87.78
Pending Deposit	90.00
2022 Expenses to date	1,971.05
Current Total Funds Available	10,841.79

Unfinished Business

None

Guest Speaker: Richardson City Manager, Don Magner

Topic: The IQ – Richardson's Innovation Quarter

City Manager, Don Magner provided an update on the status of City Hall, a presentation on the Innovation Quarter (IQ) and the Downtown CORE District.

Update on City Hall:

The electrical fire on August 22, 2022 caused substantial structural damage to the first and second floors of the City Hall building. The City Hall building is expected to remain closed for approximately one year. The good news, according to Mr. Magner, is that city services were back up within 48 hours after the fire. Evaluations are currently underway to determine if the building can or should be repaired and renovated, or a new facility should be built on the existing site. Recommendations will be presented to the City Council after the evaluation is completed with a decision expected in the near future.

Innovation Quarter (IQ) Presentation:

A slide presentation of “Richardson Evolving Economic Development Strategic Plan” was shown. The strategy plan overview was presented of “Why now?” and “What we hope to achieve with the plan? The Richardson Innovation Quarter, also known simply as “The IQ” is a 1,200-acre urban hub that includes more than 1,000 businesses with over 19,000 employees. Mr. Magner stated the strategy is to “take the 1200 acres and focus on small business - establishing the small business will bring the large business.”

Downtown CORE District:

The Core includes 5 areas: Richardson’s Downtown, along with Richardson Heights, Interurban, Lockwood, and Chinatown areas. The Core is undergoing major changes with projects such as the new public safety campus and public art projects, building modernizations, business façade enhancements, public parking, open space, pedestrian improvements, and infrastructure. The City’s support strategies for The Core include website development and maintenance, new branding, social and media responsibilities, event planning and programs, and a Merchants Association creation.

Recognition Awards presented by President Gene Lawrence, assisted by city officials.

- **Certificates of Appreciation for Special Assistance** awards were presented to:
 - **Bill Bergstrom**
 - **Jim Buhr**
 - **Bob Hackney**

Visiting Dignitaries Remarks

Richardson Mayor Pro Tem, Janet DePuy spoke briefly on the success of the Lockwood area and Richardson City Manager, Don Magner provided a status update on the Richardson Square Mall Sears building.

Important Updates & Announcements by President Lawrence

- Holiday Dinner Party: December, 2022 (specific date & location TBD)

Meeting Adjourned at 8:24 p.m.