

Hello Neighbors!

After a Monday budget workshop preparing for a new fiscal year, YOUR City Council reconvened Tuesday facing an agenda of mostly celebratory topics.

A packed house of citizens was in attendance to lift up Winnie Woodruff as the Mayor proclaimed July 18, 2017 as “Winnie Woodruff Day”. As the news articles will share in detail, Winnie has been the epitome of a ‘good neighbor’ for over 15 years through her compassionate volunteerism and management of the Tele-Care program. Her daily calls to our elderly citizens is a bright moment of respect and caring for these most senior and/or housebound community members.

The City Council also saluted other pride elements, including:

- Tim Foran, Director of Public Works, was applauded for his 5 years of service (really 7+ with part-time work). He has been the face of the success of our 55 plus miles of road work/maintenance.
- Craig Haydon welcomed all to visit the St. Paul the Apostle Church’s Honor Garden. This beautiful memorial celebrates the character in military service with a wall of gratitude, reflecting pond, and exceptional bronze statue. It is a moving experience for all Americans to observe – and all are welcomed to this special part of our community.
- The long-anticipated transfer of the Fuchs’ House to the City of Horseshoe Bay was presented by Ron Mitchell on behalf of the resort. The Fuchs’ House (along with the school house on Apple Rock #12 and a natural rock formation) is one of the primary landmarks of historical preserve in the area. This house, originally the home of the Fuchs, provided the postal service and one room school house needs in the late 1800s. The Hurds acquired this in the early 1970s with hopes of developing an overnight youth camp, but those plans eventually led to a shared community desire to preserve it for the whole community. A restoration committee, with leadership by Mike Brittain and others, has been working up plans which it is hoped a grant from LCRA will help kick start the effort.
- Nathalie Kip, Assistant Planner, brought the good news of Horseshoe Bay’s Scenic City status moving from Bronze to Gold level. This places Horseshoe Bay among an elite few Texas cities – a result of proactive measures such as the Dark Skies commitment, the Mayor’s Monarch Pledge, our exceptional environmental protections and other factors lending to a city of scenic appeal. Just a few points shy of Platinum (the highest level), Horseshoe Bay will continue to focus on efforts to preserve the natural beauty alongside non-invasive quality of life features.

Public hearings were held as part of the procedure for previously discussed projects. Several were present to underscore the plans for the Assistant Living facility moving to the new Parks at Horseshoe Bay development following two public hearings at the Planning & Zoning Commission. The community at large has expressed a need for such services and has appreciated the significant work to bring this to reality. As important, community members present thanked the developers for hearing their concerns (amid their support) that the entry points respect the sensitive activity in Bay

County rural home sites. The final plans were adjusted in response – and it is anticipated that funding and architectural work will move forward.

A timely quarterly report on the revenue and expenditures of the City was presented by the Finance Director, Kristen Woolley. All departments were aligned to the goals and a healthy city was reflected in the report. This is timely as the City Council meets again on August 29th to make more determinations about the 2017-18 budget.

The Development Services department provided updates regarding construction progress. Along those lines, Dan Gillean came forward to question the building of a gate at the end of Red Sail. A healthy discussion underscored that the variance for this was the result largely due to the unique nature of this dead end street just past Quail Point. Multiple efforts to dissuade traffic from getting stuck and turning around causing damage to homes were ineffective. He respected the need for the gate, but made good points in questioning when a public road is removed from public access if there should be some compensation to the city for the road cost/maintenance. All City Council members thanked Dan for challenging deeper conversations in any future variance requests.

The meeting adjourned, the crowd continuing conversations of the many, many topics of celebration shared by those present with hopes that all were reminded it is always a great day to live in HSBay.

Cynthia Clinesmith, Council Member/Public Information Officer