

Hello Neighbors!

It was with mixed feelings we kicked off YOUR City Council June meeting. We said goodbye to retiring Garth Davis and welcomed a new Assistant Police Chief, **Jason Graham**. Jason has been a team member for 19 years, working this past year with Officer Davis and Chief Wardlow in anticipation of the transition. So it is a delight to welcome this new leadership as part of our great Police Department.

Public comment was offered by two audience members:

**Francie Dix**, as Chair of the Fuchs' House Advisory Committee, gave the report from yesterday's fund-raising golf tournament – noting an over expectation donation amount. She praised the resort, donors, players, workers, and the city for their part in moving the effort to renovate the Fuchs' House forward. The committee is moving forward with an intent to form a Foundation that can assume responsibility for the vision of restoration. The Mayor underscored the valuable efforts of the Resort – in particular **Ron Mitchell** – in providing the site and manpower efforts to make this event a success.

**Shannon Johnson** from Pedernales Electric Cooperative (PEC) shared a reminder that the Annual PEC Member meeting will be held at the HSBay Resort Tower Hotel (lawn/tent) on Saturday, June 22<sup>nd</sup>. Festivities begin at 8 am with breakfast items and the full meeting at 10 am. Those who have not voted may complete this at the meeting. The results to the election will be revealed at the end of the meeting so all can share in the celebration. Don't miss this FIRST EVER annual meeting in HSBay – and the opportunity to have your voice included in leadership decisions.

In general information items,

**Patty Gillean**, Gillean & Associates Realty, presented an update of real estate activity this quarter – showing a slight increase in sales and new construction. Homes on the market selling prices range from \$245K (smaller/older home) to \$6.95 million. Four homes recently closed at over \$1.2 million and there were 13 pending closures. Of the 171 homes on the market, 37 were new construction this quarter.

**Stan Farmer**, City Manager, unveiled a new city budget video aimed at making the fiscal year budget easier to understand and even more transparent. Citizens are encouraged to watch the video to gain a basic knowledge of how their tax dollars are budgeted and used to provide safety and services daily. Go to the city website ([www.horseshoe-bay-tx.gov](http://www.horseshoe-bay-tx.gov)) to view AND see other info on YOUR city at work! Farmer also shared a brief update of the 86<sup>th</sup> Legislative session and its implications for the city. He and staff will attend a Texas Municipal League workshop next week for a deeper dive into the 120+ pages of detailed changes of just one important bill so that HSBay can ensure compliance and maximizing the changes to the benefit of the city.

**Fermin Ortiz and Larry Black** presented an abbreviated version of the ALL (Alliance for Lake LBJ) plans for removing sedimentation from Lake LBJ that was shared at Quail Point last week (with over 70 in attendance). Mr. Soc Gonzales stepped forward to highlight the level of sediment encroaching on the western limits of our city borders and the reduced capacity of the lake. This reflects the shared concern about the overall care of our lake waters and the need to consider engaging in a long-range effort for

support. Ron Smith, President of the Blue Lake POA also spoke in support of the efforts of ALL and highlighted issues in the Sandy Creek area as well. Representatives from J Cornyn's office were present as this effort will require ALL to participate, local/state/federal in this long-range project to regain much of the lake capacity lost to sand. A Board will be formed with representation from varied impacted communities, including HSBay, with external financial management to keep the focus on shared resolution to address this huge concern. The Mayor spoke to Lake LBJ being a critical component of our lifestyle community – calling Horseshoe Bay a “treasure” of a city, part of which is the proximity to a safe and recreational lake.

In Business, the Council Members:

- Approved retaining the **Stage 2 Drought Contingency Plan**. While we have been blessed with plenty of rain and our lakes are at capacity – we know this can (and likely will) change eventually. Developing habits of mind in conservation practices that work for our beautiful properties was a goal by all in agreeing that keeping this plan in place was beneficial.
- **The Long-Range Planning Advisory Committee (LRPAC)** was approved to be re-activated now that the prior plan has neared completion and new goals/plans are ready to come to action. Approval was given for a charter outlining expectations of Council, number of Committee members (7 including a Chair) to include weight being given to completion of the Citizen's Academy, member skills, and a time schedule. A budget to support consultant support in getting full input from citizens (surveys, interviews, focus groups) and compilation of data into a report that results in the final new Long-Range Plan was approved.

Following adjournment – we all stepped out into what seemed like a hot/steamy evening until we recalled that the full heat of Texas summer is arriving tomorrow. Whew! Then we took pleasure in knowing that it is always a good day (with cool down at the lake potential) to live in Horseshoe Bay.

Cynthia Clinesmith, Council Member and Public Information Officer