



Spring Branch Oaks Civic Association



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www.springbrancoaks.com

September-October 2012

PROPOSED BY-LAWS SET FOR VOTE

Main topic of discussion at the July 17 General Meeting was the proposed new by-laws. Several changes were suggested, and these have been incorporated into a revised proposal. In order to reach as many Association members as possible, each homeowner should be receiving by mail a copy of the proposal, along with an absentee ballot.

Please review the by-laws and return your absentee ballot as soon as possible, but no later than Friday, September 14.

The ballots will be collected and counted by homeowners who are not

members of the Executive Committee or related to them. Results will be presented at the Executive Committee meeting scheduled for Tuesday, September 18. If you would like to help with tallying the votes, contact Sheree Speck.

Also at the September 18 meeting, an **Officer Nominating Committee** will be named. Volunteers are also needed for this committee! You may come in person to the meeting or notify Sheree Speck if you would be willing to help nominate officers or to serve as an officer yourself.

ARE THEY PART OF THE CIVIC ASSOCIATION OR NOT?

There is often confusion about the status of the commercial property facing Campbell Road, between Long Point and Willowview Lane. Although these properties fall within the boundaries of Spring Branch Oaks subdivision, they are not subject to the deed restrictions, as is the residential property.

According to the SBOCA Deed Restrictions, these commercial properties may be used only for businesses that traditionally support a neighborhood. Expressly forbidden are sexually oriented businesses, and the occupants must

comply with all City of Houston ordinances. The Association also reserves the right to approve buildings and businesses that can be placed on the commercial lots.

Beyond the definition of commercial property, Spring Branch Oaks Civic Association has no authority over the businesses located on these lots. When disputes arise between SBOCA homeowners and the commercial residents, complaints to the city or to the police **can only be made** by parties directly affected.

FREE FIRE ALARMS TO BE GIVEN OUT

During the month of September, Houston Fire Department and the Mayor's Office are offering free, portable visual fire alarms to residents who are deaf or hard of hearing. If you qualify and want to receive one of the alarms, or want

more information, please contact the Mayor's Office for People with Disabilities at 281-936-0770 or 713-284-1990 or email mopdmail@houstontx.gov. There are no income requirements for the free alarms.

Upcoming Meetings

Annual Membership Meeting

Tuesday, October 16

Executive Committee Meeting

Tuesday, September 18

Meetings are held in Latham Hall, St. Christopher's Episcopal Church, 1656 Blalock Road, and start at 6:30 p.m.

National Night Out - Tuesday, October 2

Meet at 6:00 p.m. for hot dogs and soft drinks at the Pocket Park on Spring Branch Drive and Campbell.

DROCOM

Meetings are held on the second Thursday each month, at 7:30 p.m., in the Trini Sosa Community Center, 1414 Wirt at Westview.

Houston Police Department - Northwest Community Meetings .

September 18 - The Art of Interrogation - See techniques used to capture homicide suspects.

Meetings are held in the Faith Center Sanctuary, 8009 Long Point, beginning at 7:00 p.m. (6:30 - COP)

NOTES FROM THE JULY GENERAL MEETING

DROCOM

At the July 17 General Meeting, Jim Beuchele reported that Deed Restriction Oversight COMmittee (DROCOM) has been involved in an ongoing complaint originating at one of the commercial properties located on Campbell Road. Anyone who wishes to serve on DROCOM is encouraged to attend the meetings held monthly on the second Thursday at the Trini Sosa Center, 1414 Wirt Road, beginning at 7:30 p.m.

COP

Jim Majsterski gave an update on the Citizens on Patrol (COP) program. About 30-35 hours of patrolling are reported each month. These times can include neighbors walking, cycling, or driving around the neighborhood to observe what is going on. It is up to the individual when they "make the rounds". Please contact Jim if you would like more information about the COP program or would like to sign up.

National Night Out

National Night Out is scheduled for Tuesday, October 2. A gathering will again be held at the Pocket Park on the corner of Spring Branch Drive and Campbell Road, beginning at 6:00 p.m. Carolyn Schooley and the block leaders are organizing this event. It will include hot dogs, soft drinks, and a good chance to catch up with your neighbors! A special treat may include a family-friendly movie. Watch for more details!

Plan to come early and bring a lawn chair or a blanket. Let Carolyn know if you can help with set-up or cooking.

Helpful reminders:

To reduce the temptation for theft in our neighborhood, be sure to keep your car **locked** at all times, and never leave valuables in the car.

Classes have resumed for Spring Branch ISD schools. **Hours for Spring Branch Elementary are 7:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.** Traffic is often heavy near the school before and after classes, so it's good to avoid that area if possible during those times. Also, be on the watch for students on their way to and from school.

In Memoriam

Long-time Spring Branch Oaks resident Louise Hasselbach died Sunday, August 12. Besides morning walks, Louise enjoyed being part of the neighborhood "Sewing Club" for many years. She will be missed.

Our sympathy is extended to her husband Chuck and their family.

Congratulations to Carolyn Schooley, 9393 Livernois, on being selected as our Yard of the Month winner for August. Carolyn will receive a \$25 gift certificate from Cornelius Nursery. Check out the picture of her winning yard on the SBOCA website.



Want to get all the latest SBOCA news? When you create an account on the civic association's web site - www.springbrangoaks.com - you can automatically receive periodic "e-blasts". Just click the "Yes" button beside Receive Announcements on the Preferences page.



TRASH COLLECTION SCHEDULE

Friday, September 7	Recycle	Friday, October 19	Recycle
Friday, September 21	Recycle	Thursday, October 25	Junk trash
Thursday, September 27	Tree trash	Friday, November 2	Recycle
Friday, October 5	Recycle		

SBOCA Officers for 2012

PRESIDENT:	Sheree Speck	shereespeck@speckinsurance.com	713-647-0088
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