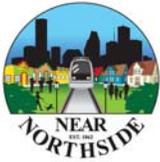


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Lindale Park Civic Club

THE OFFICIAL VOICE OF THE LINDALE PARK CIVIC CLUB
CELEBRATING 38 YEARS OF CIVIC PRIDE, 1979 - 2017

LINDALE PARK NEWSLETTER
FEBRUARY 2017

First Quarterly Meeting of 2017

Tuesday, February 28

7 – 8 p.m.

Clubhouse (218 Joyce St.)

The property owner of 5006 Fulton St. has submitted a variance request to make a residential property into a commercial property. The Lindale Park Civic Club has been talking with city council and the planning department to express our commitment to remaining a residential community and to honor our Chapter 42 designation.

Come to the Quarterly Meeting to discuss this issue and learn how to participate. See next article for more information.

As always, the meeting also will address your neighborhood and community questions and concerns.

Of note: Civic Club meetings are open to everyone, regardless of Civic Club membership status.

Brief History of 5006 Fulton Street

The **February 28 Quarterly Meeting** will be used to discuss the variance request at 5006 Fulton St. As we gather as a community to decide how we wish to respond, I want everyone to have some background information.

Lindale Park is represented by a civic club. As a community member, you choose whether to participate in the civic club. The board of the civic club is elected by majority vote of members at the August Quarterly Meeting.

The bylaws of the civic club state clearly that the purpose is “to maintain the residential character of the neighborhood and to promote the civic and social welfare of the

community.” We have attempted to honor that purpose by holding community events at least three times a year (National Night Out, 4th of July Parade, Christmas Party), maintaining esplanades, honoring those homes that are particularly well decorated or landscaped, paying for extra patrol on Halloween, bringing a new playground to the neighborhood and by implementing Chapter 42 protections. We also do a number of behind the scenes activities attempting to advocate on behalf of the neighborhood with our elected representatives.

The variance at 5006 Fulton St. is a request to change the use of the property from residential to an unrestricted reserve. An unrestricted reserve can be used in any way the owner wishes.

Some residents have wondered how a property on Fulton Street came to be residential. In 2004, the current owner of the property, having bought a combination of commercial and undeveloped, residential lots, requested a variance to replat as one residential lot. At the time, the owner was told that the rail line was going to be on Fulton Street, and the owner decided to move forward with the residence. He was granted the variance, and the mixed lots were replatted to a single residential lot for single-family use. He then built the home that we see today.

In 2012, the owner wanted to replat to commercial to create La Mansion. The community had multiple open meetings with members speaking both in favor and against. That replat was not granted.

Also in 2012, the Civic Club and the community began the process of the Chapter 42 SMLS protections. The property at 5006 Fulton St. was included in the Gale Blockface protection that passed in May 2014 and in the Area 426 protection that passed July 14, 2015. These protections passed with more than 60 percent of the area property owners and are binding on the properties included.

Properties identified in the Harris County Appraisal District as residential, single family at the time must stay residential, single family. The property at 5006 Fulton St. also was identified as residential, single family. Chapter 42 protections include that variances should not be granted for five years after the protections go into place.

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As a civic club board, we work hard to maintain the residential character of our neighborhood. We also aim to stay community driven. I encourage as many members of the community as possible to come to the **February 28** meeting to discuss our community response.

Additionally, **the variance request will be heard at 2:30 p.m. March 2** at the planning commission at the City Hall Annex (900 Bagby St). We encourage all interested community members to attend. Please watch Nextdoor and Facebook for updates.

- Martha Meyers, Lindale Park Civic Club President

Yard of the Month Winners

The October 2016 newsletter was printed and published before Halloween Yard of the Month judging, so let's take a moment to reflect and congratulate the spookiest winners from Halloween 2016!

Halloween 2016 Winners

225 Ave of Oaks St. – Julius Penning and Manuel Maldonado
1002 Sue St. – Carlos Rangel
506 Milwaukee St. – Richard and Letty Galvan

And, these winners had the merriest and most festive yard decorations and lights in Lindale Park! Congratulations to our Best Holiday 2016 Yard of the Month Winners!

Best Holiday 2016 Winners

904 Eleanor St. – Mr. and Mrs. Roland Rodriguez
814 Sue St. – The Telles Family
703 Woodard St.

Now, be sure to get your yards ready for springtime Yard of the Month judging!

Special thanks go to our Beautification Committee team members for driving around Lindale Park streets to find the best-looking yards around!

Garden Tip: Composting at Home

Love free stuff? Start composting!

Backyard composting is the healthiest thing you can do for your garden, but it has other benefits, too. Composting recycles kitchen waste, which keeps your aging garbage disposal alive a little longer, and your pipes flowing cleaner. Your trashcan smells better because it's not full of food waste. Composting reduces landfill waste, and it's better for Mother Earth than chemical fertilizers.

What can I compost?

You can compost any non-animal food item and yard waste: Veggie and fruit scraps, eggshells, grass clippings, old garden plants, straw, pine needles, paper, cardboard, dryer lint, pet hair and especially leaves. Worms (who enrich the soil) love coffee grounds and tea leaves. You need twice as much dry material (like leaves) as wet waste (table leftovers).

Collect food scraps in the kitchen until you're ready to take them to the compost. Compost keepers are available in stores, but a plastic container with lid works fine.

How do I compost?

Because we live in an urban area, you need a compost bin that pests can't enter. You can buy one or make it from a large plastic storage container. Drill plenty of holes in the bottom for drainage and set it in a shady spot. Layer twigs or straw on the bottom, then make compost lasagna by layering kitchen scraps with yard waste (leaves, pine needles). Put a layer of dirt on top and water lightly. Close the lid securely. Every few weeks, open your bin and give the pile a turn with a pitchfork or shovel. Two bins are better than one, so you can let one mature while you add to the other.

Add compost as you go, mixing in new material with the old. When the compost looks like dirt, it's ready. Mix it with your garden's soil, and you'll soon have the prettiest yard on the block!

- Dinah Massie, Graceland Street Resident

A Christmas Tradition Worth Mentioning

While it's nearing springtime now, we can't help but take a short trip down memory lane to mention a beloved December tradition in our neighborhood – Lindale Park's Annual Christmas Party! Held every year at the Clubhouse, this festive evening puts everyone in the Christmas spirit.

This time, neighbors and friends gathered **December 6, 2016**, to enjoy light bites and desserts, beverages and entertainment by Mariachis from the Northside High School Band. A visit from Santa and his elves delighted the youngsters and the young at heart that evening. Lots of door prizes and goodies were given away as well.

At the party, St. Alban's Episcopal Church received a very special award from the Masonic Lodge #1347. The **2016 Community Builder Award** was presented to St. Alban's in "recognition of your long and distinguished service and personal contributions to the community." Rev. Bill Laucher was there to accept the award on behalf of the church.

The Civic Club is grateful for everyone who helped make this neighborhood tradition such a success, including all our neighbors who contributed to the potluck-style dinner; Near Town Properties for generously donating \$150 in gift cards used for door prizes and giveaways; and Mike Bowlin Photography for taking photographs at the party.

- *Camille Webb, LPCC Secretary*



Photo by Mike Bowlin Photography

Chef Lindale Park

Jorge Colorado Memorial Bread Pudding

In November, Lindale Park lost our neighbor, Jorge Colorado. Jorge was the beloved husband of longtime neighbor, volunteer and board member, Victoria Salinas. This recipe celebrates Jorge's love of good food and warm spirits.

Bread Pudding Ingredients:

- 1 loaf stale bread
- 1 quart milk
- 3 eggs
- 1 ½ cups granulated sugar
- 2 tablespoons vanilla extract
- Butter for greasing pan

Crumble the bread and soak it in the milk for about one hour (or slice it into squares and crumble later after the soak). Preheat oven to 325. Grease 9x13x2-inch baking dish with butter (or cupcake tins for individual servings). Beat together eggs, granulated sugar and vanilla extract. Stir in with bread. Pour into prepared dish and bake in oven until browned and set about 1 hour 10 minutes (somewhat less time with cupcake tins). Cool to room temperature.

Whiskey Sauce Ingredients:

- 8 tablespoons butter
- 1 cup powdered sugar (a.k.a. confectioners sugar)
- 1 egg
- 4 tablespoons whiskey

Heat butter and powdered sugar in the top of a double boiler until sugar is dissolved and mixture is very hot. Remove from heat. Beat in egg. Continue beating until cool. Add whiskey (or vanilla or almond or orange extract if serving children) to taste.

To serve, cut into individual serving pieces and transfer to a heatproof serving dish. Spoon sauce over pudding and run under broiler until bubbling. (If using cupcake tins, the bread pudding is ready for individual servings.)

Lindale Park Civic Club Board Members

- President – Martha Meyers
- Co-Vice Presidents – Jessica Rangel and Ed Reyes
- Treasurer – Sarah Evans
- Secretary – Camille Webb
- Board Member – Sylvia Cavazos
- Board Member – Gwyn Guidy
- Board Member – David Meeker-Williams
- Board Member – Vicky Salinas Colorado
- Board Member – Matt Zeis
- Board Member – **OPEN***

*Due to a recent resignation, we have one OPEN board member position on the Civic Club board. Whether you have lived in the neighborhood for one year or 10 years, we would love to have your help on the board! Civic Club board members serve on committees, such as Beatification, Clubhouse, Mobility, Newsletter, Parade, Architectural Review, Security and Events (National Night Out, Christmas Party, etc.).

Volunteer with this important group of neighbors and help make decisions for the betterment of Lindale Park! If you are interested in volunteering to serve on the board, please reach out to current LPPC President Martha Meyers at info@lindalepark.org.



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