

**CLENA General Meeting**  
**April 14, 2009**  
**White Rock United Methodist Church**

President Earl Johnson called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

He announced that a quorum was present and introduced Kay Van De Rostyne, Vice President of Programs and Education.

Kay introduced Laura Duty, a volunteer docent and member of the Dallas Arboretum's Speakers Bureau and Alyssa Hill, membership. Laura gave a wonderful slide presentation on the Arboretum and several residents took advantage of the 10% membership discount offered to meeting attendees.

Earl commenced the business portion of the meeting and called on the officers to give their reports.

Secretary Barbara van Pelt moved for approval of the meetings from the Oct. 21 special election meeting. The minutes have been available on the website since November. Jim Hughes seconded the motion and the minutes were approved as posted, with the correction of the spelling of Patricia Baillif's name on page two.

Executive Vice President Cindy Bourne reported on the importance of several upcoming elections to Casa Linda residents. The incumbent Sheffie Kadane and teacher John Yourse are running for City Council District 9. A candidates' forum has been planned for April 28 – details will be available on the Casa Linda website. Other issues to be included on the ballot are the convention center hotel, school property tax deduction for those over 65, and an amendment to the Texas Homestead Exemption to include those over 55.

Treasurer Susan Hello gave her report, indicating that there is currently \$8,384.50 in the CLENA bank account, an increase of \$970 from September.

Jim Hughes gave the Safety report, encouraging interested residents to sign up for the crime watch e-mail alerts. There have been several burglaries around construction sites in recent months; Jim urged residents home during the day to look for suspicious activity. Volunteers are needed for the Volunteers in Patrol (VIP) program. Gary Spence heads this effort for Casa Linda and would welcome additional participation in the next training session with police officers. In response to a question, Jim does not recommend hiring off-duty police officers – they patrol at night and most of our burglaries are during the day. There will be another National Night Out this year.

Jim and Cindy presented the idea of a sticker for the rear window of cars belonging to Casa Linda residents to help identify cars that belong in the neighborhood.

Phil Mendershausen recommended that residents install cameras and conduct inventories to help identify the burglars, identify what items were taken, and every place the burglars

went in the house. Jim will set up a meeting to discuss security options with interested residents.

Daniel Ryan, City Attorney's office, will help with code violations  
Concern was also expressed about non-compliance with the stop signs at Bella Vista and Hermosa.

Michael Janicek, Vice President Membership, indicated that we had some new members this year and encouraged attendees to send information on anyone moving in or out of the neighborhood. He asked for volunteers to work on the welcome committee and reminded everyone that dues renewal is in September.

Tom Murray, Vice President, Beautification, reported that beautification volunteers were selecting Yard of the Month each month and that he was looking for additional volunteers to maintain the triangles and to help with a new initiative to aid residents needing help to maintain their yards. The sprinklers in the triangles are set to water one day per week. Donna Mason gave a report on the 2009 White Rock East Garden Tour scheduled for May 17. Three Casa Linda homes will be on the tour and volunteers are needed to help. Donna also reported that 24 crepe myrtles were planted in Casa Linda Park, with drip irrigation; the new water fountain for people and dogs is working. Cindy Bourne added that the Park Committee has been working with the City of Dallas to implement park improvements approved in a prior bond election.

Kay Van de Rostyne, Vice President Programs and Education, reported that daytime volunteers are needed for the Partners in Education program to assist schools in our area. Erin Bender reported on the new forum feature on the website, [www.casalindaestates.com](http://www.casalindaestates.com). Residents of Little Forest Hills and Forest Hills can join the forum to share information with neighbors with similar interests.

Debbie Finger, Vice President Communications, reported that a newsletter is distributed each quarter and to check the website for additional information. She recognized John Widhalm, the webmaster for our website.

Patricia Baillif, Vice President External Affairs, reported that construction at the intersection of Garland and Buckner should be finished in June, but the Northwest Highway project is on hold until the water main replacements are complete. Reinhardt Creek repairs are underway and stop signs with graffiti and non-reflective street signs will be replaced if you call 311. The board voted to refuse the City's request to maintain new median tree plantings due to safety concerns. Patricia agreed to follow up with AmREIT regarding a complaint from Phil Mendershausen about the lack of benches and bike racks in the shopping center, and the elimination of the sidewalk next to the parking lot between Highland Park Cafeteria and Albertson's. It was replaced by a ramp for wheelchairs, providing an option to the stairs. Brad Rogers gave an update on the Garland Road Vision project, a coalition of neighborhoods, the City of Dallas, TxDOT, Council of Governments, and developers.

Consultants are being selected and he asked that interested residents share their vision of

the kind of development they would like to see on Garland Rd. with board members who will relay the information to Brad.

Gloria Spence, Vice President Social Activities, reported that 97 tickets were sold to the Mystery Dinner Theater, creating a profit, after expenses, of \$164.

The Casa Linda garage sale is May 2. There are nine houses signed up now.

June 7 is the next family party to be held at Casa Linda Park.

Erin Bender, Vice President Block Captains, did not have a report other than to thank all the volunteers.

There being no unfinished business, the President asked for new business.

Phil Mendershausen asked CLENA board member Tom Murray for a public apology for his widely distributed response to an e-mail Phil had sent regarding complaints about horseback riding in the neighborhood (more specifically, horse manure in yards). Tom apologized. Phil also asked that board members not misuse their power and to respond individually to senders of e-mails.

Patricia Baillif gave a recap of upcoming events, including the household electrical appliance recycling on April 18 at White Rock United Methodist Church.

The next general meeting is the election meeting in September. Positions up for election are: President, Secretary, Safety, Beautification, Communications, and Social Activities. Earl reviewed the process for running for office. Brad Rogers conducted the drawing for door prizes and Julie Ann Bever, Gary Spence and Brad Scott won.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:24 p.m.