## Merriman Park University Manor

Date & Time: March 24, 2025 at 6pm

Location: LL Hotchkiss Elementary School

Meeting Called to Order By: MPUM Neighborhood Association

In Attendance: ~40 community members

## <u>Agenda:</u>

- Steering Committee Presentation
- 2025 Board of Directors Nominations
- General Discussion and Q&A with Bill Haughton

## Meeting Notes:

- Welcome Statement Bill Haughton
- Steering Committee Presentation Tyler Lynch
  - Full Presentation: LINKED HERE
  - Recorded Videos:
    - Part 1: <u>LINKED HERE</u>
    - Part 2: <u>LINKED HERE</u>
- 2025 Board of Directors Nominations led by Bill Haughton
  - o Bill introduced the Nomination Committee
    - Members: Ginger Hukill, Ayesha Yerra, Andrew Mungul, Amy Koh, Angela Juergen
    - Purpose: To spread the word about the Board to help fill positions
  - $\circ$   $\;$  Bill called for nominations from meeting attendees official nominations:
    - President Tyler Lynch
    - Co-VPs Andrew Mungul and Clayten Gouws
    - Secretary Gretchen Seller (with initial support from Ayesha for first couple of months while Gretchen is on maternity leave)
    - Treasurer Drew Allen
  - Each nominee got up and introduced themselves
  - Additional nominations can be submitted until May elections (exact date TBA) – email <u>info@mpum.com</u> for more information
- General Discussion and Q&A led by Bill Haughton
  - Recorded Video: LINKED HERE
  - Topic: ENP (Extended Neighborhood Patrol)
    - People are interested but no one wants to step up and run it. Bill suggests that a team of people work together to lead the ENP initiative

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- Rene Martinez has volunteered to help, but needs more than one person to coordinate
- Lisa Knudson also stepped up to volunteer
- Brief discussion of history:
  - 3 hours of patrol per day for 5 days a week
  - Costs are for police officer and patrol car rental
  - Prices have increased since we last had the ENP program
  - If we were to bring back ENP, the ballpark cost would be \$250 per household per year with at least 40% participation
- Q: How will responsibilities be shared?
  - A: Don't really know, it would be an agreement between the volunteers
- Q: How would neighbors connect with ENP leaders? Is there communication?
  - A: Based on who is running ENP. There can be an email setup and WhatsApp can be used. There can also be opportunities for paying participants to request extra coverage when they go out of town. Discussions of block captains have also been brought up in the past.
- Q: Doesn't everyone benefit from ENP whether or not they pay, so would that make people less likely to pay? Is that the best way to go about it?
  - A: It's one of the challenges of ENP and getting the needed amount of participation.
- Q: Can we install neighborhood security cameras? Is it possible/legal?
  - A: Would need to solve for logistics (getting them powered). Can be looked into as a possibility. There were discussions about another Dallas neighborhood that setup cameras and have seen tremendous success with lower crime rates and better sense of safety.
- Topic: VIP (Volunteers in Patrol)
  - Robert Giesler currently helping
  - Need someone in charge to run VIP (separate from ENP)
  - There is a class this Saturday 3/29, and application to attend is due Wednesday 3/26. Flyer with more info: <u>LINKED HERE</u>
- Topic: Office of Economic Development
  - Bill has been talking to Kevin Spath at the Office of Economic Development. He is a very nice guy and a great resource.

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- Kevin is researching and working with the city and nearby property owners to reenvision nearby areas including abandoned gas stations on the corner of Abrams and NW Highway, The Hive apartments, etc.
- Leadership will need to stay in touch with Kevin so we can stay on top of developments that we do or do not want nearby!
- Topic: Point of Interest *Robert Giesler* 
  - Don't know what's going on in the parking lot of Harbor Freight/Restore
  - But it's important for neighbors to be aware and keep an eye out/ear on the ground for any such developments
  - It's because of the Neighborhood Association that developments have been approved or denied for the betterment and preservation of MPUM.
  - Need to keep this spirit in mind!

## Next Neighborhood Meeting:

- May 2025 exact date TBA
- Main agenda item: Elections for Board of Directors