



**OAKRIDGE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION**  
**Monthly Board Meeting**  
**Monday, January 13, 2025, 7:00 P.M.**



**Board Meeting Minutes**

**CALL TO ORDER:** 7:10 PM. Call to order by President Vickie Litton, at her house.

**Attendees:** Jackie Reynolds, Vickie Litton, Oliver Harter, Cecile LaBossiere, Joetta Harris, Yvette Bonavita, Star Toups

**Minutes for November 4, 2024**

Vickie sent the minutes via email to the board to review before the meeting. Oliver made a motion to accept the minutes, Jackie seconded the motion. Minutes accepted.

**BOARD MEMBER UPDATES**

- Changes to the board:
  - Star Toups is the new Director of Communications who joined the Board in November of 2024; but met the Board in person during this meeting.
  - Vickie is stepping down as President but will run for the office of Secretary.
  - Jackie will step down as Director of Events but will run for District 3 Director.
- A Nominating committee must be created to search for and vet candidates for open positions. The following people volunteered to contact prospective Nominating Committee members:
  - Jillian Henderson, Scott Youzva, and J.C. Elliot, Vickie to contact.
  - Julliard Ishizuka and David Parrish, Cecile to contact.
  - Dan Nichols, Oliver Harter to contact.
  - Melanie Busby, Jackie Reynolds to contact.

Cecile will ask for volunteers for the committee, as well as anyone who wants a board position, at the Daytimers meeting. Cecile is a member of Daytimers.

Jackie will ask Katie, a new resident close to her, if she could consider running for one of the positions.

Joetta Harris will contact Mike DeVaney to see if he would consider running for one of the positions. We need to get the committee members in place quickly so that the Nominating Committee candidates can be chosen and presented to the ONA General Members at the February 27<sup>th</sup> General Meeting. The deadline to submit Nominating Committee members is January 24, 2025.

Open positions on the board:	President
	Events Director
	Directors for District s 1, 3, 5, and 6

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**REPORTS**

- **Treasurer:** Sara was not present as she is scheduled for surgery next week. Sara will submit her financial report in the next two or three days.
  
- **Communication:** Star has met with two or three vendors who are interested in advertising in the ONA monthly newsletter.
- **Crime Prevention & Safety:** Lee Litton was not at the meeting, as he had a schedule conflict with the Garland Police Citizens' Police Academy Alumni Association meeting. Vickie will post the Crime Stats later this week. In the future, the Crime Prevention & Safety Directors will be Lee and Vickie Litton. Lee's main duty will be the COP patrols, recruitment, and education. Vickie Litton will be managing the monthly crime reports, COP reports and interaction with our Neighborhood Patrol Officer (NPO).
  
- **Environmental:** Joshua not present, but Cecile discussed the vitality grant that was presented to the city of Garland.
  - Sophia from Covington's Nursery & Landscape will be a speaker at the February General Membership Meeting
  - Cecile has asked the city for an update so that it can be presented to the General Members at the General Membership Meeting. Cecile is very positive that the city will award ONA the \$100,000 Vitality Grant.
  - Sara is researching the \$1,700 unclaimed money from the State of Texas, which would go into the vitality grant fund.
  - The grant requires equity sweat for the grant—money and time (in the form of volunteerism—29 hours of service by twenty volunteers for a total of 580 total hours to complete the four main entrances (\$6,960). This includes pulling up old plants, cleaning debris, power washing wall perimeters, treating areas for pests, etc.
  - Star will ask her church youth about collaborating with us on the volunteer work.
  - We talked about perimeter walls and the bridge...both in bad condition. Who maintains these—us or the city? Some walls have alleys inside, and the city should be responsible for those walls. Other areas do not have alleys, so the residents are responsible. Also talked about the clipping of trees in the medians along Laurel Oaks and Ridge Oak---city or us?
  - Vickie is asking Dillon Hendrick about a coffee meeting to discuss our concerns and key people to contact since his Councilman term ends this year.

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- Events:
  - Spring picnic scheduled. The City has confirmed the use of the party trailer on Sunday, May 4. Vickie Litton is to contact the City to obtain the necessary forms needed for the residents of Golden Oaks to
  - complete giving their permission for this location as well as permission for the Garland Police Department to barricade the street at each of the two entrances off Diamond Oaks DR. This area is much larger than last year's location and would permit fire trucks and police department vehicles, etc. room to be at the event.  
If the residents cannot grant permission, we can use last year's location at the intersection of Rocky TR and Lone Oak TR.
  - Area-wide garage sale Saturday April 26, 2025.
  
- Directors: No updates.

**New Business**

- The ONA has not received any communication from the golf club regarding working with the ONA to offer a location for events even after meeting with the Garland Police. Therefore, we will remove the golf course advertisement we have been running in the monthly ONA newsletter effectively in the February 2025 edition.
- Star asked that all articles and materials for the ONA newsletter be sent to her by January 24, 2025.
- Vickie and Lee will be organizing National Night Out activities for October 1, 2025, event.
- Vickie plans to meet with the Garland library meeting coordinator at the Garland RD and Apollo location regarding using their meeting room. We do not know how big the rooms are or how many people can be accommodated. Vickie would like to have the ONA General Meeting at the library on February 27, 2025. The Board agreed to discontinue the Zoom meetings for General Membership in hopes to get better in-person attendance.
- Star offered to help print signs for the picnic and anything else coming up.

Call by Vickie to adjourn, seconded by Oliver.

Adjourned: 8:40pm

Next Board Meeting:

Date: February 3, 2025

Time: 7:00 pm

Location: To Be Determined