



**OAKRIDGE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION
GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING IN PERSON AT
NORTH GARLAND LIBRARY
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2025, 6:00 PM**



- Meet and greet me at 6:00 pm
- **CALL TO ORDER:** Vickie Litton opened the general meeting at 6:20 PM. Attendance was thirty-two (32) members and guests. **See attached list of Attendees and the Meeting Slide Deck.**
- **Dylan Hedrick**, our City Councilman, shared the Grow Garland 2025 for new bond projects that is being researched. Recommendations will be made to the council and hopefully will be on the ballot for the May 2025 election. Dylan took questions and provided answers.
- **Joe Thomas**, President of Camelot Neighborhood Association, was introduced. He is running unopposed for City of Garland Councilman 7 and asking for our vote. Her close friends with Dylan Hedrick and that he has the same mindset with the responsibilities of the position.
- **Officer Murphy** shared that Oakridge only had two (2) events for the year 2024 and for us to keep up the excellent work. He discussed the officer shooting that occurred in 2025. The Garland Officer is from New York and has been on the Garland force for about one year. The Officer is doing well and will fully recover. Discussed teen Skill Challenge that Garland Police officers participate in as well as Garland Police Academy Alumni Association members and if anyone is interested in volunteering for Garland Police events to contact Lee or Vickie Litton or Officer Murphy. Final update on the stolen golf carts from Duck Creek Golf course was detailed by Officer Murphy.
- **The General Meeting minutes** for May 23, 2024, and September 26, 2024, were read by members and approved by all members.
- **Introduced Nominating Committee** for 2025-2026 Operating year, Joan Nichols and Jillian Henderson introduced. David Parrish agreed to assist if needed. Discussed open positions and responsibilities specifically open District Director. The only requirement to participate is to be a member of ONA. Joan also gave some input regarding the open District Director positions with street boundaries and asked if anyone knows someone who would be interested to please contact a Nominating Committee member. Vickie introduced current Board members as well as giving everyone Sarah's status on her recovery from breast cancer as well as introducing current District Directors. Vickie also highlighted Citizens on Patrol (COPS) and asked anyone interested to contact Lee Litton for training and certification by Officer Murphy.
- **Treasurer: Sarah Freeman**, presented the current financial summary. She discussed the major maintenance items and utilities that are the ONA's largest expense as well as the ONA Newsletter expense.
- **Membership: Cecile La Bossiere** is traveling. Vickie Litton presented Cecile's report noting that to date Membership was two hundred fifty-three (253) households. Vickie discussed the responsibilities of the Membership Director.
- **Communications:** Star Toups asked everyone to reach out to vendors who may want to advertise in the ONA newsletter that would bring us much needed revenue. Star also advised that if anyone had member announcement(s) that they wanted to post in the Newsletter to please send those events and dates to her. If anyone knows of an alternative company for printing the Newsletter to let Star and other Board members know. Jillian Henderson inquired about the ONA Facebook account, and Vickie asked if Jillian could

research that area to see what we can do to get the ONA Facebook account current and have volunteers to monitor the account as admins. Jillian agreed to research this matter. We also discussed the Next Door application and dissatisfaction with this communication app as it is not accurate for the ONA. We need to cross check this communication method.

- **Crime & Safety:** The monthly report where crime stats are reported by the Garland Police Department and typically run one month in arrears was discussed and where the report and graphs were posted.
- **Environmental: Joshua Lamb** asked everyone to let him know about any maintenance matters that Goodbee Landscaping is missing. Joshua discussed the status of the Neighborhood Vitality Grant filed with the City of Garland and that has been approved by the City's sub-committees. Final approval date with City is March 4, 2025. Joshua had mockups and drawings located in the back of the meeting room as well as presentation slides for members to view. We are attempting to get funds from the City to modify and update four of our seven entrances. We want to convert to hardscape and a drip system to reduce our annual maintenance costs. We collaborated with several vendors and decided to use the services of Covington who had a rep that was an excellent artist who laid out the future look of the entrances. There will be great color and textures as well as cutting off the current irrigation system and installing a drip system at four main entrances of the neighborhood. We had to finish the meeting quickly as we had to vacate the meeting room by 7:45 pm. We have a 75% / 25% split on the cost with the City providing 75% of the funds and ONA providing the remaining 25% of the funds. Of the 25%, we will be able to us "sweat equity" by using Boy Scout members, church groups, scholarship candidates at \$12.50/hour toward the 25%. Professional services donated will use their actual hourly rate toward the 25%. Bruce Hard Lighting has agreed to provide his professional services. We will not be able to begin this project in the Spring of 2025 as we originally planned as the prices will increase significantly due to demand of plants and services for spring planting. The ONA begin the project in the fall of 2025 and will be doing a lot of the cleanup (sod, plants, etc.) All lighting will be updated to seasonal colored lights that will be furnished by Bruce Ward. Joshua also pointed out the various plants that will be planted by Covington. We will have a log to track sweat equity hours and donated professional services hours.
- **Events: Jackie Reynolds** discussed the Spring Fling that will be on Sunday, May 4, 2025, 3-5 pm with the location TBD. Jackie also discussed neighborhood garage sales and asked anyone who wants to participate in this event to contact her.
- **ADJOURN:** Vickie called for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:45 pm. Motion approved and seconded. Due to excessive noise on the recording of the meeting, we were unable to decipher the names of the individuals who made the motion and who seconded.
- The next General Membership Meeting will be Thursday, May 22, 2025, at 6:00 pm.

AS APPROVED BY MEMBERS AT THE MAY 22, 2025 GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING.