



## **MINUTES – MEETING SUMMARY**

**Community Connection Semi-Annual Town Hall Meeting**

**Monday, September 17, 2018**

**White Rock Church of Christ, Fellowship Hall**

9220 Ferguson Road, Dallas, TX 75228

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### **FERGUSON ROAD INITIATIVE**

*Serving Far East Dallas: Casa Linda/Forest Hills, Greater Casa View, White Rock East, & White Rock Hills Neighborhoods*

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#### **MEETING PURPOSE**

Hear updates on community projects and concerns, and learn about new initiatives and programs.

#### **OUTCOMES**

1. Approved agenda and minutes from February 19, 2018.
2. Heard from elected and appointed officials and candidates for office.
3. Gave special recognition to outstanding FRI participants.
4. Reviewed North Texas Giving Day program
5. Reviewed Dallas Police Dept. and Truett Area Crime Watch status.
6. Reviewed update on status of future White Rock Hills Community Recreation Center and Park.
7. Reviewed plans for Grove at White Rock Hills zoning case.
8. Reviewed animal welfare status.
9. Reviewed status of Owenwood Farm & Neighbor Space.
10. Reviewed Determination Inc's senior survey.
11. Reviewed upcoming 20 Years of Love Anniversary Celebration.
12. Reviewed DISD Tax Ratification Election

#### **ROLES**

- *Sponsors:* FRI Board of Directors
- *Facilitator:* Nicole Miller/Vikki J. Martin
- *Scribe:* Gary Lawler
- *Timekeeper:* Susan Hopper

#### **GROUND RULES**

- Listen to and respect comments and ideas of others
- Honor time limits
- Stick to the agenda
- Share your experience and perspective

## DECISION MAKING

We strive for consensus at all of our meetings, and fall back to a majority vote of those present when needed.

## PARTICIPANTS

### MEMBERS

Diane Anderson, *White Rock Village*  
Kathleen Arthur, *Forest Hills NA, St. Marks Presbyterian Church*  
Ken Benson, *Highland on the Creek*  
Ann Bagley, *Forest Meade*  
Bridgette Bennett, *Claremont Addition NA*  
Jeff Bennett, *Claremont Addition NA*  
Ken Boatman, *Forest Meade*  
Susan Boeglin, *Claremont Addition NA*  
Mitchell Boone, *White Rock United Methodist Church*  
John Botefuhr, *Adjust Chiropractic*  
Delorian Brown, *FRI*  
Rob Brown, *Claremont Addition NA*  
Ellen Childress, *Truett Area CW*  
John Childress, *Truett CW*  
Bill Coleman, *FRI Board*  
Daniel Clayton, *FRI Board*  
Dr. Theresa Daniel, *County Commissioner*  
Brenda Dunklau, *Forest Hills NA*

Josh Esparza, *Owenwood Farm & Neighbor Space*  
Johnathan Feinstein, *Hillridge NA*  
Kevin Felder, *City Council, Dist 7*  
Carol Gardner, *Claremont Addition NA*  
Kerry Goodwin, *Operation Blue Shield*  
Gary Hasty, *FRI Board*  
Betty Hillin, *Hillridge NA*  
Susan Hopper, *Casa Linda Forest NA*  
John Hopper, *Casa Linda Forest NA*  
Troy Isaac, *La Reve*  
Carl Johnson, *Truett CW*  
Patricia Johnson, *Truett CW*  
Neely Kerr, *Casa View Oaks*  
Diana Koen, *White Rock Village CW*  
Ronald Koen, *White Rock Village CW*  
Gary Lawler, *FRI*  
Vikki Martin, *FRI, Ex Dir*  
Dan Micciche, *DISD Trustee, Dist. 3*  
Jaqueline Minick, *St. Mark Presbyterian Church*  
Nicole Miller, *FRI Board*

Neil Moseley, *White Rock United Methodist Church*  
Matt Nicolette, *Lakeland Hills CW*  
Mark Noel, *La Reve*  
Mike Norre, *Casa View Oaks NA*  
William Oney, *St Marks Presbyterian Church*  
Daniel Ortman, *FRI Board*  
Francisco Pataro, *White Rock Forest*  
Gabriela Pataro, *White Rock Forest*  
Dolores Sosa-Green, *Casa View Oaks*  
Bette Stanford, *Casa Linda Forest*  
John Stanford, *Casa Linda Forest*  
Jean Streeter, *Claremont Addition NA*  
Olivier Swinnen, *Resource One Credit Union*  
Desi Tanner, *Truett CW*  
Maria Valenzuela, *FRI*  
Catherine Webb  
Nancy Weber, *Lakeland Hills CW*  
Laura Whitter, *Hillridge NA*  
Mary Wuertz, *Highland on the Creek*  
Phil Wuertz, *Highland on the Creek*

### GUESTS

Pete B.  
Rob Baldwin, *Rob Baldwin & Associates*  
Cynthia Berlangier  
Sharon Carroll  
Tom Conlon  
Mike Cropp  
Caren Edelstein, *Determination Inc*  
Tamira Fleming  
Celeste Glover, *CFT*

John Hollingsworth  
Renee Karp, *Determination Inc*  
Gloria Kennedy, *Bayles Elementary*  
Senester King, *Dallas Animal Services*  
Mari Madison, *Casa View Oaks*  
Joe Mitchell, *White Rock Oaks*  
Juanita Mitchell, *White Rock Oaks*

Nilso Portillo, *Spay Neuter Network*  
Joyce Smith, *Claremont Addition NA*  
Ann Teague, *Casa View*  
Stephanie Timko, *Dallas Animal Commissioner*  
Debbie Van Zant, *Casa Linda Estates NA*

## MINUTES

Vikki Martin began the meeting at 6:50 pm by thanking Ava Skipworth, owner of Monster Yogurt, for providing free yogurt for tonight and for making us their Coffee Charity Partner for September.

Martin announced FRI's new slogan: *Mission: Engage and empower a community of advocates to advance a safe, beautiful, prosperous and proud community. Vision: Far East Dallas is a strong and vital community. Values: Community, Integrity, Leadership, Respect, and Stewardship.*

**Action Item:** A motion to approve the minutes from February 19, 2018 and to approve tonight's minutes was made by Dan Ortman and seconded by Daniel Clayton. The motion passed.

### ELECTED OFFICIALS AND FRIENDS OF FRI MADE ANNOUNCEMENTS

County Commissioner **Theresa Daniel** spoke on planning and design of trails around White Rock Lake. They are looking at connectivity of hike and bike trails with adjacent cities.

City Councilmember **Kevin Felder** said he is here to support the community regarding streets, code enforcement, and bond-funded projects. He announced a meeting on September 18 regarding Walmart's request for extending a Specific Use Permit for alcohol sales.

New Bayles School Principal **Gloria Patrick Kennedy** said she wants to be a vital part of the community. She asked for volunteers to help with their garden, etc. People can go to DISD web site for more information on volunteering.

**Ann Bagley**, Friends of the White Rock Hills Library, spoke on FRI's importance in implementing the White Rock Hills Library.

**Ken Benson** spoke on the importance of checking your vehicle's airbag during the current recall. People can go to [airbagrecall.com](http://airbagrecall.com) for information and process.

**John Botefuhr**, Garland Road Vision, spoke on the Garland/Gaston/Grand interchange. People are invited to a TxDOT meeting on the subject November 13, at 7 p.m. at the Dallas Arboretum's Rosine Hall, 8525 Garland Road.

**Jaci Minick** with St. Mark Presbyterian Church, 9999 Ferguson Road spoke on their OASIS Program, a feeding program for homeless and "at risk" students from Bryan Adams High School. If you are interested in cooking for this program, contact Jaci at: [jaciemye45@hotmail.com](mailto:jaciemye45@hotmail.com) or [office@saintmarkchurch.org](mailto:office@saintmarkchurch.org).

### SPECIAL RECOGNITION

Martin gave special recognition to Ruel and Dana Hamilton of AmeriSouth, and Troy Isaac and Mark Noel with Le Reve Rehabilitation and Memory Care, MSL Healthcare.

Kerry Goodwin and Martin awarded FRI stalwart Maria Valenzuela with an FRI Obelisk Award for her years of outstanding service.

### **NORTH TEXAS GIVING DAY**

Celeste Glover, Communities Foundation of Texas (Philanthropy Officer), said this is the largest giving event in the nation. A video presentation regarding NTGD and FRI was shown.

### **DALLAS POLICE DEPARTMENT**

Sgt. Vickie Stonaker ([vickie.stonaker@dpd.ci.dallas.tx.us](mailto:vickie.stonaker@dpd.ci.dallas.tx.us)) spoke on Volunteers in Patrol program. She can be reached at 214-670-4767. There will be a Kids' Health and Safety Fair for special needs children on November 10. They are having a coat drive, especially need large and extra large coats.

Desi Tanner, Truett Area Crime Watch, said they will start quarterly meetings in January and all CW and VIP organizations in the FRI community are invited. He spoke about their September 6 meeting on dealing with active shooters.

### **WHITE ROCK HILLS PARK**

Matt Nicolette described the park's features and facilities. Groundbreaking for the park will be on Saturday, December 1, at 10 am at 2229 Highland Road at Ferguson Road.

### **GROVE AT WHITE ROCK HILLS**

Rob Baldwin spoke on the proposed Weekley Homes project on Highland Road. Weekley is seeking Planned Development zoning for 35 single-family homes, 1600+ sq. ft. each. They expect to go to the Planning Commission around October 4 and, if successful, start construction in January/February 2019, with completion in early summer. People can contact Baldwin at [rob@baldwinplanning.com](mailto:rob@baldwinplanning.com) if you have further questions.

### **ANIMAL WELFARE**

Nilso Portillo, Dallas Spay Neuter Network Services, spoke on their goal to eliminate pet overpopulation thru subsidized spay bank services.

Senester King, Dallas Animal Services, said they are looking for loose animals that are aggressive, especially wants to take care of these situations quickly. Call 9-1-1 to report loose animals, get a Service Request Number for follow-up. Take photos of pet violations and send to Animal Services.

Stephanie Timko, City of Dallas Animal Advisory Commission representative for District 7, spoke about the role of the City Animal Advisory Commission.

### **OWENWOOD FARM AND NEIGHBOR SPACE**

Rev. Mitchell Boone and Neil Moseley spoke on the progress being made at Owenwood Farm and Neighbor Space (OFNS). They report that services are already being provided through their diaper distribution program and White Rock Community Church is holding services there. They are now working with GrowNorthTexas on an urban farm on their property. They are working to develop new relationships in the area, want to provide after-school programs for students at SS Connor Elementary and programs for area seniors. Neil Moseley

spoke on receiving two grants totaling for \$130,000 for governance planning and capital improvements to the building. There will be a polling place in November. They have a theater group coming in October, will present "Little Women" in November and an adaptation of "The Nutcracker Suite" in December (mention FRI and you can get in free.).

**DETERMINATION INC**

Since seniors want to stay in their homes longer, Determination Inc is working to identify senior service needs for our area through a survey process.

**20 SEASONS OF LOVE APPRECIATION BREAKFAST**

Susan Hopper, chairperson for the event, spoke on celebrating FRI's 20 years of community involvement, to be held at OFNS on November 10, 9-11 a.m. A complimentary breakfast will be provided to all FRI members. Mayor Rawlings plans to attend, the keynote speaker is Phil Ritter (CEO, Meadows Mental Health Policy Institute), and Bishop Michael McKee will also attend. There will be performances by One Loud Suitcase, The Episcopal School of Dallas Concert Choir, and a special video presented. To attend, FRI members should RSVP to <https://www.fergusonroad.org/rsvp> or 214-324-5116.

**DISD TAX RATIFICATION ELECTION**

Dan Micchiche, DISD Board of Trustees, spoke on DISD being the most improved ISD in Texas. He spoke on the progress of DISD and the benefits that would come to the district if the TRE passes. He spoke on 51 schools that now have Dual Language programs and the success of the school turnaround program. 5<sup>th</sup> graders at Blanton School outperformed Highland Park students, showing how DISD has improved.

The new DISD tax rate (TRE) is needed because state funding is low. 13 of 14 Collin County ISD's passed tax increases. Businesses will pay 60% of any tax increase. A \$185,000 house would pay an additional \$20/month. If one is over 65, they will pay no additional tax. There are 4 propositions regarding DISD on the November ballot. He urged the community to support Propositions A, B, C, D.

The meeting was adjourned.

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

Event	Purpose	When	Where
1. North Texas Giving Day	Support FRI— Match our \$16,000 Challenge Grant Goal. Help sustain FRI operations so that we can continue to Lead, Communicate, Connect, Advocate & Empower!	Scheduled Giving—9.10-9.19 September 20, 6 a.m.-midnight	<a href="http://www.northtexasgivingday.org">www.northtexasgivingday.org</a> Search for Ferguson Road Initiative Your computer, ipad, iphone, or FRI Donation Station 8117 E. RL Thornton Fwy (I-30/Jim Miller Roads)

<b>2. VOTE</b>	Early Voting General Election More Information	October 22-November 2 November 6 <a href="http://www.dallascountyvotes.org/">http://www.dallascountyvotes.org/</a>	Check Election Website Neighborhood precinct
<b>3. 20 Seasons of Love Appreciation Breakfast</b>	Join us as we celebrate 20 years of service to Far East Dallas and our members with an appreciation breakfast, co-hosted by WRUMC	Saturday, November 10 9-11 a.m.	Owenwood Farm & Neighbor Space 1451 John West Road
<b>4. 3G Meeting held by TxDOT</b>	Learn about the proposed improvements for Gaston/Garland/Grand	Tuesday, November 13, 7 p.m.	Dallas Arboretum, Rosine Hall, 8525 Garland Road
<b>5. Ground breaking for WRH Park</b>	Celebrate Phase I of future White Rock Hills Community Recreation Center Project	Saturday, December 1 10 a.m.	2229 Highland Road
<b>6. Truett Area CW/FRI Program</b>	Crime prevention & public safety education & information	January 2019 Date TBD	White Rock Hills Library 9150 Ferguson Road
<b>7. FRI Operation Beautification Litter CleanUp</b>	Instill pride in our community!	March 2, 2019 9 am-Noon	Walgreens 2301 Lakeland Drive (Lakeland/Ferguson Road)
<b>8. Volunteer Income Tax Assistance</b>	Free Income Tax preparation	Jan-April	First Community Church 9120 Ferguson Road
<b>9. Next FRI Community Connection Town Hall Meeting</b>	Get connected & plugged in!	February 11, 2019, 6:30-8:30 p.m.	White Rock Church of Christ 9220 Ferguson Road
<b>10. Free Document shredding</b>	Courtesy of Resource One Credit Union	November 3, 2018 9 am to 1 pm	8344 E. R.L. Thornton Frwy (I-30 and Jim Miller)

**11. Kids Health  
and Safety  
Fair**

Dallas Police  
Department event  
for special needs  
kids

November 10, 2018  
10 am to 1 pm

Lake Highlands High  
School  
9449 Church Road