



MPNA General Meeting Minutes

Date: February 03, 2021

Location: Virtual Meeting via Zoom. 25+ participants registered.

Call to Order: 6:00 pm

Vice President: Pam Campbell

- Introduction: Dr. Luis Ostrosky, Memorial Hermann TMC, McGovern Medical School, infectious diseases.
 - Similar infection events, but this one has been relatively long standing. The U.S. is lagging behind the world in cases.
 - Losing about 3,000 persons daily in the U.S. from Covid-19. Currently 450K U.S. casualties.
 - Harris County experiencing a third peak in cases.
 - Currently about 1 in 5 persons are positive.
 - Currently a recent downward trend in daily cases and hospitalizations.
 - This is an aerosol transmission: not quite “airborne”, but “lingering” around the person who is infected.
 - The virus is susceptible to common disinfectants. Our current precautions work.
 - Hospital care uses varying techniques to care for infected patients
 - There are currently 4 types of vaccines in use or in development. In the U.S., we have the Pfizer and Moderna vaccines with about a 95% efficacy, both with minor side effects at are more frequent with second dose and with very rare severe reactions.
 - In Texas, currently vaccinating 1A and 1B groups.
 - Harris County has a good vaccination rate.
 - Continue wearing a mask. Get vaccinated when eligible. Continue social distancing.

Questions from the participants and Answers by Dr.Ostrosky

Q: Do you think this will eventually be an annual vaccine?

A: If we can extinguish it in short time, we do better at wiping it out

Q: How do you convince skeptics?

A: Educate yourself and weigh the risks and benefits.

Q: For over 65 without a PCP?

A: Methodist, Hermann, St.Lukes, CoH, and Harris Co all have some sort of waiting list.

Q: For under 65s, can individuals make use of vaccines that are about to go to waste?

A: It's not reliable and showing up without an appointment is discouraged

Q: Any idea when next Tier will open up?

A: Essential workers, etc is next Tier. Perhaps in March

Q: What do we know about AstraZeneca

A: About midway in approvals and use in other countries. Regular refrigeration.

Q: And Johnson and Johnson.

A: Single dose. Not as effective in some instances

Q: How many days after vaccine to test for efficacy

A: Not a recommendation right now. Two weeks after second dose is generally the rule.

Q: If first vaccine is not effective, should you get re-vaccinated?

A: No current guidance

- Introduction: Sgt Brian Alms, CoH Community DRT under Commander Johnson
 - Statistics from Jan 2020 through Jan 2021.
 - Murders down, sexual assaults down, robberies up, aggravated assaults up, burglaries up, thefts down
 - Overall crime down 34%
 - DRT continuing to focus on clubs and violations

Q: Status of tents and encampments?

A: Send addresses of private property locations. Camping on TxDOT property remains problematic. Citations and multiple solution approaches continue. Remember that homelessness is not a crime.

President's Report: Sandy Stevens

- Livable Places Action Committee January 12 meeting update. To review the meeting, https://houstontx.gov/planning/meeting_documents.html
Buffering is still an issue being focused on. Next meeting February 9, 3:00 p.m.
- Buffering Advisory Group, Mike Woods, Sean Murphy, Greg Quintero, and Jack Miller, has met and given input. Dale Furrow has also created matrix of the issues. Send concerns/suggestions: info@museumparkna.org
- Conservation Districts (similar to historic districts)

MPSN Report: Ruth Ann Skaff

- Goals for this year: Secure funds for the Caroline Promenade; Esplanade endowment; Revitalize security partnership with MPNA and other local organizations
- Next meeting is Wednesday, Feb 10
- 18 Delegates and alternates plus five ex-officio
- Continuous to work with HPD, etc that contributed to temp closing of some local bars
- Homeless coalition work will be posted to MPSN site. Jan 27 survey conducted (like a census)
- Affordable housing also being tracked

Secretary's Report: Greg Quintero

- January 6 General Meeting Minutes posted to MPNA website

Treasurer's Report / Green Team Report: Sandy for Cynthia Tang

- Financial report:
 - Posted online. About \$30K plus in the bank. See Green Team report for use of some of those funds.
- Green Team Report:
 - Board approval of Southmore esplanade tree pruning and end cap installations. Note that esplanade professionally pruning, and fertilization of trees is approximately \$6K.

Parliamentarian: Bill Powell

- (no report)

Committee Reports

1. Preservation: Lynn Dahlberg
 - (no report)
2. Membership: Louis Selig
 - (no report)
3. Community Engagement: Cindy Woods / Cathy Ehlinger
 - (no report)
4. Quality of Life: Kim Mickelson / Joselyn Thomas
 - (no report)
5. Safety & Security: Sandy for Deirdre Barrett
 - Safety & Security online survey still forthcoming

Announcements: Sandy Stevens

- Next Meeting March 3

Adjournment

Time: 7:05 pm

End of Notes by Greg Quintero

The notes above represent the Author's understanding of the meeting discussion. Please provide any comments or corrections to the Author within 5 days of distribution of these minutes, otherwise the notes will remain as a factual recodation of the discussion.