

PSNA Quarterly Meeting

Tuesday, May 7, 2013 – 7pm

Crowe's Nest Farm

10900 Taylor Lane Manor, TX

Refreshments and important information

Guest Speaker: Maura Phelan – Attorney At Law – “How to Protect Your Property Values”

Please note: Maura is a long-time PSNA member

PSNA Needs Volunteer Leaders – YOU Can Make a Difference!

At our May 7th PSNA meeting, attendees will elect a President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and Webmaster.

A nominating committee will be appointed in April. If you are interested in serving as an officer or as a member of the nominating committee, **please respond** to parkspringsna@ymail.com or by US mail to PO Box 1008, Manor TX 78653. **PLEASE VOLUNTEER TO HELP!**

Candidates File for Upcoming City of Manor Elections

Mayor Jeff Turner Does Not File For Re-election

Candidates who filed to run in the Manor City Election on May 11 include the following:

Mayor: Ferren Cornelius and Rita Jonse

Council Member, Place 1: Christopher Harvey and Sherri Hooker

Council Member, Place 3: David Cruz and Ike Clark

Council Member, Place 5: Rebecca Davies

On Friday, March 8 at 10a.m. city officials will draw candidates' names to determine order of appearance on the ballot. This process will be held in the City Council Chamber and is open to the public.

The mayor is elected at-large and council members are elected at-large by place. Council members serve a term of 2 years. City Council meetings are held on the first and third Wednesday of each month beginning at 7pm at the Council Chamber. Meeting agendas are officially posted in the lobby window at least 72 hours prior to a public meeting.

When asked about his decision to not file for re-election, Mayor Turner provided the following statement:

“After being a part of the Manor City Council on and off since 1998, it's time to let someone else step up. The vision I had back when I started on Council is coming to a reality. We are getting the growth and economic development that we always wanted. The commercial growth is on its way. In a year or two, our landscape will be full of commercial business. So I've accomplished most of what I set out to, and it's time to step aside. I thank you for your support”.

Mayor Jeff Turner
March 2, 2013

The purpose of Park Springs NA is to “improve and maintain the quality of life for residents and protect from environmental hazards within the boundaries of the association”. More information is available on the PSNA website – www.parkspringsna.org.

School Board Candidates Announced

Candidates for the May 11th Board of Trustees election are listed in the order they will appear on the ballot:

John A. Jonse
 Matildy (Sam) Samaripa, Jr.
 Elmer Fisher, Jr.
 Allen J. Roberts

Each member is elected at-large and serves a staggered three-year term. Meetings are typically held on the third Monday of each month beginning at 6:30 p.m. at the Central Administration Building located on Highway 290.

Manor School Board Discusses Construction Schedule for New Elementary School

Manor ISD Trustees discussed scheduling the construction of a new elementary school, to be located in Shadow Glen at its meeting on February 25. Their discussion was based upon a presentation made by the district’s demographer at the December 17, 2012 school board meeting. Based upon growth projections and increased student enrollment, a new elementary school would be needed for the 2014-2015 school year.

Rainey Lann, Director of Facilities and Construction, presented an update on construction planning. Board members and staff discussed whether to proceed as quickly as possible so the building would be ready for use in August, 2014, or to spend more time planning with the architects and construction manager, which would result in construction being completed sometime during the 2014-15 school year - with occupancy and use to begin in the summer of 2015.

The topic was on the board’s February agenda for information only. Manor ISD Board President Cornelius-Fisher announced there would be an action item on the March 25, 2013 agenda.

Manor City Council Proceedings – Feb. 20, 2013 Meeting:

1. Discuss and act upon a resolution confirming May 11 as the date for the City of Manor’s General Election for Mayor, Place 1, 3 and 5 on the Manor City Council – Council approved the resolution.
2. Discuss/possible action to approve a request for a Conditional Use Permit to sell alcohol beverages for on-site consumption at 14001 Shadowglen Blvd. Applicant: Front Row Sports Bar – Council denied the sports bar application.
3. Discuss/possible action to approve a request for a Conditional Use Permit to sell alcohol beverages for on-site consumption at 14001 Shadowglen Blvd. Applicant: Big E’s Wing Bar – Council approved the request to sell beer and wine, subject to at least 51% of revenue from food and no games of chance (8 liners).
4. Issues with bids received on the City Hall building project – Council postponed approval of any bids for new city hall construction pending resolution of Council’s concerns.

Interesting Facts:

Half of all Americans live within 50 miles of their birthplace.

Most boat owners name their boats – the most popular is “Obsession”.

Breakfast cereal is the 3rd most popular item sold in grocery stores after carbonated beverages and milk.

HAPPY ST. PATRICK’S DAY

PSNA Boundaries are US 290 on the north, FM 973 on the west, FM 969 on the south, and the Travis-Bastrop county line on the east. Everyone is residing in this area is welcome to join. There is more information on our website - www.parkspringsna.org. **Our mailing address** is P.O. Box 1008 Manor, TX 78653.



Comments from Superintendent of Schools Kevin Brackmeyer

Please Note: Superintendent Kevin Brackmeyer was scheduled to serve as the guest speaker for the February 5 PSNA meeting. Due to a family emergency, he was unable to attend the meeting.

I would like to first say that it is an honor to be able to share my vision for MISD with all of you.

There has been a lot of great work that has been accomplished here in the past and it is certainly important that we honor that. Going forward, I believe that as a district our focus needs to be on closing the achievement gap. With the implementation of new standards regarding accountability, which are currently being reviewed, it is of the upmost importance that we focus our efforts and resources on striving to raise the bar of success for every student. We must also ensure that every student who graduates from Manor ISD is equipped with the necessary skills to have a successful and engaging future.

I believe that it is crucial that we look at ways to implement full day Pre-K across the district. Research is clear that full day Pre-K is instrumental in ensuring that students will not only graduate from high school but also lead productive lives after graduation. Full day Pre-K will be a vital component in ensuring that we close the achievement gap and increase graduation rates.

I believe that we also need to ensure that every student who walks across the stage at graduation is college ready or that they possess a skill set and even a certification that will assist them in obtaining employment. We are already in the process of reviewing all of our Career and Technology courses to ensure that they meet the growing needs of our students. We will be exploring additional opportunities for high school students to participate in internships and on the job skills based training.

Other areas of focus will be to ensure that we continue to provide support to the implementation of Project Based Learning, the integration of technology district wide, an increased focus and support on mentoring programs, ensuring safety and security throughout every campus and providing more support and opportunities for students in the district to receive counseling services.

It is also important that as we look at the overall budget that we look at different possibilities to fund a salary increase for teachers and staff. Keeping quality staff is key to ensuring the success of every student. We must ensure that we are in a position to provide competing salaries to our staff.

Finally, as I have said in the past, it is crucial for parents, teachers, staff, volunteers, business leaders and community members to know that they are all very important to our success. We must instill strong collaboration within our learning community and a willingness to work together, and we must hold each other accountable for the success of our students. Together we can and will make a difference.

Sincerely,

Kevin Brackmeyer
Superintendent
Manor ISD

PSNA Meetings for 2013:

1st Tuesdays at 7pm

Tuesday, May 7, 2013

Tuesday, August 6, 2013

Tuesday, October 1, 2013 (NNO)



Other Important Dates to Remember:

March 11 – 15 - MISD Spring Break	Sun. May 5 - Cinco de Mayo
Wed. March 20 - 1 st day of Spring	Sun. May 12 - Mother's Day
Tues. March 26 – Passover	Mon. May 27 – Memorial Day
Fri. March 29 - Good Friday	Fri. June 14 – Flag Day
Sun. March 31 – Easter	Sun. June 16 – Father's Day

PSNA is now using a new print format to send quarterly newsletters via email.

We appreciate your support in receiving newsletters via email to save postage and printing costs in addition to volunteer time required to prepare the mail-out. You can still receive a hard copy newsletter by calling Vicki McFarland, Newsletter Editor at (512) 914-7571. Please let us know if you change your email address – send an email to parkspringsna@gmail.com. Newsletter articles are written by John Williams and Vicki McFarland and do not represent views expressed or endorsed by PSNA.





Wal-Mart Construction Will 'Go to Bid' on March 15 – Construction by May!

Finally, we may actually see construction on Highway 290 west of FM 973 for a Wal-Mart store, a new "Ring Road", and improvements to the intersection of Highway 290 and FM 973.

Construction is expected to begin in May. Both Wal-Mart and TxDOT are scheduled to advertise for bids on March 15. We have been told Wal-Mart is constructing both the Manor and Elgin stores at the same time in order to achieve 'economy of scale' cost savings.

Low Income Housing Application Filed for FM 973 near Wildhorse

Realtex Development Corporation has filed an application for tax credits to build an 80-unit low-income apartment complex at the southwest corner of Murchison St. and FM 973. This location is one block south of the Dollar General store.

The Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs (TxDPHCA) is now reviewing many applications and will determine if this project qualifies under the competitive process. Many Wildhorse subdivision residents have expressed their opposition to Manor City Council at the February 20th council meeting.

Mayor Jeff Turner responded to residents suggesting they speak up at TxDPHCA public meetings, and then, if necessary, at Manor Planning and Zoning Commission meetings. These meetings are held on the second Wednesday of each month beginning at 6:30 p.m. at City Hall.

The proposed site is currently zoned "Commercial" so it would need to be rezoned for multi-family apartment use.

Compost Fire at Hornsby Bend Biosolids Management Plant

Travelers on FM 973 and Highway 71 may have noticed a persistent smoldering fire at the Hornsby Bend Biosolids Management Plant that started on February 25. 25 acres of composted materials will continue to burn for at least 3 more weeks according to officials at the site. Compost fires are hard to put out because hosing down a large pile with water may intensify reactions caused by the bacteria deep inside the piles – thus adding to the heat.

Work began on March 5 to break open burning compost and yard waste piles and fully extinguish the fires in the Hornsby Bend storage basins. Given the high fire danger and the risk of fire spreading on the Hornsby Bend site during this operation, Austin Water has closed all of the Hornsby Bend site for at least the of week March 4-10. The Platt Lane entrance is now closed to the public and the main entrance and pond area will be closed at least all of March as remediation work continues for several weeks. For more information, please contact Kevin M. Anderson Ph.D. - Austin Water - Center for Environmental Research [CER] - 2210 South FM 973, Austin, Texas at the Hornsby Bend Biosolids Management Plant. Phone: Office (512) 972-1960 or Cell – (512) 689-6412.

Community Events:

If you have an event that you would like to include in the next issue of the PSNA newsletter, please send an email to parkspringsna@gmail.com

Sat. March 9 – 10a.m at Jennie Lane Park – The Manor Gardeners are giving out one antique rose plant (while supplies last) to Manor residents. These plants have been rooted from cuttings in our home gardens. Also to be given away – free pet bowls donated by the Austin Humane Society and learn about Emancipet's mobile van that provides free spay/neuter services at various locations in East Austin.

Easter Sunday – 11a.m. at East Metro Park – Join St Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church as they hold their 3rd annual Easter celebration at the pavilion. Lunch and egg hunt for the kids will follow the service. Everyone is welcome!

