

East Montrose Civic Association

February 19, 2014

Attended: Lee Hudman, Shelly Ray, Cheryl Hastings, Robert Thompson, Theresa Thompson, Sherry Weesner (Vice President), Kirste Reimers, Bill Maxey, Sandy Lamoey, Morton Lamoey (Treasurer), Julie Young, Jim Tucker and Meera Sundram, Judy Holst, Mary Quinn, Gary Deserio, Alison Nicol, Karen Brown.

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m. by Cheryl Hastings.

1. Introductions were conducted as there were new members and a speaker for the evening.
2. The speaker was introduced: Jane West Cahill.

Ms. West-Cahill is a very successful neighborhood activist who was instrumental in establishing the 6th ward as an historic district. It was the first established historic district in Houston. The highlights of her presentation were:

- Sharing of books she felt would be important to members of the association: Getting to Yes, Neighbor Law.
- Her tips for a successful neighborhood association impact on the city's decisions:
 - Do your homework. Be sure that you are familiar with the facts and scope of the issue you are raising.
 - Be nice. Regardless of how frustrated you are by the people or the process, being calm and professional goes further than anything else in the continued success of the impact you want to have.
 - Be consistent. Talk to everyone you know about the issue and ask them to raise it when they encounter members of the city council or the mayor. If they hear it from enough different places, it will have greater impact.
 - Work with other civic associations and the super neighborhood alliance to increase your sphere of influence and impact.

Sherry Weesner made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:15. Theresa Thompson, Second. Meeting adjourned.