

Highland Hills Neighborhood Association

PO Box 23381

San Antonio, TX

78223

February 2006

Don Gadberry, President
Tommy Adkisson, Vice President



The Program: Forum for Critical Elections of Long Term Significance - Sen. Madla vs. Rep. Uresti

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Officer Pictures to be Taken

Pg. 1 Along time State Capital insider was once heard to say that if a State Senator became difficult to work with, members of the lobby would try to promote the troublesome Senator to Congress. The reasoning was that one Senator out of 31 can be far more damaging than one Congressman out of 435. The power of the state senate position cannot be underestimated. And, in a world of competing Cities, Counties, and communities, we must take note of the vital importance of the District 19 senate race.

Senator Frank Madla has given the State of Texas 31 years of service as a member of the Texas Legislature. He

served 20 years in the House of Representatives and is now in his eleventh year as a Senator. As a member of the 78th Legislature, he served as Chairman of the Senate Intergovernmental Relations Committee and was a member of the State Affairs; Infrastructure Development and Security; Veterans Affairs and Military Installation Committees; and the Senate Subcommittee on Base Realignment and Closure. Senator Madla also serves on the Border Legislative Initiative, a joint project administered by the Council of State Governments-WEST and the South Legislative Conference. During the 78th Interim

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Other Critical Elections

Although contact was made with both Congressman Henry Cuellar's office and that of former Congressman Ciro Rodriguez, only the former Congressman indicated his availability for our Feb. 6 meeting. Owing to the shortness of time prior to the March 7th Democratic Primary Election, and knowing that we could secure only one of these candidates at our March 6 meeting, we will allow a five minute presentation by each of these candidates when they are able to attend. Former Congressman Ciro Rodriguez will attend and present at our next

meeting. Because Congressman Cuellar is unavailable for our February he will be invited to present at our March 6th meeting.

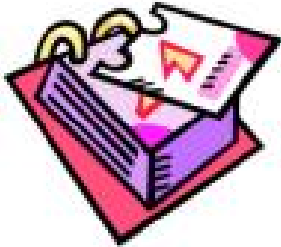
Ciro D. Rodriguez has served in public office for 30 years, first as a school board member, then as a member of the Texas House of Representatives, and most recently as a member of the United States House of Representatives.

Former Congressman Ciro Rodriguez served in an unbroken succession of

Other Critical Elections Cont. Pg. 3

**Minutes of the
HIGHLAND HILLS
NEIGHBORHOOD
ASSOCIATION**

Held at the Highland Hills E. S. on
January 9, 2005



Next Meeting

Monday
February 6
Highland Hills Elem.
7 PM

Dates to Remember

Black History Month

Feb. 12 – Lincoln's BDay
Feb. 14 – Valentine's Day
Feb. 15 – Susan B.
Anthony Day
Feb. 20 – President's Day
Feb. 22 – Washington's
BDay

***** ATTENTION *****

**OFFICER PICTURES TO
BE TAKEN: 6:45 PM**
(Just before the
meeting.)

A photographer from the Southside Reporter will take a group picture of the 2006 HHNA officers. All officers are urged to be a part of the picture.

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 p.m. by **Christel Villarreal**, the outgoing President. She led the Pledge of Allegiance. She introduced the outgoing and incoming officers of the association and thanked them for so diligently serving the community. She then announced that **Don Gadberry**, President-elect, will undergo surgery the next day and Vice President, **Tommy Adkisson**, will conduct the meeting.

Tommy introduced guests: Candidate for U.S. Congress **Ciro Rodriguez**, County Judge at Law No. 9 **Oscar Kazen**, and SAFFE **Officers Herring and Delgado**. Precinct 4 justice of the peace candidate **Linda Penn** was also present.

Tommy also welcomed new members, **Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Hutchins**.

Tommy called for approval of December minutes. There were no additions or corrections; the minutes are approved as published.

Cathy Dean then gave the Treasurer's Report. She announced that Southeast Community Credit Union is planning a move from the Waleetka Street location to more accessible quarters at 7131 Fairlawn.

Tommy introduced **Howard Peak**,

former San Antonio Mayor, and the present Chairman/President of the Brooks Development Authority (BDA). Mr. Peak introduced board member **Priscilla Gonzaba** and staff member, **Cindy Hanson**.

Mr. Peak gave a history of how Brooks City-Base came to be. The BDA is the owner of the property and the Air Force is the tenant. He says that the Air Force will eventually leave Brooks and all the property will be available for development. They are striving to attract businesses that will provide good paying jobs. Their goal is to foster a good relationship and commitment to the community. Mr. Peak also pointed out that a variety of businesses are and will be located on the northeast part of the property. Southeast Baptist Hospital will be a large modern facility and will attract many related medical offices. Included in the plans is the extension of New Braunfels Avenue into the base. The BDA is also working with the City to complete the drainage problem on the intersection and along Goliad Road. Former City Manager **Alex Briseno** is the interim director. Within 60 days they will announce a permanent director. Mr. Peak then answered questions: they are trying to work with VIA to get a park and ride; there are no funds to widen Goliad Road; TxDot is still determining what exactly needs to

Minutes Continued on Page 3

Minutes Continued

be done about problems at the IH37 cloverleaf intersection, there is no immediate remedy available; the Air Force residences will move off the base, single family housing does not fit into the plans; a baseball and soccer sports complex is in the plans for the southeast corner of the property. There will also be a charter school and a child care center.

Ciro Rodriguez reiterated that converting a military base to a civilian development is one of a kind and it he is gratified that it is working out so well.

Mr. **Craig Blume**, representative of the Highland Heights subdivision, announced that residents in the 200 feet will receive a blue card from the City Planning Commission which concerns the replatting of lot 5 in the subdivision. He hopes that these residents will return the cards with a favorable indication. Mr. Blume further states that within the next two weeks the clean-up of the area will begin. Watch for the tremendous amount of trash that will be removed from the site. He will keep us informed developments as they occur.

Tommy then introduced **Mark Du Mas** of the **Pace's organization**. Mr. Du Mas gave a history of their non-profit corporation. They are in the business of constructing affordable housing. They are looking to develop part of the State Hospital property with 112 affordable housing units, with 8 units per acre. They are planning to apply for Texas tax credits to fund this development. He then showed a 12-minute video presentation highlighting some of their projects and hearing from tenants.

It was determined that a committee will look into the request by the Pace organization and make a recommendation. Officers and members are asked to serve on this committee. Please contact an officer to volunteer. Date and time of the committee meeting to be announced.

Officer Herring addressed some of the concerns that arose during the holidays. He announced that the next Cellular on Patrol workshop takes

place on January 19 and 26 from 6 to 9 pm at the Eastside Police Substation on Houston Street. He explained what members learn at the workshop and how they apply it in helping the police and the community.

Highland Park is having an all day festival at the Lutheran Church with a sausage dinner being served. Tickets are available at the door.

Jennifer Ramos had to leave but left the following announcements to be related to the members:

- The District 3 Town Hall meeting is tentatively set for Laura Steele Elementary School.
- February 29 is the Goliad Capital Improvement Update at Kate Schenck Elementary School.
- TxDot will be invited to discuss IH37/Goliad project.
- The councilman's field office has moved to the old council office of Councilwoman **Toni Moorhouse**.
- Jennifer Ramos has moved to the City Hall offices and **Gabe Farias** and **Jessica Ramos** are manning the field office.
- **Joe Farias** has resigned from the Zoning Commission and **Councilman Gutierrez** nominated **Don Gadberry** to be the representative on the Zoning Commission for District 3.
- City Council approved the nomination at the January 5, 2006 meeting.

Cathy Dean announced that an archery club is trying to obtain a contract from the City's Parks and Recreation Department to use the east part of Hi Lions Park as a walking archery range. Archery Club and City representatives will be at the **Pecan Valley Neighborhood** meeting on Thursday, January 12 at the Pecan Valley ES. **Charles Bartlett** urged residents to attend that meeting.

Cathy Dean urged members to send post cards to the Mayor and Councilman Roland Gutierrez asking to oppose weakening an already weak tree ordinance. She has post cards available.

Mr. Koval won the \$15 raffle.

Meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by Christel Villarreal, Secretary. ■

Senate District 19 Continued from Page 1

Senator Madla was appointed by Lt. Governor Dewhurst to the Select Committee on Water Policy and made Chairman of its Subcommittee on Lease of State Water Rights. He was also appointed to the Senate Select Committee on Workers' Compensation and the Advisory Committee on Rock Crushers and Quarries.

Rep. Uresti was elected in a special election to the Texas House of Representatives in June 1997; he has served his constituents honorably for nearly eight years. He is the current Chairman of the Committee on Government Reform, and also serves on the Committee on Local Ways and Means. As a proud former Marine, he is a member of Texas House Veterans Coalition and a life time member of the VFW Post 9186, the United States Marine Corp

League, and the Alamo Silver Wings Airborne Association.

During the Interim of the 78th Legislature, Rep. Uresti guided the House Committee on Human Services through a year of hearings concerning the crisis within the state's Child Protective Services and Adult Protective Services. Recognizing that state action alone could not address the fundamental causes of such maltreatment, he was instrumental in the foundation of Bexar County's Blue Ribbon Task Force, a coalition that brings together hundreds of community members and leaders to fight the causes of child abuse and neglect. He has spearheaded the legislative reform of both protective services, and devoted himself to increasing efforts to prevent child abuse and neglect. ■

Critical Elections Cont.

members of Congress from Bexar County who sat on the Armed Services Committee. It was from his position on the Armed Services and Veterans Affairs Committee that former Congressman Rodriguez kept a watchful eye on the largest concentration of Military outside of Washington, D.C.

Other Critical Elections:

- Justice of the Peace, Precinct 4
- County Court at Law & District Judge Races
- Judicial Races

EARLY VOTING: Feb. 21st - Mar. 3rd
ELECTION DAY: March 7th

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