CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2011

The City Council of the City of Bellaire, Texas, met in Regular Session on Monday, February 7, 2011, to hold its Annual Town Meeting in the Council Chamber, First Floor of City Hall, 7008 South Rice Avenue, Bellaire, Texas 77401, for the following purpose(s):

A. CALL TO ORDER AND ANNOUNCEMENT OF A QUORUM – Mayor Cindy Siegel.

Mayor Siegel called the City Council of the City of Bellaire, Texas, to order at 7:01 p.m. on Monday, February 7, 2011.

Also present were Mayor Pro Tem Phil Nauert, Councilmen Will Hickman, James P. Avioli, Sr., and Andrew Friedberg, Councilwoman Mandy Nathan, City Manager Bernard M. Satterwhite, Jr., City Attorney Alan P. Petrov, and City Clerk Tracy L. Dutton. Councilman Corbett Daniel Parker was absent.

B. INSPIRATIONAL READING AND/OR INVOCATION – Councilman James P. Avioli, Sr.

Councilman Avioli provided the inspirational reading for the evening.

C. PLEDGES TO THE FLAGS – Councilman James P. Avioli, Sr.

1. U.S. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

2. PLEDGE TO THE TEXAS FLAG.

Councilman Avioli led the audience and City Council in the U.S. Pledge of Allegiance and the Pledge to the Texas Flag.

D. PERSONAL/AUDIENCE COMMENTS.

Lynn McBee, 5314 Evergreen Street, Bellaire, Texas:

Ms. McBee addressed City Council and noted that she wished to recognize the citizens of Bellaire who volunteered to serve on the City's boards, commissions, and committees. She stated that each of those citizens were eager to serve, had a willingness to learn, and took a nonjudgmental stance. She thanked each of them for their service to Bellaire.
Stergios Liapis, 535 College Street, Bellaire, Texas:

Mr. Liapis address City Council regarding flooding that occurred on College Street with the simplest rainfall. He expressed concern that the homes on College Street might flood if a serious storm occurred. Although he understood the City’s budget constraints, he indicated that he was hopeful that an affordable solution would be sought.

Gary Williams, 534 College Street, Bellaire, Texas:

Mr. Williams addressed City Council regarding flooding that occurred on College Street. He provided photographs taken from the spring of 1989 to July of 2006 depicting the amount of rainfall and ponding that occurred in the street. He advised that there was an existing 15-inch drain line draining all of College Street from the end of the street to Jessamine Street. In order for the City to provide relief for the residents on College Street, the existing drain line, 166 feet in length, needed to be replaced with a larger line. He urged City Council to have a small study performed so that cost estimates could be obtained and used to prepare the next year’s budget.

John Grandstaff, 532 College Street, Bellaire, Texas:

Mr. Grandstaff addressed City Council regarding flooding that occurred on College Street. He indicated that construction had exacerbated College Street’s flooding problems over the years. He indicated further that the street was now in the flood zone and that water frequently covered the curbs during a rainfall. He urged City Council to look into this issue for the residents of College Street.

E. NEW BUSINESS:

1. STATE OF THE CITY ADDRESS – Mayor Cindy Siegel.

Mayor Cindy Siegel presented the State of the City Address to Bellaire residents and City Council. She began her address by referencing recent changes to the City’s website, as well as the addition of video streaming so that residents could watch City Council and certain board meetings live over the Internet. Meetings could also be viewed on the Internet on demand, as desired.

Mayor Siegel provided an overview of the storm water drainage improvements, as well as street, curb, and sidewalk improvements made over the ten years she had served the City of Bellaire (both as Mayor and as a member of City Council).

Mayor Siegel’s entire address, for the record, has been attached hereto and marked “Exhibit A.”
2. BOARD/COMMISSION/COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORTS FOR THE PERIOD JANUARY 1, 2010, THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2010:

Board/Commission/Committee Annual Reports included a recap of the various board, commission, and/or committee activities, goals, and accomplishments during the 2010 calendar year.

a. BELLAIRE CULTURAL ARTS COMMISSION – Presented by Co-Chair Judy McConnell.

Co-Chair Judy McConnell presented the Annual Report for the Bellaire Cultural Arts Commission ("BCAC") for the period January 1, 2010, through December 31, 2010, to the audience and City Council.

Co-Chair McConnell advised that the other members serving on the BCAC at some point during 2010 were as follows: Wendy Bantle, Kathy Biddle, Ed Dumont (current Co-Chair), Johnnie Frazier, Kathryn Hardin, Kay Hieronymus, Terry Leavitt-Chavez, Susan Farb Morris, and Cassie Neumann. It was also noted that the Council Liaison to the BCAC was Councilman Corbett Daniel Parker, and the Staff Liaison was City Manager Bernard M. Satterwhite, Jr.

Co-Chair McConnell indicated that the BCAC had requested and received approval for a name change during 2010 from the "Bellaire Arts Commission” to the “Bellaire Cultural Arts Commission.” She also provided a summary of the focus of the BCAC and a list of projects shepherded by the BCAC during 2010.

Co-Chair McConnell’s report, for the record, has been attached hereto and marked “Exhibit B.”

b. BELLAIRE L.I.F.E. ADVISORY BOARD – Presented by Chair Iola Pickul.

Chair Iola Pickul presented the Annual Report for the Bellaire L.I.F.E. Advisory Board ("BLIFE Board") for the period January 1, 2010, through December 31, 2010, to the audience and City Council.

Chair Pickul advised that the other members serving on the BLIFE Board during 2010 were as follows: Carolyn Bouldin, Jeri Garner, Peggy Griffin, Patricia J. Layton, Gladys McGowan, and Pauline McRae (current Vice Chair). It was also noted that the Council Liaison to the BLIFE Board was Mayor Cindy Siegel and
that the Staff Liaisons were Recreation Superintendent Cheryl Bright-West and Senior Services Specialist Valerie Langdon.

Chair Pickul indicated that the Bellaire Parks & Recreation Department Senior Adult Services provided the BLIFE program for active adults ages 50 and up for the purpose of keeping adults engaged in life through continued learning opportunities, new relationships, and new experiences. The acronym “BLIFE” was noted to represent “Living, Information, Fun, and Enrichment.”

Chair Pickul provided an overview of the types of programming activities offered to participants during 2010, as well as the number of participants engaged in each of the various programming activities.

Chair Pickul’s report, for the record, has been attached hereto and marked “Exhibit C.”

c. BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT – Presented by Chair Randy Pollard.

Chair Randy Pollard presented the Annual Report for the Board of Adjustment of the City of Bellaire, Texas (“BOA”), for the period January 1, 2010, through December 31, 2010, to the audience and City Council.

Chair Pollard advised that the other members serving on the BOA during 2010 were as follows: Nick Bacile (current Vice Chair), Patricia B. McGinty, David Middleman (January-June 2010), Aashish Shah, Deborah Sharp, Marc Steinberg, and Dirk Stiggins (July-December 2010). It was also noted that the Council Liaison to the BOA was Mayor Pro Tem Phil Nauert and that the Staff Liaisons were Director of Community Development John McDonald, Assistant Director of Community Development Chris Magisano, and Administrative Secretary Rebecca Eppler.

Chair Pollard indicated that the BOA was responsible for considering applications for variances or special exceptions to Chapter 24, Planning and Zoning, of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Bellaire, Texas. Requests for variances or special exceptions were determined by the BOA after a legally advertised meeting had been held to hear testimony. Decisions made by the BOA could only be appealed to a Harris County District Court.
Chair Pollard provided an overview of the BOA’s activities for each of the twelve months of 2010. Chair Pollard’s report, for the record, has been attached hereto and marked “Exhibit D.”

d. BUILDING AND STANDARDS COMMISSION – Presented by Chair E. Wayne Alderman.

Vice Chair Gayle Davies presented the Annual Report for the Building and Standards Commission of the City of Bellaire, Texas (“Commission”), for the period January 1, 2010, through December 31, 2010, to the audience and City Council on behalf of Chair E. Wayne Alderman who was unable to attend the Town Meeting.

Vice Chair Davies advised that the other members serving on the Commission during 2010 were as follows: E. Wayne Alderman (current Chair), Gregory L. Cauthen, John Cohen (August-December 2010), Richard Franke (July-December 2010), Tom Ligh (January-June 2010), Scott Scheinthal (January-December 2010), Kristin Schuster, and Dirk Stiggins (January-June 2010). It was also noted that the Council Liaison to the Commission was Councilman Andrew Friedberg and that the Staff Liaisons were Director of Community Development John McDonald, Building Official Lee Cabello, and Administrative Secretary Rebecca Eppler.

Vice Chair Davies provided an overview of the variances, complaints, and other business that the Commission discussed and/or considered during 2010. Of special note was the formation by the Commission of a Green Building Committee of the Whole that was actively studying “green building” issues related to residential and commercial construction. A green building was noted to be one designed to conserve resources and reduce negative impacts on environmental and human health through more efficient use of resources, including energy, water, building materials, and land.

Chair Alderman’s report, as presented by Vice Chair Davies, for the record, has been attached hereto and marked “Exhibit E.”

e. PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD – Presented by Chair Charlotte Aguilar.

Chair Charlotte Aguilar presented the Annual Report for the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board of the City of Bellaire, Texas (“Board”), for the period January 1, 2010, through December 31, 2010, to the audience and City Council.
Chair Aguilar advised that the other members serving on the Commission during 2010 were as follows: Jeff Addicks (current Vice Chair), Sarah Bauer, Steven O. Grubbs, Alissa Leightman (July-December 2010), Leslie Little (January-June 2010), Vanessa Nieves, Kim Padgett (July-December 2010), and Sharon Veldman (January-June 2010). It was also noted that the Council Liaison to the Board was Councilman James P. Avioli, Sr., and that the Staff Liaison was Director of Parks & Recreation Jane L. Dembski.

Chair Aguilar provided an overview of the Board’s activities over the past year, which included an evaluation of the City’s parks and facilities, as well as the creation of a new fee structure designed to stabilize revenues and the year-round operation of all facilities while offering residents the best possible value.

Chair Aguilar’s report, for the record, has been attached hereto and marked “Exhibit F.”

f. PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION – Presented by Chair Bill Thorogood.

Chair Bill Thorogood presented the Annual Report for the Planning and Zoning Commission of the City of Bellaire, Texas (“Commission”), for the period January 1, 2010, through December 31, 2010, to the audience and City Council.

Chair Thorogood advised that the other members serving on the Commission during 2010 were as follows: James P. Avioli, Jr. (January-February 2010), Lori Aylett, Peter Boecher, Michael Doyle (current Vice Chair), Winfred C. Frazier, Donna Rickenbacker, and Paul C. Simmons (March-December 2010). It was also noted that the Council Liaison to the Board was Councilman Will Hickman and that the Staff Liaisons were Director of Community Development John McDonald and Administrative Secretary Rebecca Eppler.

Chair Thorogood provided an overview of the activities and reviews that the Commission performed during 2010 (i.e., amended plats, a zoning amendment, specific use permits, and a planned development amendment). Of special note was the Commission’s part in providing recommendations to City Council related to the implementation of Bellaire’s 2009 Comprehensive Plan.

Chair Thorogood’s report, for the record, has been attached hereto and marked “Exhibit G.”
g. **RECYCLING COMMITTEE – Presented by Chair Brenda Cauthen.**

Chair Brenda Cauthen presented the Annual Report for the Recycling Committee of the City of Bellaire, Texas ("Committee"), for the period January 1, 2010, through December 31, 2010, to the audience and City Council.

Chair Cauthen advised that the other members serving on the Committee during 2010 were as follows: Steven Amaya (August-November 2010), Doug Christians, Dorene Delaloye, Stephanie Goldfield, William Stone (current Vice Chair), and Miriam Wiener. It was also noted that the Council Liaison to the Committee was Councilwoman Mandy Nathan and that the Staff Liaisons were Director of Public Works Joe Keene and Public Works Information Coordinator Todd Gross.

Chair Cauthen provided an overview of the Committee’s activities during 2010, as well as recommendations made with respect to the closure of the Recycling Center and a reduction in the number of trash bags distributed to City residents. The recommendations were made in an effort increase the curbside recycling program, to reduce costs, and to promote less trash going to area landfills.

It was noted that the Committee focused on many of its stated purposes during the year, one of which was promoting education about recycling programs within the City of Bellaire. The Committee participated in The Nature Discovery Center Spring Fling event and the City’s Fourth of July Festival, as well as held its second annual Bellaire Recycles Day on November 13th, all of which served to help promote education about recycling.

Chair Cauthen’s report, for the record, has been attached hereto and marked “Exhibit H.”

F. **COMMUNITY INTEREST ITEMS FROM THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL.**

Community interest items from the Mayor and City Council included an expression of thanks to all board, commission, and committee members who donated thousands of hours to the Bellaire community each year. Upcoming meetings were mentioned as follows: 1) Executive Session on February 10, 2011, at 5:30 p.m.; 2) Public Hearing on February 21, 2011, at 6:00 p.m.; 3) Regular Session on February 21, 2011, at 7:00 p.m.; and 4) Workshop Session either later in February or sometime in March.
Councilman Will Hickman announced that beginning in March of 2011, he would be spending 80% of his time in Calgary, Canada on a new job assignment. For that reason, he was no longer able to serve on City Council and would be submitting a letter of resignation indicating that he was vacating his seat.

G. ADJOURNMENT.

Councilman Hickman moved to adjourn the Regular Session (Town Meeting) of the City Council of the City of Bellaire, Texas, at 8:15 p.m. on Monday, February 7, 2011. Mayor Pro Tem Nauert seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously on a 6-0 vote as follows:

FOR: Mayor Siegel, Mayor Pro Tem Nauert, Councilmen Hickman, Avioli, and Friedberg, and Councilwoman Nathan

OPPOSED: None

ABSENT: Councilman Parker

Respectfully submitted,

_____________________________
Tracy L. Dutton, TRMC
City Clerk
City of Bellaire, Texas

Approved:

_____________________________
Cynthia Siegel, Mayor
City of Bellaire, Texas
March 2011

Dear Bellaire Neighbor,

You have, hopefully, seen the changes that we have recently made to our webpage. You can now, also, view City Council’s and some of our board’s meetings using your computer. As part of the City’s efforts to improve communications with you (and one of City Council’s goals), the City Manager and I will be giving you brief updates each month regarding current issues and things going on in your city that you might be interested in. Since I’m the first “up to bat”, I thought that I would discuss one of our community’s biggest concerns:

"WATER, WATER, EVERYWHERE!"

Living in Bellaire, we know that flooding can be a problem with the monsoon rains that we get every year. After Tropical Storm Allison (a 100 year storm event) in 2001 the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) placed over 80% of Bellaire in the Hundred Year Floodplain. What does this mean? It means that those homeowners in the “flood plain” have a statistically greater chance of flooding during a rain event that has a 1% chance of occurrence in any given year (i.e., a “huge” downpour over several hours or days). In Bellaire we see flooding across a wide area of the city either: 1) when a great deal of rain comes down so fast that the storm drains cannot accommodate it, which causes the water to instead flow over land (and possibly through homes) to the bayous and drainage ditches or 2) the bayous fill up and cannot accommodate the storm runoff flowing through to it via our drainage system. Although our streets are meant to provide storm water retention when the drainage system is full, there are still streets in Bellaire that were built decades ago with inadequate storm drainage and can’t accommodate an average “Bellaire” storm - let alone a major storm event.

Currently, Harris County is making a significant investment to expand the storm water drainage capacity of Brays Bayou (i.e., Project Brays). Although we expect to see an improvement in Bellaire’s drainage due to this project, these improvements won’t help Bellaire property owners as much, if we have difficulty in getting our storm water through our drainage system to Brays Bayou. Due to our citizens’ concerns regarding the impact of flooding, the voters overwhelmingly approved a bond referendum (with a possible 5 cent tax rate increase, if necessary) in 2005 to make $41 million of storm drainage and street improvements. The proceeds from the sale of these bonds pay for improvements to our storm water drainage system in all four quadrants of Bellaire over a ten year
period. Each city block (unless the street was replaced previously) was reviewed and prioritized in developing this capital improvement plan using the following criteria:

- Blocks with a drainage capacity of less than a two year storm event (i.e., a normal rainfall in Bellaire) and having significant and consistent flooding problems over the last 20 years (i.e., damage to homes or garages) were weighted more heavily in the priority list.
- The physical condition of the street surface was taken into account.
- The amount of traffic on the block (heavy traffic vs. light) was considered.
- Blocks with more homes than others were given a higher score.
- Streets without curbs and gutters having an open ditch were also weighted more heavily in the ranking.

The capital improvement program was then developed to replace certain street blocks in each quadrant that were ranked high on the priority list and which would improve the drainage for an area greater than just that particular block. For example, Ferris Street (from Jessamine to the southern boundary of the City) was replaced with improved storm water drainage and a new concrete street because the drainage for the cross streets was also improved (even though some of the cross streets were in poorer physical condition than Ferris Street). Based upon our tax base and ability to pay our bondholders, the City decides in conjunction with our City engineering firm what blocks on the priority list will be included in a particular project each year that will maximize the storm water drainage in an area and get the "biggest bang for the buck".

The 2000 and 2005 bond programs were not designed to replace every street in Bellaire. (To have replaced every street within ten years through just one bond program would require the tax rate to almost double for several years.) Instead, the two programs were developed to be the start of a phased approach with future bond programs that would pay for the replacement of streets and make storm water drainage improvements over several years. Currently, we are half way through the 2005 bond program. On Monday, March 28th at 7 pm City Council will be having a workshop to hear from our City staff and engineers regarding the status of the 2005 bond program and to start discussions regarding when we can reasonably manage (and financially afford) through the next future bond program. I encourage you to attend and learn more about the current capital improvement plan by attending. Although we’ve made a lot of improvements with the 2000 and 2005 bond programs, we know that we still have a lot to do.

Mayor Siegel
EXHIBIT B

Bellaire Cultural Arts Commission
Annual Report 2010

The BCAC Commissioners are especially pleased to start 2011 with a full seven members and Council Liaison. We are excited to welcome our recently appointed members, Susan Farb Morris and Terry Leavitt-Chavez. We are grateful for and appreciative of the service provided in 2010 by our departing members Kay Hieronymus, Cassie Neuman and Kathryn Hardin.

The commission requested and received approval for a name change from Bellaire Arts Commission to the Bellaire Cultural Arts Commission (BCAC).

The BCAC Commissioners continued their focus on developing cultural arts programs that nurture a cooperative community spirit. We approached this goal by partnering in the projects of City Departments commissions boards and local non profit entities.

Some of the project that the BCAC shepherded in 2010 included the following:

- **Bellaire Artist Spotlight** – We jointly sponsored the artist reception and art show. The Greater Southwest Houston Chamber of Commerce chaired the event with assistance from BCAC. The event featured 5 artists, showing their work for sale.
- **Bellaire Recycles Day** – Commissioner Wendy Bantle directed planning for the ECO-Art contest sponsored by the BCAC. The 3 winning entries were submitted and displayed at city hall.
- **The Bellaire History Walk** – We completed installing the granite markers (plinths) and finished brochures.
- **Arts & Humanities Aware Class IV** – The Southwest Regional Council of the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) awarded the BelleArtz Expo the Arts & Humanities Award Class IV to the team of the Parks and Recreation Department (PARD) and the BCAC for the event. The NRPA includes the states of Texas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, Arkansas and New Mexico.

In closing, we would like to recognize our former Chair, Kathy Biddle, whose leadership and support is much appreciated. And a special thanks to City Manager Bernie Satterwhite for his guidance and advice as our staff liaison.
Through the Parks and Recreation Department Senior Adult Services, the City of Bellaire provides the Bellaire LIFE program (BLIFE) for active adults ages 50 and up. BLIFE represents Living, Information, Fun, and Enrichment. The purpose of our programming is to help keep our participants engaged in life through continued learning opportunities, new relationships and new experiences. Our programming provides residents of Bellaire and surrounding communities with a leisure lifestyle through socialization, game days, day trips, special activities and events. The atmosphere is fun with a sense of camaraderie.

BLIFE takes advantage of free bus transportation services offered by the Harris County Transportation Department. Generally, staff is able to secure one to two Harris County buses per month for day trips within a 200-mile radius from Houston. The trips provide a change of scenery for the participants as well as provide an opportunity to make new friends while on the bus, and enhance the overall lifestyle of each participant.

In an effort to make a difference in the community, BLIFE participants collected over 300 food items for the Bellaire Police and Fire Departments adopt-a-family program during the 2010 holiday season. BLIFE plans to participate in the Santa for Seniors program in 2011.

Provided for under City ordinance, and appointed by the Mayor and City Council, the BLIFE Board meets monthly to provide guidance to Staff in determining program objectives. In addition, BLIFE Board members provide assistance to staff during programs, trips, activities and events.

### 2010 BLIFE Programming Participation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th># of Participants</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>24 bus day trips</td>
<td>616</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 Educational Seminars</td>
<td>99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18 Special Events</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>luncheons, Elvis, jewelry swap, Donut Day,</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>accordionist, Easter Bonnet contest,</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Valentine’s Tea Party,</td>
<td>408</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 monthly Bingo games</td>
<td>219</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 monthly BLIFE Board meetings</td>
<td>70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 monthly Men’s/Women’s Club Board Meetings</td>
<td>96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 monthly Men’s/Women’s Club Programs</td>
<td>395</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>52 Monday Bridge</td>
<td>1,300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>42 Tuesday weekly meetings of various games,</td>
<td>362</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bridge</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 Wednesday Crafts and Conversation</td>
<td>67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>46 Friday Bridge</td>
<td>622</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Summer Movie Series</td>
<td>96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 Summer Games Day</td>
<td>103</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Totals: 263 activities 4,505 participants
January 28, 2011

Honorable Mayor and City Council
City of Bellaire
7008 South Rice Avenue
Bellaire, TX 77401

The Board of Adjustment hereby submits to City Council our Annual Report pertaining to the activities of the Board and variance requests heard with subsequent actions taken during the year 2010.

The Board of Adjustment is responsible for considering applications for variances or special exceptions to the Zoning Code (Chapter 24 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Bellaire, Texas). Landowners or their agents apply to the Building Official of the Department of Community Development. Formal dockets, which must be legally advertised, are scheduled for the Board of Adjustment.

Meetings are held to hear testimony on the applications. The Board of Adjustment determines the outcome of all applications, which may only be appealed to a Harris County District Court.

The Board of Adjustment consists of seven members who serve staggered two-year terms, maximum three consecutive terms. The Board of Adjustment selects its own Chair and Vice Chair for a term of one year. There are seven (7) members on the Board. State law requires that a minimum of four (4) members be present to conduct any Board business, that a minimum of six (6) members be present to hear a docket item relating to a variance or special exception, and that a minimum of six (6) members vote in favor of a variance or special exception in order for it to be granted. The Board of Adjustment meets on the third Thursday of each month beginning at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chamber, First Floor of City Hall. The Board of Adjustment has served the City of Bellaire and the community during the year by having monthly meetings to hear docketed items.
January 2010
The Board met with a quorum, and one item on the agenda, the approval of the Annual Report for 2010 to the City Council. The report was approved.

February, 2010 – April, 2010
There were no docket items and the Board did not meet during this time period.

May, 2010-Special Meeting
There was a quorum of the members and a meeting took place. The Board did not meet on its regularly scheduled night.

Docket # A-2010-01 – Consideration and possible action concerning a request for a Special Exception by Sion Saghian, the owner of Sagstex Investments LP, to allow a reduced number of parking spaces at the property in lieu of the required amount of available parking as required by Chapter 24. (5208 Bissonnet St.)

The Board passed this special exception with a 6 -yes 1-no vote.

June, 2010
There were no docket items and the Board did not meet.

July, 2010-Special Meeting
There was a quorum of the members and a meeting took place. The Board did not meet on its regularly scheduled night. Existing board members were re-sworn, a new board member, Dirk Stiggins had been sworn in before the meeting and appreciation for the service of departing member, David Middleman was duly noted. A new chair and vice-chair were elected and Rules of Procedure were adopted. An educational session followed and six board members attended.

August, 2010-Special Meeting
There was a quorum of the Members and a meeting did take place. The Board did not meet on its regularly scheduled night.

Docket # A-2010-02 – Consideration and possible action concerning a request by Wendi Orlando & Lisa Majors, owners of the property located at 5012 Braeburn, for a variance from the Code of Ordinances, Chapter 24, Planning and Zoning, Section 24-510.C (2) regulating maximum height of accessory buildings, to permit the height of the detached garage (an accessory structure) to exceed the main residential structure.

The Board voted not to grant this variance with a 5 –yes 2-no vote.

September, 2010
There were no docket items and the Board did not meet.

October, 2009
The Board met and had a quorum so the following items were considered:

> A change to The Rules of Procedure, and Election of a person to sit on the Sunset Commission. Randy Pollard was elected to be the Board’s representative to the Sunset Review Board.

November, 2010
There were no docket items and the Board did not meet.
December, 2010
The Board met with a quorum present and held a joint meeting with the Planning and Zoning Commission, regarding proposed amendments to the Code of Ordinances.

I wish to thank all members of the Board and Staff for their dedication and service to all Citizens of the City of Bellaire, Texas.

Sincerely,

Randy Pollard, Chair
Board of Adjustment
January 21, 2011

Honorable Mayor and City Council
City of Bellaire
7008 South Rice Avenue
Bellaire, TX 77401

The Building and Standards Commission held eight regular meetings, two special meetings and five workshop sessions in fiscal year 2010.

At the end of the year, the Commission consisted of the following members:

Wayne Alderman – Chairman
Gayle Davies – Vice Chair
Richard Franke
John Cohen
Greg Cauthen
Kristin Schuster

During part of 2010, the Commission also included Mr. Dirk Stiggins, Mr. Tom Ligh & Mr. Scott Scheinthal.

The Building and Standards Commission considered and acted on the following issues:

1. Variances
   a. Docket #BS-2010-01 in which a resident requested a flood plain variance to allow 18” of lot fill in lieu of the 8” maximum as required by the Code. The applicant requested the variance in order to convert an garage remodeled into a bedroom for a handicapped parent back into a garage.
   b. Docket #BS-2010-02 in which a resident requested a variance to allow a partial crushed granite driveway at 5011 Braeburn Dr. in lieu of a concrete driveway as required by the Code. The applicant requested this variance in order to allow the existing trees to be saved for the new construction. After all the information was presented and discussed by the Building and Standards Commission, the request was approved.

2. Complaints
   a. Complaint #2010-01 in regards to a complaint filed by the Building Official regarding a substandard home at 4329 Jane. After all the information was presented and discussed by the Building and Standards Commission, the home was ordered its demolition.
   b. Complaint #2010-02 in regards to a complaint by the Building Official regarding a substandard house at 4537 Larch Lane. After all the information was presented and discussed by the Building and Standards Commission, the
Commission ordered the house demolished if not repaired to the extent allowed in the 100 year flood plain.

3. Other Business
   a. The Commission discussed and recommended the deletion of the requirement of a Certificate of Occupancy be issued for each home that was sold.

4. In 2008 the Commission formed a “Green Building Committee of the Whole”. This group, which held five workshops in 2010, is actively studying “green building” issues related to residential and commercial construction. A green building is one designed to conserve resources and reduce negative impacts on environmental and human health through more efficient use of resources, including energy, water, building materials and land. This effort is focused on possible code changes that would enhance the quality and value of residential, commercial and civic construction in Bellaire.
   a. The Committee worked through the year preparing educational material regarding green sustainable building practices to be placed on the City of Bellaire website.
   b. Committee members volunteered in April to be docents for the Bellaire Home Tour at the home that highlighted green building practices.

Respectfully submitted,

[Signature]

Wayne Alderman, Chairman
Building and Standards Commission
PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD REPORT
Charlotte Aguilar, Chairperson

Just as residents and City Hall have had to adjust to economic realities in the past year, so has the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board. After years of helping to plan and enact such projects as the Bellaire Family Aquatics Center and other elements of Bellaire Town Square, money has become scarce, and projects have become dormant.

That does not mean we’ve been inactive, though. The board has used the past year to tackle some of the less glamorous work of maintaining first-rate parks and recreational opportunities in our community. And the need has never been greater: With the downturn in the economy, residents are staying closer to home and looking to the city for reasonably priced activities.

Although there is no formal way to count attendance, most observers agreed that last December’s Holiday in the Park was the largest ever, bolstered by great weather and the ability to utilize all of Bellaire Town Square for activities. Large crowds have enjoyed the Fourth of July Parade & Festival, the pools, camps and classes in the past year, as well.

The Parks Board’s concentration has shifted to evaluating city parks and facilities and in looking to the future to plan for the increasing demands.

At the direction of the Mayor and City Manager, we are helping to create a new fee structure that is designed to help stabilize revenues and the year-round operation of all facilities while offering residents the best possible value.

Members of the board are in the process of completing extensive site evaluations of each existing park to assess conditions.

We are also preparing to make recommendations about how to conduct a survey of residents’ preferences for parks and recreation needs for the coming decade.

This will help us in updating the Parks Master Plan, which is due for a makeover, which we plan to tackle in the coming year.

A key element of the survey and Master Plan revision will be identifying the most desirable uses and prioritizing the development of the former Teas Nursery property. This land, of course, is being made available to the city through the generosity of the Rubenstein family. Although a conservancy will ultimately be established to work on a timetable, planning and fundraising for the property, the Parks Board has a responsibility to make sure any plans fit within the framework of the Master Plan and meet community demands.

We will be working with the Patrons for Bellaire Parks to assist in finding other ways, rather than taxpayer funding, to continue the development of Bellaire Town Square. The board also hopes to find alternative means of funding the redevelopment of Bellaire’s most visible public space, the historic Paseo Park. We worked with the Cultural Arts Commission and Bellaire Historical Society to acquire city funding for a redesign of the park, and that design has been approved by City Council.

The Parks Board is no longer dealing in an era of expansion, but working in this era of limits is presenting unique challenges — and rewards — as we serve the community.
January 4, 2011

Honorable Mayor and City Council
City of Bellaire
7008 South Rice Avenue
Bellaire, TX 77401

Mayor and City Council:

As one of seven members of the Planning & Zoning Commission ("P&Z") and as Chair, I want to thank all the P&Z Commissioners for their extensive work to make P&Z a proactive agent helping Bellaire remain a great place to live. In speaking for all P&Z Commissioners, we thank our Mayor and City Council for supporting P&Z’s work. We thank to our City Manager, Staff, and specifically those in the Community Development Department, John McDonald and Rebecca Eppler, for all their generous and continual efforts in assisting and supporting P&Z’s activities. Our thanks also goes to Jim Avioli, Jr who served and contributed diligently as a Commissioner.

The current P&Z Commissioners are:
   Lori Aylett
   Peter Boecher
   Michael Doyle, Vice Chair
   Winfred C. Frazier
   Donna Rickenbacker
   Paul C. Simmons
   Bill Thorogood

**P&Z hereby submits our Annual Report**

P&Z continues to serve for the purpose for which it was created and believes it is serving the community needs as exhibited by its activities during the year including:

1. The holding of:
   * twelve (12) regular or special meetings,
   * ten (10) public hearings,
   * four (4) workshops and

2. The reviewing of:
   * twelve (12) Amended Plats
   * one (1) Zoning Amendment
   * five (5) Specific Use Permits
   * one (1) Planned Development Amendment and,

3. The implementing of Bellaire’s 2009 Comprehensive Plan by making recommendations to City Council, which were subsequently approved by City Council, for the following:
   * To establish interim zoning ordinances for the renamed Urban Village-TOD (ex-Research, Development and Distribution District) and,
To contract for Professional Community Planning Services to develop and draft permanent zoning ordinances for the Urban Village - TOD.

P&Z has no other recommendations at this time.

Finally, P&Z thanks you and appreciates the opportunity to serve our City.

Bill Thorogood

2011
January 24, 2011

Honorable Mayor and City Council
7008 South Rice Avenue
Bellaire, TX 77401

Mayor and City Council:

For 2010, the Bellaire Recycling Committee (BRC or the Committee) focused on many of its stated specific purposes per Chapter 2, Article VII of the City's Code of Ordinances which include:

1. Prepare applications for grants to solicit funds for educating the public about, or purchasing equipment for, recycling, subject to City council approval.
2. Review and make advisory recommendations to City council on proposed programs.
3. Promote and stimulate public interest in recycling with the help of other groups, agencies, business or neighborhoods.
4. Review and make advisory recommendations to City council on changes, modifications and amendments regarding recycling in the City of Bellaire.
5. Seek City council approval prior to the expenditure of any funds set aside for the promotion of, and education about, recycling programs within the City of Bellaire.

In March, the Committee made a recommendation to City Council to close the Recycling Center. After considering the recommendation, council voted to close the Center. It was closed in September.

The Committee had booths as the Nature Discovery Center Spring Fling event in April and at the July 4 Festival in July. Through games, comment boxes, educational materials and giveaways, the BRC achieved meaningful interface with many interested residents.

The Nature Discovery Center (NDC) held its' 28th Annual Home Tour in April 2010. Members of the Bellaire Recycling Committee and Building & Standards Commission Green Building Committee assisted in securing sponsors for the event and worked as docents at the "green" home at 5409 Valerie. The NDC agreed to donate a portion of sponsorships and ticket sales to the City of Bellaire. The amount donated was $4,021 and it was split 50/50 between the two groups. The BRC used its funds to host the second Bellaire Recycles Day in November 2010.

In August, the Committee sent a written request to City Council asking that it consider reducing the trash bags distributed to City residents as a means to reduce costs and promote less trash going to the landfill. In the final 2010-2011 City budget, the number of trash bags to be distributed by the City to each household was reduced to 150 per year.
The Recycling Committee compiles a Newsletter three times a year that is distributed with the trash bags. It is one of the primary means for resident education on recycling.

In November, the second Bellaire Recycles Day was held on Saturday, November 13 from 9 am to 1 pm. A wet dreary start to the morning seemed to keep residents at home with attendance estimated to be about the same as last year. However, we had a great line up of organizations on hand to collect items for reuse or recycling, as well as, several businesses showcasing green goods and services. There was free food, giveaways, children’s activities, a recycling mascot and many educational displays. This years event also featured a Eco-Art contest sponsored by the Cultural Arts Commission. Student volunteers from two area high school Environmental Clubs helped with many of the activities. Donations from area business were good and press coverage was great. BRC members visited with numerous residents and answered many questions about recycling. Overall, the event was deemed a huge success. (A more detailed report will be presented at a future council meeting.)

In December, the Committee transferred responsibility for the Committee website to Public Works. We continue to provide information to populate the website.

Public works determined that an average of 54% of homes in Bellaire are participating in the curbside program based on statistics gathered during August and September. This is a tremendous improvement and is over the average for many communities.

While great progress was made during 2010, more can be done. As we begin 2011, the BRC will continue to work to improve Recycling in Bellaire and educate the community. We appreciate direct feedback from citizens and City government. Anyone who has recommendations or comments should contact a Committee member directly, visit our booth at City events or visit our website (Public Works/Solid Waste and Recycling) http://www.ci.bellaire.tx.us.

This report is submitted on behalf of the entire Recycling Committee.

Brenda Cauthen
Chair