

MINUTES  
STRATFORD GARDENS ANNUAL MEETING  
MAY 13, 2025

The Annual Meeting of the Stratford Gardens Homes Association was held at The Carriage Club on May 13, 2025. Fifty Members were present at the start, representing a quorum. The meeting was called to order at 7:04 by President, Tom Suther.

Tom began the meeting by summarizing the activities and responsibilities organized and funded by the HOA in the past year including hosting the Labor Day party, arranging for Dumpster Day, hosting the Holiday party, landscaping of the islands (with a special acknowledgement to Scott Cordes for his leadership), salting and snow removal (which received applause), and security patrolling.

Sergeant Sebastien Hanriot was then introduced and discussed the following:

- Sgt. Hanriot noted that crime has been low in our neighborhood compared to other neighborhoods and that the most common is property crime. A question was raised about the difficulty in registering security alarms with the city and Sgt. Hanriot offered to look into the issue.
- Sgt. Hanriot also addressed the concern of homeless encampments and noted that while there are none on Ward Parkway, there have been complaints in nearby neighborhoods which is an ongoing concern that they are working to address.
- There was a reminder to let Sgt. Hanriot know if neighbors will be traveling and they will do a drive by.
- In response to the concern about cars racing down Ward Parkway, it was noted that the City is working on more severe penalties to address those caught and that recording the vehicles when it happens will help police identify those involved.
- A Member inquired about enrollment for police. Sgt. Hanriot noted that enrollment had been down 25% at its lowest but that it is increasing, and will take 3-4 years to return to prior levels, specifically noting that there are 80 new candidates for next year.

Tom thanked Sgt. Hanriot for his time and then introduced a second speaker, Councilman Jonathan Duncan. Councilman Duncan introduced himself and the questions presented to him that he prepared to discuss including homeless camps, street racing, and the plans for the Plaza.

- Homeless camps. Councilman Duncan discussed one of his priorities being barrier reduction to address homelessness. He noted that the homeless camps are being cleared out but then returning because there is nowhere for them to go. He described the Housing First Plan which is being worked on to fund behavioral health to provide wrap around services for those who are homeless.
- Street racing. Councilman Duncan also discussed an ordinance that will allow dirt bikes and ATVs that are misused to be confiscated and noted that there could be more arrests associated with the street racing and an increase in fees for impounding.

- Plaza update. It was noted that there is cooperation with the Plaza property manager to assess their infrastructure needs. With regard to the Plaza tennis courts, there were 11 responses to an RFP and one selected. Although no specific details could be shared, proposals included a plan to provide an equivalent or better alternative for the courts in another location. It was shared that the new space will include open space for public entertainment needs.
- The Councilman then opened it up for questions. There was much discussion around how to obtain resurfacing for 63rd Terrace which has been requested for numerous years. Mr. Duncan explained that the resurfacing team has many miles of roadway and did note that PIAC would not be a successful avenue for that because 40% of the funds go to sidewalks. One Member agreed to follow up with his office directly to discuss further. There was also a question about the settlements the City has had to pay out and the effectiveness of the mediators involved. Councilman Duncan noted that the selection of the new City Manager is expected to help in the future but acknowledged that cuts will need to be made because of the current settlements.

Tom thanked Councilman Duncan for coming and turned to fiscal matters. Tom provided the financial report for the year. The report included a review of the balance sheet and the current and 2025 proposed budgets. Based on revenue and expenses and the current reserve of greater than one year of expenses, Tom noted that there is no current need to increase dues. It was noted that there are currently fewer than 10 Members who are in arrears. A motion was made to approve the budget and the budget was unanimously approved.

Some neighbors expressed that they are not receiving the newsletter, and Courtney Fadler suggested they reach out to her about providing an email address if they would like to receive emails. Courtney introduced the current Board Members and noted that two new positions are open and requested nominees. Jon Beeman introduced himself and expressed his interest in joining the Board. No other nominees were presented. A motion to vote on the nominee, Jon Beeman was made, seconded and unanimously approved. Courtney added that anyone interested in filling the remaining position should contact a member of the Board.

Tom then opened it to Members for any final questions. There was discussion about accidents in Meyer Circle. It was suggested that although the stop signs appear to be reducing some accidents, they are still occurring at great frequency and perhaps painting arrows in the lane could be a good solution. Members were also unhappy with the late mowing on Ward Parkway. Tom noted that the City's stated date for mowing to begin is May 1. One Member asked about AirBnB's and Tom noted that there are strict rules including obtaining a permit and getting neighbor permission.

There being no further questions of the Board, a motion was made by Maggie Shine, seconded by Charles Arthur, and the Meeting was adjourned at 8:00 by Tom Suther.