

**College Park Village Association  
August Meeting Minutes  
August 17, 2020**

**1. The zoom meeting was called to order at 6:02 PM** by President Ted Stanley. Members present were, Vice president Kelly Melancon, Secretary Marti Meerscheidt, Treasurer Kevin Pollock and area representatives Dave Mulberry, Steve Lamotta, Jeff Gross and Johanne Stanley. Regular contributors present were Village Liaison Julie Quinn and Specialist Tavarez filling in for Medina from the MOCO Sheriff's Department. Others present were our speakers, Amber Barnes who was here to speak about the Plant for Pollinators village challenge and Jim Stinson from The Woodlands Water along with Chad Nobles of Ameresco to speak about the new water meter replacement program. Scholarship winner Joshua Deal joined us too.

**Pledge of Allegiance** – no pledge due to zoom format.

**MCSO report presented** by Specialist Tavarez. Township statistics for the month revealed that burglary of a motor vehicle and burglary of a habitat are very noticeably down in the Township with no burglaries reported last month in College Park and only 2 burglaries of a motor vehicle. One was at ST Luke's and one in a residential area. And yes, one of these involved an unlocked car. There were 19 arrests, most of these *within* the Walmart store. There were 15 motor vehicle accidents with most of these happening at 242 near Walmart. Information on the data presented is available on the Montgomery County Sheriff's Office web site.

**Speaker Jim Stinson** gave a comprehensive presentation about the water meter upgrade project. 34,000 residential and commercial meters will be replaced beginning August 24 in Harper's Landing. Meter readers will no longer need to travel to your yard to read the new meters. Chad Nobles from Ameresco joined us. He is representing the company that is doing the meter replacement work. The new meters are accurate. Mr. Stinson warned that some residents may see a bit of an increase in the water bill due to the higher accuracy of the meter. It uses ultrasonic high-resolution technology. There are no moving parts to break down; no repair. Door hangers will be placed on your residence 3 – 5 days ahead of your installation. Installation will take about 30 minutes at each house. You may not have water for about 15 minutes of that 30-minute time frame. Installers will wear yellow vests and have a photo ID when they come to your door between 8 AM and 5 PM on the designated day. After MUD 39 (Harper's Landing), next in order will be MUD 1, 7, 67, 60, 47, 46, Metro, 6, and MUD 36. For frequently asked questions go to [Woodlandswater.org/ami](http://Woodlandswater.org/ami). Board member Steve asked why Fluoride is still in our water. Mr. Stinson explained that Fluoride is not an additive in our water supply; it occurs there naturally. He offered to return to speak to us about what's in our water. He advised that to remove Fluoride would be costly.

**Scholarship Winner.** Kelly Melancon introduced Joshua Deal who is one of our two college scholarship winners this year. He intends to study nursing at Grambling State University in Louisiana. The board wishes him well. Ted thanked the scholarship committee.

**Plant for Pollinators Village Challenge-** Do you plant your garden to invite pollinators? If you do, you are invited to register your pollinator garden in The Woodlands Township Village Challenge. **Amber Barnes** from The Woodlands Environmental Services Department attended the August meeting of the College Park Village Association. She explained that pollinator populations are in decline. The non-profit, Project Pollinator and The Woodlands Green are sponsoring this village challenge to bring awareness to this ecosystem and to encourage residents to learn more about creating an environment that supports pollinator species. A point is earned for each registered garden. The top three villages will be awarded cash. At the time of writing this article there were 100 gardens registered in the Township and College Park was in fourth place. To register your garden, go to <https://www.thewoodlandstownship-tx.gov/105/Environmental-Services>. Select the Plant for Pollinator link. For those of us who are challenged to identify the names of your plants, you can

download a free app named *I-naturalists*. You snap a photo and it gives you information about the plant. How cool is that? It is part of a citizen science project. Another resource to access is the environmental services blog also located as a link on the Environmental Services website. Register your pollinator garden from June 1 until December 1, 2020 to earn points for College Park.

**2. Resident Comments-** See agenda item number 9 Resident Comments

**3. Township Report** was presented by Julie Quinn. Information is available on the Township web site.

**4. Village Liaison Julie Quinn** conducted a Neighborhood Challenge and asked our watch coordinators for feedback. She mentioned that Sara Page is one of our watch coordinators from College Park. Sara is also a teacher. Most programs are currently on hold. A Red Cross community blood drive will be held on September 8 at Bear Branch Recreation Facility from 9 – 4. Donators will receive socks!

**5. Treasurer's Report** was presented by Kevin. Checks for scholarships and the website maintenance cleared. The Woodlands Water Wise Challenge check was deposited.

**6. Minutes for July** were sent via email by Marti Meerscheidt. Minutes were approved unanimously by a motion from Steve and seconded by Dave.

**7. Unfinished business:** Moving the meeting along, Ted advised that it was time to suspend fall activities due to COVID. If the situation changes, we will reconsider if safety protocols can be managed. We had kept these events in our conversation in hopes of being able to hold them. These include the following that have been on our agenda: Fall Festival/Spooktacular, National Night Out, Village Vendor Fair, and Sundae in the Park. **Kelly Melancon lead the discussion of the Teacher Grants.** Her committee is Dave and Jeff. Kelly updated he application which will go on our website this week. She sent a preview of the update to her committee members. Ted was concerned about teacher stress and being able to meet the September 11 deadline to apply. Marti confirmed there is stress but thought it was a good idea to get the information out and have the quick turn-around. Students return to the classroom September 8. Things will not become less stressful for teachers. Kelly has also established this as a September process and would be good to maintain that consistency with this grant program. Kelly was concerned that to extend the deadline would make it more difficult to keep track of applications. It was agreed that her timeline was appropriate and her committee will move forward. Winners will be named at the September 21 regular meeting and the award checks will be distributed at a time following the meeting.

**8. New Business:** Ted reported that the Township initiative on incorporation will not be on the November ballot. It is expected to be presented on the November 2021 ballot.

**9. Resident comments.** Ted reported on residents' concern at 301 Trade Center. Specialist Tavarez said there were 8 calls for the MCSO services from January until present at Wildcat which is a protective equipment facility in Harpers Landing. The disturbances seemed to be centered around human resources issues when 120 people were laid off. The issues have subsided. Tavarez said that the company is very pro-police and they have a good relationship.

**10. Board Member Comments:** Dave warned of damage that can be caused to your home by an older toilet tank that cracked and he highly recommends that you turn off the water supply when you leave your home for an extended period.

**11. President's Comments**

**12. Adjourn at 7:09 PM**

Respectfully submitted, Marti Meerscheidt