

# 2017 Adopt-a-Spot Jackson-Mahon Community Engagement Neighborhood Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, April 18, 2017 – 6:00pm – 7:00pm – St. Joseph's

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The North & East Lubbock CDC connected the Jackson-Mahon neighborhoods residents with the City of Lubbock Codes and Animal Control Departments to host the second of several neighborhood meetings featuring different city departments and action planning sessions.



## NELCDC Introduction and Housekeeping Items

- Camille McCoy, NELCDC Administrative Assistant, provided the following opening comments:
- Questions were posted on the wall. Residents wrote their answers on sticky notes and placed them on the wall
  - Q: What do you like about your neighborhood?
    - A: *"Quiet neighborhood"*
    - A: *"We have good neighbors"*
    - A: *"Everything"*
    - A: *"I like it because I live there and my friends are close by"*
    - A: *"Code taking care of alleys, yards, and dumping"*
    - A: *"Better homes"*
  - Q: What do you dislike about your neighborhood?
    - A: *"Too many loose dogs – not mean"*
    - A: *"Dogs pooping yards"*
    - A: *"We have a lot of dogs around my area"*
    - A: *"The crime"*
    - A: *"The run-down houses"*
    - A: *"The dumping"*
    - A: *"Litter/trash from restaurants"*

- A: *“Need help with cars that drive really fast down my street”*
  - A: *“Too much to list”*
- Q: What neighborhood association committees would I like to see formed?
  - A: *“Neighborhood watch”*
  - A: *“Cleanup neighborhood”*
  - A: *“Clean-up”*
  - A: *“Codes – to get the area cleaned up and the houses up to code”*
  - A: *“Community Center/Kid-friendly events”*
- Camille transferred meeting over to Lewis Vega, NELCDC Program Manager
- Mr. Vega went over the agenda and introduced the speakers for the night: Mr. George Torres, Animal Services and Audry Martinez, Code Enforcement Inspector.
- Following these opening statements, Mr. Vega transitioned the conversation to Mr. Torres, and Ms. Martinez. The following topics were discussed:

### **Animal Control**

- Mr. Torres provided Animal Control phone # 806-775-2057 (which is the call center)
- Mr. Torres stated that residents know their neighbors and community, so if you see a dog in your area please provide detailed information to animal control
  - To prevent dogs from being captured please keep them in your yard preferable in your back yard
- Mr. Torres advised to make sure that pets are up to date on shots (shots can be purchased at GEBO’s for roughly \$8.00)
  - Rabies shots must be administered by a veterinarian.
- Mr. Torres stated that it is illegal for Lubbock residents to keep a dog tied up all day outside
- Mr. Torres stated that it is important for residents to stay up to date about policies and procedures in order to protect their animals
- Animal control officers work 7 days a week
- Mr. Torres stated that if anyone gets bit by an animal and has to go to the hospital, the hospital must report incident to animal control

- The biggest animal control problem in the Jackson-Mahon neighborhoods is stray dogs according to Mr. Torres
- Make sure that your dog stays in your yard or in your home, Mr. Torres stated
- Animal Control and Neighborhood Association is partnering up working on an event to provide free certificates which will provide: Free microchip, free rabies vaccinations and free spaying and neutering
- Microchips are \$10.00 Monday-Friday from 8am-6pm at the shelter
- Residents have 10days to retrieve animals that have a microchip/collar and 3 days to retrieve animal without a collar or microchip
- Senior Citizens program: \$10.00 to adopt an animal

### **Animal Control – Resident Questions & Comments**

- Resident posed a question about dogs being tied up all day and owner not being interactive with animal. How do residents enforce this issue and enforce smell and dogs barking?
  - Mr. Torres stated that if you call animal control they will do a check welfare and they may or may not have to give a citation
  - He also stated that with consistent barking an officer will park down the street from where incident is occurring and listen to the dog, and if dog is barking excessively animal control will give a warning citation
- Resident asked about the free rabies vaccination event and wanted to know when it will take place.
  - Mr. Torres stated that it is in the works, no date set yet
- Mr. Torres also stated that regarding a citation for animals getting out of their yard into other people's yard, residents can call Animal Control. Depending on circumstances, animal control will issue a warning and/or citation.
- Lewis posed a question about dead animals in the street and around community.
  - Mr. Torres stated that if residents call animal control they can come by in the morning and pick them up.
  - Mr. Torres explained that residents cannot bury the animals in their backyard nor in the dumpster.
  - Mr. Torres provided the residents with #311 which is for the city and #211 for community resources.

- Mr. Torres stated that if residents' issues are resolved contact their city official for their area to have an issue resolved.
- Resident stated that their sister called animal control because there was a stray dog in her yard. Resident explained that sister was told to tie the stray dog up in their yard until an officer could come by and pick it up.
  - Mr. Torres stated that this was false information and to please call his direct number 806-775-2002 from 8am-5pm Monday-Friday if something like this arises again
- Residents asked a question about abandoned animals.
  - Mr. Torres stated that if a Lubbock resident feeds an animal for more than 3 days, animal is considered to belong to them and if there if animal is not in compliance with shots, etc. the resident can be fined up to \$300.00

### **Codes Department – Homelessness, continued**

- Mr. Torres transferred the meeting to next speaker, City of Lubbock Codes officer, Audry Martinez
- Ms. Martinez stated that she handles inspections and that compliance is the biggest goal and codes department citations are real citations that can result in warrants if unpaid
- Ms. Martinez stated that she wants the community to look good. If a home is boarded and no broken windows are exposed then there is no case for the codes dept. However, if the home has broken windows, etc. a case will be made and residents have 30 days to paint a home and 60 days to get a window repaired
- Ms. Martinez expressed the option of having a video recording which will provide evidence of illegal dumping.
- Ms. Martinez stated that they can write residents up if home is not up to code.
- Ms. Martinez brought up trash that is not disposable in city dumpsters such as TV's, feces, furniture, anything with blood or vomit, etc.
- Residents had a question about homes being on beams
  - Ms. Martinez stated that resident will need to speak with housing about this issue

- Ms. Martinez stated that Codes Dept. enforces junk vehicles that are on property. The police handles junk vehicles that are parked along the street.
- Ms. Martinez provided residents with some tips to stop illegal dumping such as purchasing a sign that says cameras are in use and that a resident has to provide evidence of illegal dumping, like pictures, video, license plate numbers for a case to made
- Resident raised a question about mattresses and couches being dumped in their area
  - Ms. Martinez stated that the Codes Dept. uses tax dollars to pick up trash from empty lots
- Resident posed a question about how could this issue be resolved
  - Ms. Martinez stated that with vigilance by starting a committee to handle issues about trash and picking it up.

Meeting Minutes Created By:  
Camille McCoy, NELCDC Administrative Assistant

