



Belle Isle Buzz

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Shelli Wasson, Editor

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BELLE ISLE WEST CELEBRATES!!

2022 ANNUAL MEETING

Belle Isle West Neighborhood Association (BIWNA) held its Annual Meeting March 24th at the newly renovated Embassy Suites. Plans for the 2020 meeting were postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Since we were meeting in person after a long absence, we dubbed the meeting a “Celebration” this year. About 50 residents attended and enjoyed social time and scrumptious hors d’ouvres.

Ward 2 Councilman, James Cooper, talked to us about future improvement projects of direct benefit to our area. Along with enhanced bus routes and HOV lanes are plans for bike paths and walking trails enhancing our access to OKC attractions. Of particular interest are plans for crosswalks and improvements at NW Expressway and Villa Ave. to offer better safety and access to the Belle Isle Library and the Belle Isle Enterprise Middle School (BIEMS).

George Tocco, Belle Isle Library Manager, told us about the vast remodeling project and Grand Opening of the Library. In addition to adding about 10,000 square feet, there is a special “Maker” space with a 3-D printer, sewing and embroidery machines, other tools that could be used for scrapbooking, and several thousand new books.

Great donated door prizes included: Two \$50 gift cards from BIWNA; \$50 gift card from Anonymous; \$100 cash from Well Preserved Advisory Group; two general pest treatments from Fitzhugh’s Pest Management. David Campbell donated hand-made wooden items including a dough bowl, cutting board, two bottle stoppers, and a seed planting tool.

Greg and Jennifer Hopper, new residents at 57th and Linn, were lucky winners because they each won a door prize. Greg won a general pest treatment and Jennifer won the cutting board. Other winners were: Mary Davenport, Earlene Parr, Cathie Shaw, See Celebration, page 2

BIW Leaders at the CELEBRATION



Top: Greg Hall – President

Middle (l to r):

David Patterson – Vice President

Cathy Fitzhugh – Secretary

Bottom (l to r):

Cathie Shaw – Treasurer

Maribeth Govin – 61st St. Director

Officers and Committee Chairs

PRESIDENT – Greg Hall
hallgreg05@gmail.com

VICE PRESIDENT – David Patterson
dgpatt@cox.net

SECRETARY – Cathy Fitzhugh

TREASURER – Cathie Shaw

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Cathy Fitzhugh Earlene Parr
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STREET DIRECTORS (03/01/2022)

55th Place – Dave Campbell & Greg Hall

55th Terrace – Cathy Fitzhugh

56th St. & Linn – Sandy & Peter Pembroke

57th St. – Shannon & Randy Wells

58th Place – Shelli & Craig Wasson,
Cathie Shaw

58th St. – Sue Fellers

59th St. – Aimee Dial Parrish

60th St. – Christie Baker & Lynne Womble

61st St. – Scott Sproat & Maribeth Govin

62nd St. – OPEN

Imperial Terrace – Jackie Wilkinson

Riviera Drive, 2300-2400 Blocks of 59th St.
OPEN

Ross Ave. – Eunice Khoury

Villa Ave. and 2400-2412 NW 63rd St. –
Brooks Taylor

Ward 2
Councilman
James Cooper
(photo
provided)



Celebration, from page 1

Lindsey Chancellor, Bruce Hall, Sharon Gowdy, and Mary Davenport.

Thanks to BIW President Greg Hall for acting as emcee for the meeting and to the Meeting Committee and other volunteers who helped including Cathie Shaw, Cathy Fitzhugh, Dave Campbell, David Patterson, Maribeth Govin, Shannon Wells and Shelli Wasson.

We hope to see you MARCH 2023 for the next Annual Meeting!

Belle Isle Park

by Toni Glenn, resident on 62nd St.

After the BIW annual meeting – I came home with renewed hope and enthusiasm for the beautification and much needed improvements for Belle Isle Park. Visions of new playground equipment, pavilions, pickleball courts, bathrooms, water fountains, trees and gardens and new benches danced in my head.

These possibilities are now within our reach – thanks to MAPS 4. There is \$63 million dedicated to improving the infrastructure of city parks, according to our guest speaker, the energetic and inspiring OKC Councilman James Cooper (photo bottom left).

Councilman Cooper agrees to help us maneuver the process to make our park come alive again and meet all our needs – both for young families, active adults and older neighbors. **According to the implementation plan, PROJECTS WILL BE BASED ON NEED AND NEIGHBORHOOD FEEDBACK!**

Our councilman has a personal experience behind his commitment. "With the pandemic, many of us found recreation, reflection, and rest in neighborhood parks. After my council and teaching responsibilities shifted to virtual settings, I worked from home for a year, and I biked daily after work to MAPS 3's Scissortail Park for exercise and my mental health care. Like many of you, I discovered infrastructure needs in even our most beautiful parks."

Fortunately—with MAPS 4—we dedicated **\$63 million** to existing neighborhood parks. As MAPS 4 funding becomes available and with our implementation plan as a guide. I'll connect residents with our city's parks department, Ward 2's parks commissioner, and our ward's MAPS 4 representative, so we can learn about neighborhood needs. Such improvements could include activity facilities, bathrooms, paths, furnishings, playground equipment, shade structures, signage, splash pads, and trees."

Cooper added that this parks project also provides \$500,000 for outdoor basketball and pickleball courts and See Park, page 3

Mail dues to:
Belle Isle West NA
5030 N. May, Box 118
Oklahoma City, OK 73112



2022 Belle Isle West
Neighborhood Association Dues

Name _____
Address _____
Phones(s) _____
Email _____

Your canceled check
is your receipt.

◆ Annual dues are \$35.00 per household. ◆
 (Make checks to BIW Neighborhood Assn.) *Thank You!*
I have enclosed \$ _____

MANY THANKS FOR YOUR DONATIONS!

Several residents add a little (or a lot) to their dues check each year to help fund projects in our neighborhood. We would like to send out a BIG thank you to the following generous neighbors who recently contributed a total of \$540 over and above their \$35.00 yearly dues:

They are: Peter & Sandy Pembroke, Craig & Shelli Wasson, Sally Bentley, Joe & Mary Davenport, Nova Doolin, Cynthia Curtis, Tonya Turner, Becky Bower, Jill & Chris Dobbins, Steven & Sarah Smith, Cherokee Clark, Jennifer Blease, Margaret Vallion, Eunice Khoury, Patrick & Jan Shore, Marjorie Long, & James Hicks. Thank you for supporting our neighborhood!

Park, from page 2

and \$16.5 million for an operations and maintenance fund toward these improvements. For more, please visit MAPS 4's parks site and, additionally, our implementation site.
okc.gov/government/maps-4/parks okc.gov/government/maps-4

NOW HERE'S WHAT OUR PART LOOKS LIKE:

ATTEND OUR FIRST MAPS/BIW PARK PROJECT MEETING – TO:

- 1. IDENTIFY WHAT WE, AS A NEIGHBORHOOD, WANT and NEED
- 2. Set priorities
- 3. Create a core of volunteers who are willing to get behind the projects and help make them happen!

WHEN: Wednesday, June 1 at 7:00 PM in the BELLE ISLE PARK PAVILION, 2701 NW 62nd St. In case of rain, BELLE ISLE LIBRARY. Please read the attached MAPS 4 documents to be informed before the meeting.

RSVP: Toni Glenn, (405) 810-9640 OR toniokc@gmail.com

Please talk this up and invite your neighbors to get involved!

Belle Isle West
Neighborhood Association
5030 N. May, Box 118
Oklahoma City, OK 73112

Non-Profit
Organization
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Calendar of Events in 2022

- June 1 Park Improvements Meeting - Belle Isle Park, Pavilion at 7:00 PM, see page 3 for details.
 - June 7 Business Meeting - Belle Isle Library, Room A at 6:30 PM. The meeting lasts one hour. If you live in BIW, you are welcome to attend. We need your help brainstorming / planning BIW events.
 - June 28 Registered voters can vote in the Primary Election.
 - July 1 Place American flag at each residence. Contact Greg Hall to volunteer.
- Future Business Meetings: June 7, August 2, October 4, December 6.**

Attention Residents:

The Oklahoma City Public Schools District has strict policies concerning the school yard and athletic fields surrounding each school. The rules and regulations concerning use are posted on the fence. During the school day, nobody is allowed in this outdoor area other than students and staff due to regulations concerning student safety. The outdoor area is open at the sole discretion of the school, and everyone must abide by the rules. If the gates are locked, do not attempt to get into the schoolyard. If you go into the schoolyard during a time when the gates are locked, you can be charged with trespassing if the police are called by the school.

Belle Isle West is fortunate to have a park in our neighborhood for everyone to use with a walking trail, pavilion, tennis court, picnic tables, playground, shade trees and free poop bag dispensers so you can clean up after your dog. Belle Isle Park is nearby at 2701 NW 62nd St.