

# W.T. White Meeting

## MEETING MINUTES

October 5, 2009

Meeting was called to order at 3:40 p.m.

### **Present: (also see attached list with contact information)**

Councilmember Ann Margolin, City of Dallas  
Principal Orlando Riddick, W.T. White High School  
Dr. Edwin Flores, DISD Board Trustee  
Jean McGill, Nathan Adams  
Jan Woody, Dallas County Schools Trustee  
Rex Cole, Dallas County Schools  
Louisa Meyer, President of W.T. White PTA  
Rick Sorrells, Dallas County Schools; Superintendent  
Loraine Green Lee, DISD  
Janette Hill, DART  
Misty Parker, DART  
Jeff Vick Jr., W.T.White  
Joe Black, DISD  
Douglas Becker, DISD  
Roy Bellman, W.T.White (neighbor)  
Ben Simmons W.T.White (neighbor)  
Sergeant Chris Jaquez, Dallas Police Dept  
Debbie Sherrington; PTA President Hillcrest and area realtor  
Sr. Corporal Burnside, Dallas Police Dept  
Jacob White; Dallas Police Dept  
Chief Malik Al'Aziz, Dallas Police Dept  
Bob Johnson, W.T.White (neighbor)  
Bob Kelly, Schreiber Crime Watch  
Michael P. Brown, DISD  
John Blackburn, DISD  
Joel Falcon, DISD  
Paul Gonzales, DISD  
Simon Tapia, DISD P.D.  
B.Bushman, DART P.D.  
Rene Ronquillo, DISD P.D.

### **Concerns:**

- **Look at relocating school bus drop off and pick up**
- **DART Buses**
- **Enforce no parking and no standing in front of neighborhood homes**
- **Bus drivers smoking**
- **Students congregating in alleys**
- **Trash in neighborhood**
- **Lit sign in front of school**

### Minutes of the Meeting

**Welcome from Principal Riddick:** Principal Orlando Riddick welcomed everyone to W.T. White and stated his desire that the school be a good neighbor. He said that he wants to work with and be part of the neighborhood in a positive way. He commented on the challenge of educating over 2300 hundred students.

The following is a summary of various comments made. It has been organized by topic.

#### 1. **Concerns about Traffic Flow**

**Speakers: Roy Bellman (W.T.White neighbor)** who was speaking on behalf of Valerie Drane expressed his concerns. One issue has been the bus sign at the bus stop. It has been removed from its place and has been thrown in the back yard numerous times. The house is up for sale. There have been incidents where the bus sign was thrown in his back yard. Also Mr. Bellman expressed

his concern for the DART busses starting very early in the morning empty and running back to back. He is also concerned about the school sign being lit at night.

It was mentioned that the light is now set to go off at 10 PM. Mr. Bellman expressed dissatisfaction with this.

**Janette Hill, DART**

Ms. Hill said they have been monitoring the area due to several complaints they have received from this particular area. Ms. Hill advised on the possible service change for Route 31 from Midway to Welch. In order for a route modification to take place, they will first have to hear from the community and allow the public to speak. A community meeting will be taking place on February 3, 2010. They will hear the public's input and a modification could then take place in December 2010.

**Bob Johnson, (W.T.White neighbor)**

Mr. Johnson would like to see a better traffic management system in the area surrounding W.T.White High School. He is also worried about his home value. Mr. Johnson would like to see a more organized traffic flow like at Hillcrest High School.

**Debbie Sherrington, PTA President at Hillcrest High School and area Realtor**

Ms. Sherrington commented on the traffic currently at Hillcrest High school. It has taken 2 years for the traffic to be flowing in an orderly manner. They have had the support of the parents, staff and students. As far as the homes for sale in the district, she said that having a school in the neighborhood is a big plus when the school is supported by the neighborhood.

**Action:** Rick Sorrells agreed to take the lead regarding exploring a traffic flow study around the school. He will work with Michael Brown, DISD who will contact Beth Ramirez of City of Dallas Transportation Department. She is an expert in traffic.

2. **Bus drivers smoking:** Concerns were expressed by neighbors about drivers smoking  
**Speakers: Rex Cole, Dallas County Schools;**

**Action:** Mr. Cole and Jan Woody, Dallas County School Trustee, advised they will take care of it immediately.

3. **Illegal Vending:**  
Concerns were expressed about vendors selling across from the school

**Chris Jaquez, Dallas Police Department**

**Action:** Sgt. Chris Jaquez will find out the rules or ordinance on the vendors right to sell on school property and determine whether these vendors have permits.

4. **4600 Ridgeside, "No Parking Signs" ignored. No Enforcement**

This will be addressed after the traffic flow issue is addressed.

5. **Officer Medrano** (972) 502-6256, can be reached by neighbors when they see students congregating in alley or being disorderly during school hours. If it is after school hour's neighbors should call 911.

Meeting adjourned at 5:15 p.m.