

# SUNNYSIDE SUPER NEIGHBORHOOD

## General Community Meeting Minutes

February 26, 2026

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**Meeting Type:** General Community Meeting  
**Date:** February 26, 2026  
**Location:** Sunnyside Multi-Service Center & Zoom  
**Presiding Officer:** Melanie Young — President, Sunnyside Super Neighborhood

### ATTENDEES NOTED

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- Melanie Young — President, Sunnyside Super Neighborhood (Presiding)
- Pretta VanDible Stallworth — District 9 Trustee, Houston Community College
- Mike West— Athletic Programming
- Dr.Danielle White – Clinical Psychotherapist
- Berniece — Community Member
- Additional community members via Zoom

### CALL TO ORDER

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President Melanie Young called the meeting to order and opened with highlights from the January meeting, including funding opportunities from Harris County, updates on beautification projects, and updates on Ricka Park.

### DISCUSSION ITEMS

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#### 1. LISC Grant Opportunity

President Young presented two options for the LISC grant application:

- Option A: Civic Club startup funding to support neighborhood organizing efforts
- Option B: Historical preservation of Sunnyside through photos, videos, and oral interviews

The community voted overwhelmingly in favor of the historical preservation project. Collaboration with Miss Willie Gay — who has been collecting Sunnyside historical materials for years — was suggested as a key partnership. President Young noted she will also consider submitting a second application for Civic Club startup funding based on community traction.

#### 2. Civic Club Formation & Deed Restrictions

President Young discussed real estate development trends in Sunnyside and the lack of deed restrictions in many areas, highlighting the risk of unwanted commercial development. She outlined the steps to form a Civic Club — requiring a president, secretary, treasurer, and at least three interested individuals. Berniece raised questions about resistance to Civic Club formation, which was explained by the existing deed restrictions already in place in the Brookhaven area of Sunnyside.

The group also discussed the challenge that historical designation can place on property owners by restricting architectural changes.

#### 3. Education Updates — Worthing High School & Local Schools

Updates were shared on several local schools:

- Worthing High School: Concerns were raised about current school leadership, declining enrollment, safety issues — including allegations of inappropriate staff behavior — and gun

violence. Community members present are actively gathering signatures for a petition calling for a change in leadership.

- Worthing accomplishments were also shared
- Law Elementary: Improvements noted in instructional scores.
- Attucks Middle School: Mike and his team discussed plans to implement athletic programming to increase enrollment and support the student pipeline into Worthing High School. A community brunch at Attucks is scheduled for Saturday at 11am.

President Young expressed interest in obtaining campus updates from additional Sunnyside schools — including Attucks and Young Elementary — for future meetings.

#### **4. Early College & Houston Community College Updates**

Dr. Pretta VanDible Stallworth District 9 Trustee for Houston Community College, announced HCC's expanded offerings, including a new name and the addition of four-year degree programs. She encouraged community members interested in program information to text their name to 346-221-0969.

Dr. Pretta VanDible Stallworth emphasized the goal of increasing enrollment at Worthing Early College High School to 1,000 students. She highlighted dual credit programs, certifications, scholarships, and free tuition for seniors 65 and older as key opportunities. She also shared her work with the National Association of Community College Trustees and efforts to showcase District 9's achievements.

Stalwart noted an upcoming visit from the Assistant Secretary of Labor to Sunnyside to showcase District 9 education programs.

#### **5. Community Announcements**

- March Community Event: Saturday, March 7th at 9am at Sunnyside Park. Community attendance encouraged.
- Night of Dance: Scholarship fundraiser event in April. Community members encouraged to support and contact organizers for tickets.
- Mental Health Awareness: President Young encouraged attendees to request mental health units when contacting 911.

### **ACTION ITEMS**

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#### **Mel**

- Submit LISC grant application for historical preservation by next week.
- Consider submitting a second LISC application for Civic Club startup funding.
- Reach out to individuals interested in starting Civic Clubs and compile a list of people and areas needing support.
- Follow up with Miss Willie Gay to explore incorporating existing Sunnyside historical archives into the preservation project.
- Obtain campus updates from Attucks and Young Elementary for future meetings.
- Attend and support the March-in-March event at Sunnyside Park on March 7th at 9am.
- Finalize decision on which LISC grant application(s) to submit before the deadline.