

## Program Summary (20 September 2012)

At 8:00 p.m., President Wade alerted the membership that the evening's presentation would begin shortly. But first, announcements and the elections must take place. Visitors were introduced.

At 8:10 p.m., Wade introduced Kelly Frels, who introduced tonight's speaker. Kelly Frels is a Senior Partner of Bracewell & Giuliani LLP and a Board Member of the Center for Houston's Future. Kelly gave a brief description of the Center's activities. The center's vision is to transform long-range, big-picture ideas into actions that will make the Houston area one of the top communities in which to work and live. The center provides research, defines strategies, and engages leaders for Houston.

Kelly introduced the evening's speaker **Donna Rybiski**, who is senior partner at the Center for Houston's Future. She is working on a vision for 2040. Donna's role at CFHF is as Director of Strategic Initiatives.

The title of Donna's talk was **Scenarios 2040: A Peek at Possible Futures**. The membership warmly welcomed Ms. Rybiski. This is the 652nd meeting of the Houston Philosophical Society.



Ms. Rybiski began her talk with a discussion of her experience leading the group of 30 involved in the scenario planning that was part of this evening's talk. Videos playing out scenarios were presented entitled "Learning to Live," followed by "Playing to Win."

Donna then led an interactive discussion of individual's reactions to the two videos. The first scenario portrayed a slow growth decade or two resulting from political gridlock, while the second scenario had much more rapid growth resulting in balkanization of the population. A range of opinions were offered, and Donna played the role of facilitator effectively.

The audience warmly thanked Donna at the conclusion.

The meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

David W. Scott

Recording Secretary