

Shandon Neighborhood Council
Annual Meeting Agenda
March 1, 2010

John Myrick called the Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Hand Middle School's Auditorium.

SNC Members Introduction - those present Jesse Burke, Tushar Chikhliker, Caroline Clarkson, Jane Key, Susan Lake, Dan Leonardi, Carla Moore, John Myrick, Seth Rose, Julie Ruff, Terry Sharpe, Emerson Smith
Not Present – Jackie Bartley, Murray Lide, Jennifer O'Neil

New Members Introduction – Edward Bender, Mary Greene

Guest Introduction and Recognition of Everyone Present
City Councilwoman Belinda Gergel, Representative James Smith, Representative Jim Harrison, Senator Courson had surgery and could not attend.

Minutes – Caroline Clarkson
Jane Key motioned and Julie Ruff seconded the approval of the Minutes from the April 4, 2010 meeting.

Newsletter – Julie Ruff.
Julie gave a summary of the year. The SNC received a Grant. The latest copy of the Newsletter came out in January; copies are available at the meeting. Please contact Julie for ideas or if you didn't receive a copy. Julie Ruff spoke with Tina Cundari spoke about having an Easter Egg Hunt in the Emily Douglas Park. A request for \$200 to purchase plastic eggs and candy, for kids under 10 was made. She is willing to spearhead. Julie designated \$250, Terry seconded. It was approved.

National Night Out – Julie Ruff and Susan Lake
Julie and Susan Lake organized the first Shandon Neighborhood Night Out Event on the first Tuesday in August.

Website-Terry Sharpe.
Jane Key made a motion to pay the \$600.00 invoice to the website host, Julie Ruff seconded the motion.
Everyone was asked if they were aware of the neighborhood website. Features of the site include: requesting a newsletter; trash pick-up change dates, and Neighborhood meeting reminders. The address is Simplyshandon.org.

Home Tour – Jennifer O'Neill
Jennifer not in attendance, so John Myrick summarized by saying the tour was put on by Shandon and Hollywood Rosehill. This year over \$9000 was raised. Money will go to 4 schools – A.C. Moore, Rosewood, Hand and Dreher.

Turkey Trot Report – Dan Leonardi / Tushar Chikhliker
Great results. Tried some new things this year, we have hopes to make it a bigger race next year. Profits doubled from last year. Tushar asked people to contact him if interested in helping. He will start organizing the 2010 Turkey Trot in the Spring.

Shandon Protection Process – Carla Moore / Amy Moore

Two meetings were held last week to discuss appropriate level of protection for our neighborhood. Thanked people for coming out Monday night and Wednesday afternoon. We have heard that a Design protection area is what the neighbors want. We are planning on asking the City to make the current review process known as Interim Measures, permanent. A series of question and answer meetings will be held. We are working for a possible meeting on March 14. We are looking to vote on March 29. Amy Moore and Lindsay Crawford will be available for questions after tonight's meeting. Contact Carla Moore with questions about Interim Measures.

Emily Douglas Park – Lee Rambo

Mary Belser, Carla Moore, and Lee Rambo are spearheading collecting funds for the Emily Douglas Park. Several years ago plans were drawn up to revitalize the park. The amphitheatre is the center piece. Now the goal is to raise money to raise \$60,000 to acquire swings, playground equipment for multi-aged children and the rubber ground cover. They are asking people to give generously.

Sims Park / AT&T- Jesse Burke

AT&T has requested an easement in the Southwest corner of Sims Park. The new equipment would let them update neighborhood service. AT&T has said they would donate \$4,000 for beautification. We are hoping they will give more. We have also requested a fence other than chain link. They are planning on piping the ditch. Jesse told them they would need an engineer to address the overflow currently in the ditch. The light has been repaired.

Treasurer's Report – Jane Key

Cash on hand - \$7,772.57. Jane put in a plug for giving your e-mail so we don't have to print the newsletter.

Old Business

New Business

Election of Nominees

Mary Greene, Tracy McKelvey, Ed Pope, and Edward Bender. Tushar moved that we nominate the four listed as new members. Seth seconded.

John Myrick introduced several people in attendance - Emerson Smith is here, and wife Kathy who is a past President of SNC, former City Councilwoman Anne Sinclair, City Councilwoman Tameika Issac-Devine, and Police Officers Arthur Reeves and John Passmore.

Speakers

Dr. Belinda Gergel, City Council

Dr. Gergel thanked people for coming. She recognized that there are committed and engaged residents who care about their property and the area around them. They have great neighborhood councils. They happen because of committed leadership at all levels – City level – public works happens as it should. Shandon is a great neighborhood one of most desirable in city. It has great streets, schools and most of all residents. She feels

she has big shoes to fill in Anne Sinclair's. Every day she is excited about getting up to help residents. She hears from many, and wants to hear from more. Talk to her after meeting or give her a call.

Tameika Isaac-Devine, City Council

Councilwoman Isaac-Devine started by reiterating that Councilman Rickenmann lost his mother yesterday so can't be here tonight. Mayor Coble was presenting keys to city to a conference and will be here later. If you have any questions about the historic process, please contact her if needed. April 21, there will be a meeting about the different forms of city government. Make your voices heard about the direction you think we need to be going.

Mike King, Assistant City Manager.

Mr. King is with public safety and is responsible for police, fire, 911 and homeland security. He left cards at the front. His is a very busy division. 911 is for city and county. February – 911 59,540 calls received during the month. It may snow tomorrow night, wear your seatbelt and pack our patience. He gets to represent heroes everyday. If you would like to see an increase in traffic enforcement in Shandon, send Mr. King or Chief Carter an e-mail. Mr. King is ultimately responsible. Lights on Devine Street were mentioned. One gentleman mentioned stop sign locations in Shandon and that runners should not run 3 and 4 abreast. A gentleman asked about cameras taking pictures in Shandon – that would be paid for by the Legislature, not currently used in South Carolina.

City Councilman Kirkman Finley was recognized for attending the meeting.

Representative James Smith.

He said he was asked to tell the audience what the legislature is currently doing. He narrowed it down to three. Cigarette tax – long time over due he's been working on it for 9 years. He believes this is the year for this tax. If it passes it would help healthcare. Two – The Track Commission is reviewing the tax structure. The economic ups and downs do not address revenues with only sales tax. Three – A movement to renewable energy – this is happening in our country and across the world. There will be opportunities for renewable energy business to come to South Carolina instead of China. We will hear something in the next 3 weeks. He is proud of representing our area, thanked you for our trust.

John Myrick thanked James Smith, Terry Sharpe, Robert Key, Tim Mousseau for the amphitheatre at Emily Doulas Park.

Representative James Harrison,

Maple Street is the dividing line for his and James Smith's districts gave good news. The state has less money in the budget this year and more needs. We've got to do a better job prioritizing money. Education, health care and safety count for 80% - cuts will have to be there too. If you want more than 5 million, say where the money is coming from. He wishes the rule was for \$100,000. Call him with your priorities. The House will send it to the Senate in about 3 weeks.

Amy Moore Carla Moore and Lindsay Crawford - planning office in the city work with the historic designation process.

Amy summarized the direction we are going. Interim Measures have been in effect for the last 18 months. They require review of demolition or moving of homes over 50 years old, and new construction on divided lots. The proposed zoning level process will be the same. The vote will be on March 29. The results will go to the planning commission, and then City Council. This is a barebones designation. Postcards will be sent out. The location of the vote will be determined. The day, time and location of vote will be mailed. People will be able to vote absentee.

A woman in attendance asked why the tone of the proposed change had changed from last week. Carla Moore said that we are requesting Community Character Overlay, also known as Interim Measures. This request was made based on feedback we got was that this would not be a good fit for the entire neighborhood. We as a council decided we did not want to do something that would be divisive, instead go for something would please more people.

A gentleman felt that people attending the Monday evening meeting wanted more stringent protection requirements. He said that SNC had mentioned a Protection Level, not community overlay. Carla mentioned phone calls, and the Wednesday meeting. Candy Waites said we are not giving neighbors an option, she wants more protection. Carla said we are giving at least a cornerstone. Susan Lake said that right now the entire neighborhood would continue with Interim Measures. The neighborhood goes from Kilbourne to Harden, Rosewood to Devine. The idea was that after the feedback more stringent guidelines would not fit the entire area. We don't want to be vulnerable after August. We want to institutionalize the designation. That doesn't mean that pockets couldn't qualify for higher designations. We are not abandoning goals.

Someone asked who doesn't want to have protection.

A man asked about if the city would designate street by street.

Susan – our neighborhood doesn't all fit in.

Amy said the initial survey showed there are areas in the neighborhood with a lot of infill.

A cluster of streets could request higher designations, but not single streets.

What happens if City Council votes No?

Belinda Gergel said she will take with great seriousness our request.

A woman said if we fail to get a majority vote, we would be naked. It would take the process back to the beginning.

Asked to define abuses – Woodrow between Maple and Woodrow – chain link fence would not need to come down. Building the large home on Duncan was sighted as an abuse.

It was noted that construction is still going on during interim measures. Interim measures has had very few conflicts during the last 18 months. Some have had to go on to the Board of Zoning appeals.

There will be more meetings – they will not all be on Sunday.

It was asked what recourse people have if they want the higher protection levels.

Agreeing to the overlay, would not hurt, it would help.

Tameika said the fear is the time limit, we could extend interim measures. This would not prohibit us from getting higher levels.

If the measures had been in place, the green house on Duncan Street would not have been built.

Who would be able to vote? One vote per parcel.

If you want to talk, but don't want to stand up, contact a member of Council.

Open Floor

Cardboard Collection box is available at Hand. The school will receive money for it.

A woman asked about parking areas in yards. Police dispatch will be sent. Contact John.

A woman said that the cars tend to come at night. 545-3333 zoning number will give you name and numbers of people to contact. There is an on-line form that asks when the occurrences happen.

Moe's Grapevine will be happy to donate the eggs for the Easter Egg Hunt. He will boil and dye them.

City Elections will be on April 6th. There is a mayoral forum on March 23.

Tina Cundari will be new President of the Council.

John thanked council for help lately.

Julie moved and Susan seconded motion to adjourn.