

Minutes
Meeting of the Shandon Neighborhood Council
September 14, 2010 at 6:15 p.m. (Sims Park)

I. Welcome and Introduction of Council Members

Edward Bender, Jessie Burke, Tushar Chikhiliker, Caroline Clarkson, Tina Cundari, Mary Greene, Jane Key, Tracy McKelvey, Carla Moore, Ed Pope, Seth Rose, Terry Sharpe

II. Reports

A. Minutes – Caroline Clarkson

Jessie mad a motion to accept the minutes; Jane seconded; the minutes were unanimously approved.

B. Treasurer’s Report - Jane Key

Cash on hand \$7,837.03. As of now, we will break even on National Night Out.

C. Safety

1. Captain Thornton, regional commander. The graffiti on Devine Street was not gang graffiti; the police thought it was done by skateboard kids. Gang members are very specific with their graffiti. Auto break-ins continue to be a problem; hide items or take them in. Residential burglaries are believed to be connected and hopefully things will be collected. Items are easier to recover if they have some type of serial number on them. Evans Jones, a neighborhood member, says the “intel” on the street is that gangs are going to the BP station to chat.
2. Jeff Morgan, Sergeant, Property Crimes Unit. 252-2911. One of the trends being seen is daytime break-ins. Early last Friday morning, 3 houses in Heathwood had doors kicked in and large screen TVs were stolen. Clean cut black male driving slowly in a Black Chevy Tahoe was noted in the neighborhood that day by a concerned citizen who called in. Blinds were left open, on recently remodeled homes. Several burglaries in Shandon match the same description for last several months. You can call Sergeant Felder to get tips for how to better secure your home. Call immediately if you see something or someone suspicious in the neighborhood. If someone suspicious comes to your door, you are within your rights to take their picture. At least one house had an alarm. The main thing you need to do with an alarm system is to get a good system. You need a cellular backup to your keypad so that even if the power goes out, it should still work. If a house is empty near you, contact Gerry Lynn Hall. It is thought the break-in on Sims where the door was kicked in, was committed by the same person that committed the crimes in Heathwood.
3. Officer Baire – Residential Patrol Officer, 545-3500 – office number. Belinda Gergel is trying to get City-issued cell phones for the residential patrol officers. His e-mail is trbaire@columbiasc.net. There have been less than ten reported car break-ins in the neighborhood since July. Guns were taken out of the two cars in Shandon. There have been many incidents of stolen guns being

used in other crimes. Specifically, the recent shooting in Five Points was committed with a stolen gun. Please secure guns in your home. Tina said she would send the dates of the upcoming meetings to Officer Baire.

4. Councilwoman Gergel was introduced. She was grateful that officers came, especially Captain Thornton. Crime has increased in the South Region. The second Belinda gets the word, she runs with it trying to get it fixed. Staying within the budget is very important to Belinda. Mentioned greet meeting with leadership at City Council.

D. Newsletter – Tina Cundari gave the report.

1. Comes out quarterly. Next issue will include Turkey Trot and Homes for the Holiday Tour.
2. You can get it on the website.

E. National Night Out – Tina Cundari gave the report.

Roughly 150 people attended the second annual Shandon Neighborhood Night Out. There were firetrucks, hotdogs, ice cream, people and dogs. Thanks for everyone's help. Plan to do again next year.

F. Website – Terry Sharpe

Name change – the preferred name was Shandonneighborhood.org. Anyone going to SimplyShandon.org would be redirected. It was recommended with Webhost to get .org and .com. It would cost an additional amount. We originally went with .org since we are a non-profit. We would want both to keep hackers from sabotaging our system. It will cost \$230 for both names for 5 years. Paying for this was recommended by the committee. Tushar moved and Caroline seconded. It was passed that we pay for both names.

G. Turkey Trot – Tushar Chikliker

The race will be Saturday, November 20 which is the Saturday before Thanksgiving. SNC has signed a contract with Strictly Running. We have a city permit for the route and off duty police lined up. Michael Bise, neighborhood resident is designing updated t-shirt. Another race may be held that same weekend sponsored by the Airport. Tushar will send sponsor form to all Neighborhood Council members. Tushar asked for those in town to help the day of the race. Trophy presentations will be at Hand Middle School after the race.

H. Homes for the Holidays Tour – Mary Greene and Caroline Clarkson

Mary is having a meeting at her house next week.

III. Old Business

A. Blind corners in Shandon – Tina Cundari

1. There are two corners that he knows of in the neighborhood that still need work. Contact Emerson if you know of others.

B. Safe Routes to Schools Grant – John Myrick

1. Looking at putting a sidewalk from Monroe to Rosewood on South Walker. This will be developed into a main thoroughfare for walkers. This is a Federal Grant. A group of parents got this in 2007. DOT is going to start working on this. \$180,000 is budgeted for infrastructure.

IV. New Business

A. Columbia Green Grant – Beverly Hamilton and Denise Degenhart

They are trying to get grant money for the corner of Harden and Heyward. They have been working with the City. They have a grant proposal. They will go before City Council to ask for help too. There is a water source in the area, but it needs to be repaired. Asked for endorsement from Council and would ask for money from the Council too. They are talking with the City about taking down trees. They have contacted a landscape architect to design something. The Columbia Green grant includes in-kind contributions to go towards matching. Denise, her children, and Evan have done some work already. Steve McCullough, retired from Parks, Recreation and Tourism is helping with this. Seth and Tushar proposed endorsement.

B. Zoning

1. Michael Haigler, local architect who has done many projects in Shandon. Leading a project at Ravenel and Monroe for Mr. Burch. Would like to compliment current house structure with addition. His house faces Ravenel Street. The house was built before the current set-backs were established. Their goal is to have it blend in with existing structure. John Myrick or someone on the Zoning Committee will investigate the area and make a recommendation to Council. We will make sure to do this before the October Zoning meeting.
2. Rusty Hammond is on vacation this week. John Myrick will send out information.

V. Open Discussion

- A. Gerry Lynn Hall shared that the Gervais Street Bridge will be closed from 8:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m. Friday, 17th – Saturday 18th for fund raiser. The following Sunday, there is a professional bike race in the Vista.
- B. Homeowner from 2924 Wilmot complained of neglected yard next door. It was suggested he contact the City regarding yard maintenance. 2900 Wilmot is the address of the neglected house at the corner of Wilmot and Holly. Gerry Lynn Hall gave him the name and number of the correct contact.

VI. Adjourn

Next meeting: Tuesday, November 9, at 6:15, Emily Douglas Park.