

**Shandon Neighborhood Council Meeting**  
**July 9, 2012**  
**Emily Douglas Park**

**I. Welcome and Introduction of SNC & Guests**

Those in Attendance: Jason Bobertz, Carla Moore, Caroline Clarkson, Charles Appleby, Tina Cundari, Betsy Beach, Jesse Burke, Ryan Causey, Mary Greene, Julie Ruff, Ron Burns, Annie Caggiano

Those Absent: Derek Gruner, Jane Key

Richland County Councilman Seth Rose, City of Columbia Councilman Moe Baddourah, and Senator John Courson were also present.

**II. Reports.**

**Minutes** - Jason Bobertz. The minutes from the May 14, 2012 Meeting were approved.

**Treasurer's Report** - Jane Key. Mary Greene presented the Treasurer's Report in Jane's absence. Checks paid since the last meeting totaled \$1,816.11, and deposits totaled \$770.87, with \$10,945.93 in cash on hand.

**National Night Out** - Ron Burns. National Night Out will be at Emily Douglas Park August 7 from 6 pm to 8 pm. There will be food, including hot dogs and ice cream, and at least one of the Police K-9 units who received a vest will be present. More donations are needed to support the event.

**Turkey Trot** - Charles Appleby. The race is in the initial planning stages. Currently looking for more sponsors for the event.

**Home for the Holidays** - Mary Greene, Julie Ruff, Caroline Clarkson. There will be a planning meeting on August 14. Two homes were lost from last year's tour, so two replacement homes are needed.

**III. Neighborhood Safety/CPD Report** - Officer Alex Broder and CPD Officers.

Officer Broder stated there will be more officers in the Five Points area, and the crime rate there had decreased. Police asked that any thefts be reported, as manpower is allocated by the city based on past crime and projected future need. Officer Broder also encouraged residents to report suspicious persons, and provide police with complete descriptions. It is very difficult for police to locate and identify suspects without adequate descriptions. The new website for crime statistics in the city should be available in six to eight weeks.

Lt. Morgan has retired, and Lt. Gates is now in charge of the South District for CPD. Officer Broder promises to have his CPD issued cell phone number available for residents as soon as he receives it.

In regard to the complaints of neighbors regarding the activities on the basketball courts at Sims Park, Officer Broder encouraged neighbors having trouble with people playing basketball to alert CPD the next time there is a problem so citations can be issued.

**IV. Traffic Calming Discussion/Speed limit in neighborhood** - David Brewer, City of Columbia Traffic and Engineering. There was a lengthy discussion about traffic issues in the neighborhood and of the pros and cons of lowering the speed limit to 25 mph throughout the neighborhood. There was also discussion about speed humps on certain streets. It was observed that many of the surrounding neighborhoods have speed limits of 25 mph. Lowering speed limits on many streets will require additional signage to be posted, likely in neighbors' yards.

A motion was made and seconded to request further information from traffic officials and to reconsider the request at the next meeting. The motion carried.

However, after further discussion, a motion was made and seconded to formally request that the speed limits be lowered to 25 mph throughout the neighborhood. The motion carried.

**V. Sims Park Basketball Court Concerns** - Jeff Caton and Chris Campbell, City of Columbia Parks and Recreation. Ongoing problems with foul language were discussed, and neighbors expressed frustration over the fact that nothing had worked to stop the problem. There was discussion about how best to solve the problem, including removing one of the goals, lowering one of the goals to 8 feet, changing the basketball court to a tennis court, or altering the goals so that full court play is no longer available.

A motion was made and seconded to move the goals to the side to make two half courts. The motion failed to carry

A motion was made and seconded to completely remove one of the goals permanently. The motion carried.

Park officials stated the goal would be removed the next day.

There were other questions asked of the parks officials. There were some concerns about the proposed dog park in Emily Douglas, and one resident complained about dogs running off leashes in the park. It was emphasized that Park staff cannot enforce city ordinances, such as the requirement that dogs be kept on leashes, but CPD and Animal Control can enforce city ordinances.

**VI. Old Business/New Business.** Fall Special Event/Food Truck Rodeo - Annie Caggiano. This event is currently in the early planning stages. Possible dates for the event are either September 28 or October 19. There is the possibility that a band may play in the amphitheater in Emily Douglas.

**VII. Announcements/Open Discussion.** An announcement was made communicating that there is currently an open spot on Council. Nominations were requested.

Additionally, the Newsletter has been sent, please alert someone on Council if you did not receive it.

## **VII. Adjourn**

### **Upcoming events:**

The next SNC Meeting - September 10 at Sims Park.

National Night Out - August 7 from 6-8 pm at Emily Douglas Park.

Family Movie Nights at Emily Douglas – August 3, September 7 and October 5

Turkey Trot – November 17

Home for the Holidays Tour – December 2

It is our goal to have the SNC meetings begin promptly and last no more than 1 hour and 15 minutes.

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