

**Minutes**  
**Annual Meeting of the Shandon Neighborhood Council**  
**March 12, 2012 at 6:15 p.m. (Fellowship Hall of Wesley Memorial UMC)**

I. Welcome and Introduction of Council Members

Those in attendance: Charles Appleby, Betsy Beach, Jason Bobertz, Jesse Burke, Caroline Clarkson, Annie Caggiano, Tina Cundari, Derek Gruner, Jane Key, Carla Moore, and Julie Ruff.

Those absent: Tushar Chikhliker, Mary Greene, Ed Pope, and Terry Sharpe.

II. Presentation of Checks to School Principals and Home Tour Report

Georgianna Graham and Caroline Clarkson presented checks for \$1,500 to representatives from A.C Moore, Rosewood, Hand, and Dreher. Checks for \$2050 were given to the Shandon Neighborhood and Hollywood Rose Hill. The tour this year will be Sunday, December 2, 2012.

III. Safety Report – City of Columbia Police Officers

Officer Duckett – 803-391-211, Officer Sharpe, Officer Morgan and Officer Walker were in attendance. They said that four car break-ins were reported in Shandon since the last meeting. There will be a City sponsored seminar called “Broken Windows” on April 5.

A neighbor brought up a concern about a man named Raymond knocking on doors throughout the day asking for work.

Officer Sharpe discussed the capture of the Shandon flasher at 9:30 one night. The Clemson student lived in Irmo with his parents. The surveillance cameras at the Rosewood Car Wash helped confirm his identity. While trying to capture the flasher, decoy joggers were sent out by the police force, and at least 2 officers were out each day surveying the streets. The police appreciate all the phone calls. The suspect was released on bond.

Polly Thompson who lives at 2509 Monroe Street, asked for funding for dog safety vests. She is asking for the neighbors to give \$700. It was suggested by one council member that we donate the funds for the vest. Another member suggested we wait and allow there to be fundraiser portion at National Night Out. Officer Walker explained how the police dogs are utilized. He mentioned that some of the dogs are donated to the force. The lifespan of the dog vest is 5 to 10 years. Tina suggested that since this is the first time we have been presented with the information, we wait until a further date to determine the amount we donate. She reminded everyone that we donated a human vest last year. Mr. Palmer MacArthur offered to give Polly Thompson a check. It was suggested that it go through the Council which is already set up as a 501C3.

IV. Guest Speakers

There will be a Neighborhood Forum to Meet the Candidates on March 29.

City Councilwoman Gergel highlighted some things being done in the City. The flooding in Shandon has been discussed. Last week some members from the SNC and those most affected by the flooding came to the City for a meeting and discussed Green Infrastructure Improvements which include curbing and collecting water underground. It is Belinda’s hope that a meeting will be set up to discuss the possible solutions to the flooding in Shandon. She also reported that Rocky

Branch has received a lot of attention. Various ways to utilize the Ball Park are being considered by City Council. Dr. Gergel has reservations about the sale of the ballpark. Public Safety remains the number one priority for all members of City Council. A District Three Meeting will be held at the Capital Senior Center at 6:00 March 13; neighbors are invited. Tree Trimming is still a concern in District Three. She stated that it appears the only way to realistically deal with lines in the way of tree limbs is to bury the lines. Other cities are looking at ways to set aside money to put lines underground.

City Councilwoman Devine is heading the discussion of the flooding issues throughout the City. A pilot program is being discussed. They want to see if bagging yard debris will help stop the flooding. The Saturday before Easter, there will be an exercise program at Drew Wellness for families. Budget discussions are under way. The City is trying to develop different partnerships or donations to help the budget stretch farther. The City is trying to work with the County as much as possible to consolidate services.

County Councilman Rose mentioned he just sent out a constituent update. He stated that County Council meetings are now broadcast on-line thanks to his motion. The unified fire contract has expired. The cost of Fire Service has gone down since the unification and the service has improved. Mr. Rose is hoping the unification contract will be renewed. He also mentioned a landfill in Lower Richland.

Senator Courson was not able to attend but sent his regards. He was working in the Senate tonight.

Representative Smith thanked Belinda Gergel for her service on City Council. He thanked constituents for their voice for ETV and the Arts Commission. He wants to strengthen public schools, by giving more resources to the classrooms and lowering class sizes. He can be reached at 803-931-2200(cell) or james@james-smith.com

Representative Harrison was not able to attend.

#### Candidates

Joseph Azar attended the meeting, but had to leave before speaking.

Cameron Runyon attended the meeting, but had to leave before speaking.

Jenny Isgett introduced herself.

Moe Baddourah introduced himself.

Daniel Coble introduced himself.

Robert Rikard introduced himself.

#### V. Reports

##### A. Minutes – Caroline Clarkson

Julie made a motion to accept the January 9 minutes; Jason seconded; the minutes were approved.

##### B. Treasurer's Report – Jane Key

There is \$10,398.01 on hand. Last year's expenses were \$14,415.62 and revenue was \$17,042.00.

##### C. Newsletter – Julie Ruff

The next newsletter will come out in about two weeks. She thanked Julie's Treehouse and James Smith for their repeated purchase of ads.

##### D. Communication – Tina Cundari and Carla Moore

Currently there are 478 members on the Facebook page. They asked people to not post political or business ads on the Shandon Facebook Page. The website has been revised.

##### E. Turkey Trot – Charles Appleby

Charles thanked Tushar again for his hard work.

F. By-Laws – Jason Bobertz and Tina Cundari

We are not going to vote on changes to the current by-laws tonight. Although the changed By-Laws have been posted on-line for 60 days, additional changes need to be made, so the vote is postponed.

G. Easter Egg Hunt – Jason Bobertz and Tina Cundari

This event will be held at Emily Douglas on April 7. This year there will be an extra 500 eggs. Jason will again dress in the bunny costume. The event will start at 9:00 with the cost of \$3.00 per child.

VI. Old Business

A. Request for installation of 2 speed humps along Wilmot Ave. near Ott Rd.

Tina started the discussion stating that Council has recently heard a lot of discussion from neighbors about speeding and running stop signs.

Mrs. Nell Walters read a petition for a four way stop at Wilmot Avenue and Ott Road. She has obtained 36 signatures from neighbors in favor of a four way stop. She had a letter from Mr. David Brewer suggesting a speed hump. The state is reluctant to approve a four way stop.

A neighbor suggested that it would be cheaper to put a stop sign rather than a speed hump. The neighbor suggested that speed humps are a nuisance.

Another neighbor who lives on the corner emphasized her desire for the four way stop.

Mr. David Brewer said he will put in the request, but he expects that the State would come back suggesting a speed hump.

Representative Smith suggested contacting him and he will help make a case for stop signs.

A neighbor wanted to make sure that it is a cut through for Dreher.

Representative Smith suggested that the speed humps in his neighborhood have slowed down traffic.

The neighbors in attendance stated they would like the four way stop, not a speed hump.

Mr. Brewer reported that there have no reported accidents in the last three years.

It was pointed out that Mr. Brewer's research found there was a need for something.

Tina Cundari said that the Neighborhood Council typically supports what the immediate neighbors support.

Julie moved that we approve the stop sign. Annie seconded. The motion passed.

Jesse said research shows that more four way stops often leads to more accidents. He said that the City tried to have as many two block stretches without signs as possible.

Betsy suggested we look at the entire Neighborhood instead of this one location.

It was asked if a stop sign has ever been removed and Mr. Brewer said signs at Amherst and Wheat had been removed.

A neighbor mentioned she did not want speed humps in the Neighborhood because it will affect the character of the neighborhood.

B. Traffic issues in general – Jesse Burke

Tina suggested that Jesse take the lead on the traffic calming plan for the future of Shandon. He suggested that in most of the neighborhood, the people who run the signs are the neighbors. Most streets have a posted speed limit of 30 miles per hour; some streets are 25 miles an hour. He mentioned the City Ordinance about clear site lines at corners. He mentioned speed humps that emergency vehicles could straddle.

VII. New Business

A. Speeding concerns at 2400 and 2500 block of Monroe Street

Mr. Palmer McArthur is requesting a speed hump on Monroe Street between King and Queen Streets. He contacted the City and mentioned the speeding problem. He said a

policeman was sent to check speed. Tina suggested the City do a traffic study on the 2400 and 2500 blocks of Monroe.

- B. Request for variance at 501 Capitol Place – David Barry  
Mr. Barry works for Celtic Works. He said the existing garage is in poor condition. The home used to be a duplex and was changed into a single family home. There is not enough property to add the proposed mother in-law suite in a proposed new garage. The Shandon Neighborhood Zoning Committee will look at the plans with Celtic Works and make a recommendation to the Council.

VIII. Open Discussion, Announcements, and Elections

- A. Update on Flooding Issues  
Derek volunteered to be the contact person for flooding issues.
- B. Yard of the Month – The program starts in April.
- C. Candidate Forum, March 29, Wesley Memorial UMC, 6:30 p.m.
- D. SNC Officers for 2012-2013  
Jesse Burke, Jane Key and Caroline Clarkson were elected to a second term.  
Betsy Beach and Annie Caggiano were elected to their first full term.  
Caroline Clarkson was nominated and elected as President Elect  
Jason Bobertz was nominated and elected as Secretary.  
Tushar Chikhliker and Terry Sharpe were recognized for their service.  
Charles Appleby nominated Ryan Causey who is interested in helping with the Turkey Trot. He was elected.  
Susan Lake nominated Dr. Ron Burns. He was elected.

IX. Adjourn 8:10

**Next meeting: Monday, May 14, at 6:15 p.m.**  
**Location: SIMS PARK**