Shandon Neighborhood Council Meeting

May 8, 2017

Present: Deborah Thomas, Steve Augustine, Mary Roe, Karen Addison, George Crouch, Scott Linderberg, Kelly Hines, Martha Johnson, Ron Burns, Lois Elijah, Joe Berry

Treasurer’s report: Expenses were for the newsletter. Money received from 2 ads. Balance $11,573.86 reflecting March 13 through today.

A huge thank you and token of appreciation plaque given to Mary Roe for her great work as president!

George Crouch attended the Columbia Council of Neighborhoods. The biggest issue at the moment is a quiet train zone. If anyone would like to serve on this committee, please contact George for the contact information.

Kit Smith is coordinating the gathering of information regarding rental properties particularly student rentals. There will be a meeting regarding this on May 17 at MLK park at 5:30.

There has been a request to install a cellular tower on Rosewood (this would also include a small hut). Attorney is willing to come talk about this. Mary Roe is to reach out to the Rosewood Council for input and will post to the Shandon website. A condensed document of what was sent needs to be posted to the website also.

Seth Rose was present. He extended his greetings to all. He talked about the hangar at Owens field…Richland County has redeveloped this property with tax credits. It is being leased to Hunter Gatherer. There is a rooftop sitting area…perfect to watch planes. Seth said he also sends mailers out twice a year. There was a question regarding when the TitleMax building would come down. He is to check on the specifics. The greenway is to go from roughly TitleMax to South Kilbourne. Mary Roe mentioned that Seth was involved in getting the city parks to move forward to try to reduce sweet drinks and treats at the parks.

Ron Burns report on the website and newsletter. The newsletter posed the idea of going electronic with the newsletter…Ron only received 3 replies. There are several items on the website which need updating, for example the calendar is not functioning properly. Ron would also like to add the new SNC committees to the website. A motion for a post office box was passed…$100 for a box in Five Points.

The Easter egg hunt was once again a great success. The F3 group hid eggs. The children enjoyed meeting the Easter bunny. Eggs Up Grill was the sponsor again and provided food and beverages. Thanks to all!

National Night Out will be August 1. Mary Roe has already registered us on the national site. An email will be sent out to see if everyone liked having the 2 different entities. The ice cream truck has been secured already. Mary has already talked to John Meyers. And a note to not forget the crock pot for the chili!

Turkey Trot will be working on sponsors during the summer. Strictly Running has a contract with us to sponsor until 2019. 15% of the sponsorship is advertisement. The race had about 300 runners and we would like to bump this number up to about 500. There has been discussion on how to make the race more exciting and interesting. Would like to recruit the Dreher track team, Boy Scouts, and Benedict to be sure to run. Cindy Waund has volunteered to help with this.

Old Business:

The speed limit is in the city’s hands. David Brewer is working with DOT for signage (which will not cost SNC).

We are now a 501C. This will help with securing sponsorships for functions.

New Business:

A motion was approved for George Crouch to create committees as deemed necessary without council approval.

Insurance for the Heyward/Harden triangle project is required by the city. There will be no approval of our application until there is proof of liability insurance. This will cost up to $675. There was discussion regarding if we want to spend this amount each year? The city will only maintain the trees not the shrubberies that we would like to plant. This maintenance would also have to be paid unless there are volunteers for that job. The committee would still like to find businesses who will donate to the beautification cause and to somehow recognize them. A motion was passed to procure the liability insurance.

The committees that have been formed are:

Communication

Ordinance and Codes

Safety and Speed

Beautifications

Bylaws

Communications report: Mention all committees in the newsletter. Update the website…hits are pretty low. A suggestion was to link to the website from the facebook page. All social media requires addressing. The facebook page is owned by a prior president.

Beautifications report: The Heyward/Harden triangle project has yet to be presented to city council. The whole process will take about 60 days…has to be presented twice. The old trees have been removed from the triangle by the city. New trees will not be planted until next planting season which is in about 10 months. Other projects to be addressed include the aging trees and tree trimming. Perhaps we should have a service event to help beautify elderly yards. Ideas are welcome!

Ordinance and code report: 4-5 major issues have been identified:

Situations involving more than 1 structure on properties.

Pets – animal abuse, not picking up waste (there is a city ordinance regarding this). A foster handout was shared.

Drones – no laws regarding drones in Columbia or SC.

Rental property compliance.

Signage issues.

The committee needs to understand what the city ordinances are so that when questions arise they can assist.

Speed and safety report: Grants are being explored since we are now a 501C. The city’s BikePed plan is being used as a guide. Also, Hand Middle School is being focused on for safety improvements.

Bylaws report: These will be looked at and revised. Verbiage will be added regarding the 501C status.

The summer will be used to produce a draft. Bylaws can only be changed at the annual meeting. The proposed changes need to be posted 60 days prior to the annual meeting. The SNC mission statement will not be changing.

Linda Suber and Carolyn McKenzie were present to talk about The Red Truck Event. It will be held the weekend of May 20 and 21 at the corner of Heyward and Holly. This is the 9th year and much has been raised for animal shelters. Please be sure to come out and donate for the animals! Besides food, litter, crates, dog houses, leashes, there is a need for chlorox (no pine cleaners), toys, 50 to 75 foot garden hoses and nozzles, blankets and towels (no sheets) and dollars!

Officer Kevin Schmidt was not present but has his report on the SNC facebook page.

Two neighbors were there to discuss the variance that one neighbor is requesting from city council tomorrow regarding the erection of a 14 foot fence. The motion on the variance requested by Harrison Greenlaw failed to garner enough support from SNC.