**Shandon Neighborhood Council meeting March 12, 2018**

**Roll Call:** Deborah Thomas, Joe Berry, Kelly Hynes, George Crouch, Ron Burns, Steve Augustine, Martha Johnson,Russell Jones, Lois Elijah, Mary Roe

**Approved agenda** as published, printed and given.

**Approved minutes**from the last meeting.

**Treasurer’s report**Annual and Quarterly report given by George Crouch,

IRS form will be filled out for the 501(c)3.

**Elected officials:**

Seth Rose spoke and plans to run for State House District 72 in June, new stoplight is being installed on Devine, and Seth notes he voted against the Renaissance Plan.

**Invited Guests:**

Keith Gosselin with the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee: Open Streets, a family fun festival will be on 4/22/18. Several blocks of Devine to be blocked off.

Safety Report: Officer Seay—Crime stats are down this year.

**Committee Reports:**

**Ordinance and By-laws:** Martha, Steve, and Joe have drafted the revisions of the by-laws to make more comprehensive, and provide more clarity, since we are now a 501(c)3. To be approved tonight.

**Triangle Beautification Project**:  Kelly Hynes gave the update.  Received 4 solid bids ranging from $8,700 (Mendosa Lawn Service) to $14,300.  After review, the beautification committee has decided to commit to Mendosa.  Motion to be presented later tonight.

**Safety committee:**   8 entries for the Shandon sign.  Shandon sign to be voted on later in this meeting.  Speed limit signs are currently being made by DOT.

**Communications:**Ron Burns: newsletter being printed.

**Events committee:**Easter Egg Hunt: Saturday March 31 Emily Douglas, 9am.  Eggs Up is sponsoring with light breakfast and hidden Easter eggs.  F3 is helping with Easter Eggs as well.

George extended a big Thank you to all committee members and neighbors who have helped out with all projects.

Agenda items motions in old business section:

Scott Augustine made a motion to amend agenda to include discussion of the extended hours permit for alcohol sales by the City of Columbia into the new business section of the agenda. Motion passed.

**Old business:**

**Demolition of duplex at 140 South Walker St.:**

Alan Rutter, contractor who has renovated many homes in the neighborhood, purchased the duplex, and showed multiple exhibits of the property.  The property is not contributing positively to the neighborhood, and he has had 2 structural engineers inspect the property, and they state it does not have a sound foundation. It appears that the demo does not conflict with the neighborhood overlay and it would be an improvement.  They have received a list of signatures from the neighbors stating they are not opposed to the demolition.  He plans to demo the duplex and put 2 single family residences. Per Mr Rutter, the highest and best use of the property is for a single-family residence.  Several neighbors spoke up showing their support of the demolition, and a couple of residents spoke up that they disagree with the demo.  Ron Burns made a motion that the SNC support the demolition of the duplex at 140 South Walker St. as requested by the owner. Subsequent to NSCs prior consideration of this demolition in July 2017, council members have toured the property and have considered the additional structural data report, termite infestation, and structural integrity issues, plus examples of proposed replacement structures provided by the owner.  Based on these further considerations, this council supports the demolition of the property at 140 South Walker.  The motion passed by 9-1.

**Safety committee: Shandon signs:**

To be a gateway sign 20 square feet provided by a grant through the City of Columbia.  It was voted by a showing of hands to have a sign made.  Consensus is to put the sign at the Triangle at the corner of Harden and Heyward. Grant will pay for the fabrication of the sign.  City has certain requirements, but we will modify the sign graphics in the near future.  We will have to present the design and minutes from the meeting showing which sign was approved at the meeting with the City.  There is some concern by a neighbor about sign graffiti and where funding will come from to pay for the cleanup. It was noted that there are graffiti resistant paints.

Voted on graphic #5 by a counting of hands as the Sign design for the Shandon neighborhood sign.  Deborah Thomas made the motion that we approve design #5 as the Shandon neighborhood sign design, and this passed.

**New Business:**

**Beautification committee**:

Kelly Hynes made a motion that the council authorizes the beautification committee to negotiate with Mendoza Lawn Service to stay within our budget of $7500 for the triangle landscaping project.  The Motion passed.  In addition, we will apply for grants to supplement the project.

**Variance request for parking:**

Frank Cason, the developer of Backstreet Restaurant on Devine St. is going to meet with the City Zoning Department in the morning in order to get a variance for parking for their new family-friendly restaurant on Devine Street.  They need more parking and plan to rent or lease spaces from 2 neighboring businesses to get an additional 10 spaces.  There is concern that parking is not guaranteed, there is no lease in place currently and spillover into the neighborhood is a big concern.  They plan to close no later than 11pm weekdays and 12 midnight on weekends.  They are working with the Devine Street Merchants Association as well.  A motion was not made about the parking situation for Backstreets, as a result the issue died for lack of a motion.

**Extended license permits for 2am closure rule**:

Currently there are exceptions to the 2am closure which allows businesses to stay open and serve alcohol after 2am.  A motion was made for SNC to support doing away with the exception that allows bars to stay open after 2am in the City of Columbia.  Motion passed 9-1.  The City will be notified of our decision.

**Ordinance and By-laws:**

By-laws were modified with the help of Martha Johnson, Steve Augustine and Joe Berry, all attorneys, to be more specific and clear and consistent with Robert’s Rules. The committee reassured the meeting attendees that there are no major changes, but some terminology was updated and clarified based on our being a 501(c)3.  Conflict of interest paragraph was modified, and a competitive bidding requirement for larger purchases was included to read that “Any expenditure over $500 or is related to a contract for services for more than one year will require the SNC to solicit no less than 3 competitive bids before being approved.  This requirement may be waived by SNC by 2/3 vote of council members present at any meeting where the issue is presented for a vote.”  Steve Augustine proposed that we approve the by-laws revisions presented tonight.  A hand vote was done which showed the neighbors approve the new by-laws.  Passed 33-11.

**Elections of new officers and council members:**

Ballots were passed out to the meeting attendees, and talleyed by the City of Columbia Police Dept.

New council members are:
Buddy Atkins
Tamra Paschal (finish one year)
Martha Johnson
John Meyers
Rich Horton
Michael Drennan (finish one year)
Bill McCormick

New officers:

Russell Jones (President)

Deborah Thomas (President-elect)

Bill McCormick (treasurer)

John Meyers (secretary)