

**Shandon Neighborhood Council Meeting: March 8, 2021 via Zoom.**

Roll: John Meyers, Matt Flach, Michael Jamison, Mike McCauley, Catherine Mubarak, Rich Horton, Deborah Thomas, and Steve Augustine, Judy Anderson, Harrison Greenlaw, Andrew Clarkson, Lois Elijah, Bill McCormick, Tamra Paschal, and Kathleen Warthen arrived a few minutes late.

Martha Johnson was not present the for entire meeting and did not vote for all motions.

Minutes of the previous meeting were unanimously approved.

Agenda was approved by unanimous vote of those present.

**Local Officials/Candidates for Office/Crime Report:**

Q&A with Seth Rose (Harden Street Update): Seth and Senator Harpootlian met with DOT about the Harden Street issue. DOT commissioned a study with traffic counts and called for \$4.8 million in improvements. DOT has allocated \$4 million of that amount. Seth and Senator Harpootlian will work diligently to obtain the remainder in this year's budget. The goal is to make it more walkable and driveable. SNC will be notified about public input sessions that will likely be mid to late June. Top three changes Shandon residents would see: Implementing a "road diet."

Richland County Councilwoman Allison Terracio was present. She addressed issues we are having with grants.

Candidate for City Council Heather Bauer was present and introduced herself.

City Councilman Will Brennan attended.

Crime and Safety Report: Officer Johnson gave a quick update on recent arrests. Capt. Blendowski was present as well.

**Officer/ Committee Reports:**

President: Thanks to the SNC for the transition from live meetings to Zoom; to Ron Burns for doing the newsletter; and other members for their efforts.

President- Elect: Rich Horton has moved to Chapin because of school situation. He will not run again.

Secretary- No report.

Treasurer report: Started year at \$11,031 and ended \$12,075. Revenue was from grants and ad sales. \$4,181 in expenses. See Budget & Annual Finances - March 2020 through February 2021

Beautification: When COVID hit, large piles of trash were left on the street when students moved out. We have the contact info for the person at City Waste to address this issue. Historic Columbia needed this sub committees input on a plaque for a historic home on Terrace Way. SNC was offered and we accepted a new tree in the triangle. The city is looking into placing pickle ball courts in some tennis court locations. Landscape maintenance at the triangle continues on an add need basis on a voluntary manner.

Bylaws: No amendments to the bylaws this year, but there are a few issues we'll be looking into for amendment next year. Clarifications regarding president elect and past president rolls.

Communication: Thanks to Ron and Harrison for the newsletters and webpage.

Events: Looking at moving National Night out to the 1<sup>st</sup> weekend in June (it was cancelled in August).

Turkey Trot- A few races have started back so we will get a better idea soon about when we can start planning the next Turkey Trot.

Grants: the Sims Park dog park proposal mentioned at our January meeting and referred to the Beautification Committee has generated a fair amount of buzz, both pro and con. However, one area of apparent consensus is that the dog park at Emily Douglas is not well regarded due its location on an eroding hillside, unsightly appearance, poor maintenance, and a lack of awareness and/or enforcement of the rules of the park.

The Grants Committee has identified a grant contest offered by [PetSafe](#) called [Bark for Your Park](#), which is open to anyone who wants to enhance or build an off-leash dog park in their community. While the application acceptance period begins May 1, PetSafe hasn't yet posted the application itself or many details. However, the website says interested parties may get a head start on a submission by planning and collecting materials, contacting local leaders, and generating community support. I've spoken preliminarily with Columbia Parks & Rec Director Randy Davis and Councilman Will Brennan, who are open to collaborating with the SNC on a plan for dog park enhancements at Emily Douglas if we wish to pursue them. Support from civic leaders appears to be one of the criteria for the grant, so the City's willingness to work with us is a plus.

Traffic and Safety: Currently working on Duncan/Ott (to be discussed in Old Business); Speed Hump on S. Holly- State DOT has stopped that project due to certain obstacles.

Zoning: Biggest issue- new development in Rosewood Church. Some neighbors have been able to get a cul-de-sac approved on Sloan Street.

There is a city wide effort for the new proposed zoning. The City staff, has agreed to meet with the sub-committee again Monday, March 22 at 6:30 p.m. to address further questions affecting Shandon's zoning.

**Old business:** Intersection of Duncan and Ott: Discussed at last general meeting and then T&S sub committee took up the issue. Much interest in traffic controls at the intersection. The committee felt objective documented support is required. The Traffic & Safety Committee moved that the SNC authorize its President to transmit a letter to the City of Columbia and the SC Department of Transportation requesting, at the earliest opportunity, a traffic evaluation and subsequent installation of appropriate traffic control measures at the intersection of Duncan and Ott Streets. Motion seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

**New business:** School of Pharmacy wants to have annual 5K April 10, 2021. Starts on USC Campus and only slightly comes into Shandon. Motion to authorize President to send letter in support of race. Seconded. All in favor.

Speed Hump on S. Holly: In 2019 SNC approved a speed hump on S. Holly and last meeting we reported it would be installed in January. Found out since the last meeting that DOT is not installing the speed hump at this time. Motion that SNC authorize the President in consultation with Traffic and Safety to write letters in support of installation of speed hump on S. Holly to City Officials and DOT. Seconded. Passed without objections.

**The Grants Committee has voted to request SNC approval to coordinate with the City and collect input from the community to prepare a submission when the grant application period opens later this spring.** If that step is approved tonight, then the committee will bring the application to the SNC for final approval when ready. In the meantime, this would show residents and the City that we are looking to take action on improving Emily Douglas and provide a platform from which to start the planning process. Regardless of the outcome of the Sims Park proposal, we think pursuing improvements at the existing Emily Douglas dog park could be something most Shandon residents will get behind.

The Grants Committee requests SNC approval to coordinate with the City and collect input from the community to prepare a grant application(s) for improvements at Emily Douglas dog park. So moved and seconded. No objections.

**Election:** Vacancies include John, Rich, Judy, Bill, and Martha.

Nominations from the floor. Caroline Clarkson was nominated but she declined.

Registered Candidates: Judy Anderson, Dolly Garfield, Bill McCormick, Kelly Hynes Morris, Patricia Seal, Deborah Thomas. Each candidate had 2 minutes to speak.

Votes were then submitted using a poll over Zoom.

New members elected: Judy Anderson, Dolly Garfield, Bill McCormick, Kelly Hynes Morris, and Patricia Seal.

Adjourn.

**Reconvene to elect new SNC positions.**

Election of President, President-Elect, and Secretary.

Motions and unanimous approval of the following positions:

President – Andrew Clarkson

President- Elect – Michael Jamison

Secretary – Catherine Mubarak

Adjourn.