

Shandon Neighborhood Council Meeting

September 13, 2021

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by President Andrew Clarkson at 6:15 p.m.

Roll Call: Roll was called by acting Secretary, Judy Anderson. The following were in attendance: Judy Anderson, Steve Augustine, Andrew Clarkson, Lois Elijah, Dolly Garfield, Harrison Greenlaw, Mike McCauley, Bill McCormick, John Meyers, Kelly Hynes Morris, Tamra Paschal, Tricia Seal, and Kathleen Warthen.

Catherine Mubarak Hunter, Michael Jameson and Matt Flach were not present.

Approval of Agenda: Mike McCauley moved that the agenda be accepted. Seconded by Lois Elijah, the motion was passed.

Minutes: Kelly Hynes Morris moved that the minutes of the July 12, 2021 meeting be accepted; the motion was seconded and passed.

President Clarkson noted that we would adhere to the City's Mask Ordinance. He also circulated a flyer on a missing cat.

Local Officials/Candidates for Office and Special Guests: Robert Lominack, a teacher at Dreher High School and founder of a non-profit, is a candidate for the Richland 1 School Board. A special election will be held on October 26, 2021.

Katie Renfro, Five Points Association, gave an update on activities and events. Several concerts are planned for the next few weeks. At least 6 new restaurants are moving into the Village within the next few months. Katie can be reached at 803.748.7373/5pointscolumbia.com.

Crime and Safety Report: Officer Johnson reported that crime is down. Since our last meeting, several people charged with housebreaking and burglary have been arrested. Captain Blendowski reminded everyone that students are back. Should there be a problem, contact the police while the party is going on. His staff works closely with Code Enforcement. He noted that USC will take action against students who are ticketed.

Officer/ Committee Reports:

President: See above remarks.

Secretary: No report.

Treasurer report: As of September 01, 2021, the bank balance was \$9,582. Harrison stated that the Council received a \$150 prize for second place in the table contest at the citywide National Night Out.

Beautification: (Tamra Paschal)

Emily Douglas Park: Construction of the small fountain and additional concrete work were built for the memorial in the corner of the grounds. Japanese style gazebo was being finished by carpenters. Parks and Rec cleaned up the whole King Street side of the park.

Triangle: Recently mowed and rudimentarily cleaned up. Still hoping a Scout will take it on as an Eagle Project.

Bylaws: (Steve Augustine) Nothing to report at this time as no items have been submitted to the committee. He reminded the group that changes to the bylaws can only be made at the Annual Meeting in March.

Communication: (Michael Jamison). **Best of Columbia 2021:** Shandon was voted best neighborhood by the Free Times. Kudos to Harrison for getting this on the council's radar and a huge thanks to everyone who voted!

SSL Certificate for website: Progress has been made on setting up the changes with GoDaddy to implement the SSL certificate. Implementation is expected to happen in the next couple of weeks. This will eliminate the website's not secure message in modern web browsers.

Notifications for events and SNC meetings were posted to the website and council Facebook page.

Events: (Matt Flach) NNO event last month went off well. There was good support from the community as well as the sponsors who willing donate every year.

Grants: (John Meyers) Mike has gathered some info about a grant through Columbia Green. It's due on 9/30/21. If we can come up with a viable plan for a submission, we will need to hold a quick Zoom call to approve the submission. Basically, the grant provides up to 3k for plants, mulch, and soil amendments in public spaces.

Traffic and Safety: (Mike McCauley)

Golf carts: Our campaign with CPD to improve awareness of golf cart laws has been a success. Neighbors expressed appreciation for our efforts, which included features in the newsletter and on social media, and CPD encourages residents to continue to promote the rules of the road among their neighbors.

Crime: There has been a recent uptick in auto break-ins and other property theft in Shandon, and residents have also reported speeders in the school zones along Rosewood Drive. CPD has been

responsive to all and will provide a report at Monday's meeting. In conjunction with CPD, we will include reminders in the fall newsletter about locking car doors, observing school speed zones, and other FAQs.

Problem intersection follow up: Traffic & Safety will request updated traffic studies from the City now that students have returned to school. As you will recall, we received data earlier this year from traffic studies performed in March; however, the data were obtained during a time in the pandemic when most students were not meeting in person and many adults were working from home. The city traffic engineer advised we can request additional studies after 6 months; therefore, we will seek updated studies at Ott & Duncan and King & Blossom, and a new study around Ott & Heyward/Yale based on recent resident complaints, to inform our efforts. If anyone is aware of other locations of concern, or knows of curbs/stop bars in need of repainting or foliage to be trimmed back to increase sight line, please forward to me as we continue to update the consolidated list for action by the City.

Turkey Trot: (Kelly Hynes Morris) Kelly discussed plans for the upcoming race which will be held at 10:00 a.m. on Black Friday, November 26. She is looking for volunteers and sponsors. Fifty (50) runners have already registered for the event.

Zoning: (Judy Anderson) Zoning has three updates.

Bonham House (Wilmot Street) - The owner has submitted the site plan to subdivide the property with two lots behind the house (after the house is moved forward on the lot). Under our CC overlay, the setbacks and height of structures are different than normal zoning. The site plan does not clearly address these two issues. The City wants to be sure that the purchaser understands the height limits for any structure that is built. The City has asked for more details and, as of this date, has not received a response.

Short Term Rentals (STR) - A copy of the draft ordinance was sent to everyone for review. At the request of our president, Anne Sinclair and I (Zoning Committee members) attended a meeting convened by KIIt Smith of multiple neighborhoods throughout the city. While it appears that STRs have not posed a problem in our neighborhood, we would like to conduct a short survey on STRs impact on Shandon.

2200 Blossom Street - A copy of information to be heard by the City Planning Commission at 5:15 p.m. on Monday, September 13, has been sent to council members. A letter of endorsement for this development was written by SNC in 1977. We have asked some questions about this project and the questions and answers have been sent to all member. We will continue to monitor this project.

Parks Committee: (Mike McCauley) The committee has been in contact over the summer with Ling Gao, who funded the meditation garden; her contractors; and Parks & Rec staff as they completed work at Emily Douglas. In lieu of a dedication event due to COVID precautions, Ling has asked for our help spreading the news that the meditation garden is now open for enjoyment.

The committee will be meeting soon to discuss the **development of separate surveys for Sims and Emily Douglas Parks to receive resident input**. Like the dog park survey, the results will help inform our efforts and support grant applications as we continue collaborating with the City and our partners

We have identified a new grant opportunity through the local nonprofit [Columbia Green](#) that reimburses for plantings as part of neighborhood projects. The committee will keep the Council posted as we develop ideas for submission. If you know anyone from Shandon involved with Columbia Green, please contact Mike.

Allison Terracio, County Council, and Will Brennen, City Council, joined the meeting. Allison reported that the county would probably pass a mask ordinance on Tuesday at their monthly meeting. An ad hoc council committee was meeting and would make the recommendation to Council.

Will Brennen noted that he would supply information on the Fire Marshall Hotline for areas not adhering to the city ordinance to wear a mask; this was in response to a question concerning masking. The Storm Water Project report will be available on September 30, 2021 and will be posted on Facebook. A Short Term Retail (STR) public hearing will be held on Wednesday, September 22. The City is behind in collecting street trash and is making efforts to get back on schedule. The Rosewood Church project will begin shortly.

Old Business:

National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) Mid Carolina would like to use the Emily Douglas Clubhouse for a meeting for their support groups this fall. Kathleen moved that we approve this request. The motion, seconded by Bill, passed.

New business: None

As there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by

Judy C. Anderson for
Catherine Mubarak Hunter