

Regular Board of Director's Meeting of the Southampton Citizens Association was called to order by President Frank Dorman on Tuesday, June 21, 2005 at 7:36 PM.

Board Members Present: Sue Stewart, Wendy Inge, Tim Fite, Catlin Cettl, Jeff Donahue, Mary Frances Kastelberg, Jon Young, John Cardwell, Mary Blanchard, and John McGrann.

Excused: Jean Marie Hay, Bob Scott, Mary St. Louis.

Absent: (None Noted).

Contributors and Guests in Attendance: Linda Redmond, Dylan Greenbaum, Ralph White, Kathy Graziano, and Caroline Cardwell.

Kathy Graziano's Report:

Money is in the revised budget to be voted upon in a special council meeting on July 1 to add collection facilities at the transfer stations to allow city residents to safely dispose of household hazardous waste.

Discussed speed bumps. New fire and police administrations are apparently O.K. with them. Council is working towards enabling legislation (but no budget line item for actual purchase and installation) to allow planning by staff for traffic calming.

New speed limit signs are up in several areas. New police precincts (sectors) will hopefully enable better enforcement.

Group reported to Kathy that through trucks on Cherokee are taking advantage of a missing weight limit sign from the Huguenot Road side.

Approval of Minutes: Approved

Committee and Officer Reports:

Zoning: Jewett property development apparently resulted in a water line break. Heavy truck traffic cutting through the neighborhoods to gain access to commercial development previously reported to Kathy. Also noted that lights on Forest Hill apparently are still not synchronized with each other. Direct input on transportation related issues to Zettl for follow up.

Riverfest Wrap Up: Approximately 300 attendees, and 45 racers. Board expressed appreciation to Mary Blanchard, Caitlin Zettl, and all the others for a successful and enjoyable event.

Legislative Affairs: No report.

Treasurer: Reported a current bank balance of \$7,508.24, with \$3,035.08 in Riverfest funds (sponsorships and other proceeds) to be deposited for a total of \$10,376.36. Current Riverfest balance sheet indicates \$2,670 received in sponsorships, and \$3,467.88 in expenses for a net cost to the treasury of \$797.88.

Communications: Broadcast e-mail program is available for between \$30 and \$40. The software adds a feature to a website to allow users to subscribe or unsubscribe to the e-mail list. The sense is that this system would be used for alerting the community regarding special issues and unusual activity. E-mail addresses can be set up from current records, but the idea is the system would be self-updating. Moved and approved to spend up to \$40.00 to acquire the software.

Transportation: Discussed conducting a survey of the top five traffic issues (there are more, but identifying the top five is the idea). Noted that property west of Wal-Mart is under contract, and that current traffic counts are 63,000 vehicles per day on Chippenham Parkway and 23,000 per day on Forest Hill Avenue, inviting the question regarding the designed capacity of Forest Hill Avenue. Discussed as a group undertaking the development a Southampton Master Plan. Could possibly invite students from urban planning and architecture schools to participate. Discussed a possible invitation to the city traffic engineering office to address the group.

Other Business:

Discussed inviting Katherine Waddel, independent candidate for House of Delegates, to a future meeting.

Discussed bike lanes and previous community transportation plan developed by Ralph Hambrick's students.

Noted the availability of a \$10,000 grant from the University of Richmond for community activities. Oxford received a grant last year for helping elderly residents with transportation. Subcommittee to explore – will meet at Tim Fite's house (TBA).

Discussed inviting neighboring groups in Chesterfield to participate in traffic and transportation related issues. Noted that Oxford already includes some of the adjoining Chesterfield neighbors.

Discussed funds for Forest Hill Avenue streetscape. City is supposed to match federal funds in order to receive them. Need to push city to follow through on their commitment for this funding.

Wall-Mart: Jean-Marie Hay has been checking, and reports that the property has been kept pretty neat.

Huguenot Bridge: Contract has been let to paint the rails with iron oxide paint (rust brown color).

Neighborhood Team:

Frank Dorman reported on rules changes implemented by the City to eliminate bogus associations from the neighborhood team process and to exercise more control over the teams to prevent them from becoming politicized. Discussed previous proposals by Southampton to weight association votes by number of members or population being represented, which was previously opposed. Changes put forth by Planning and Community Development appear to benefit the legitimate organizations participating in the process, however it's also obvious that current political officeholders are also seeking to limit grass-roots political activities within a city-sponsored forum.

New Business:

Ralph White presented a new sign for the Norma Blalock Park, smaller and gives a brief bio of Ms. Blalock. Board approved a reimbursement of \$71 to Ralph for the sign.

Newsletter Items: Articles and items for publication needed by first week of July

Discussed requesting regular closure to motor vehicles of Riverside Drive on Saturday mornings to allow for family walking and bicycling. Motion by Inge, second by Zettl, approved to request a 7:00 AM to 10:30 AM closure at a minimum from Memorial Day to Labor Day, up to from the start of Daylight Savings Time to the end of Daylight Savings Time.

Adjournment: 9:42 PM.