Wagener Terrace Neighborhood Association

May 17, 2021
Minutes
[Virtual Meeting via Google Meet]
WTNA website address: www.wagenerterrace.org

Meeting was called to order @ 7:00 p.m. by President Amanda Gurski. She asked any first time or non-resident guests to identify themselves. Mike Elder of 130 Darlington Avenue and Sharon Strong introduced themselves.

REPORTS

Minutes:
President Gurski announced that the minutes of the April 19 meeting were not posted on the website in a timely manner. Therefore, the minutes of the April 19 and May 17 meetings will be presented for approval at the June 21, 2021 meeting.

Financials:
Treasurer Gail Thomas reported a checking account balance of $9,454.57 and a savings account balance of $22,505.67 [$17,500 on reserve for oyster roast in 2022]. Treasurer Thomas also reported recent expenditures and receipts.

PRESENTATIONS

1. **Budget Proposal for 2021-2022 Fiscal Year.** President Gurski announced that the proposed budget will be posted on the WTNA website noted above, and urged all members to review it before the next meeting. Treasurer Thomas also requested that additional documents pertinent to the budget be posted to show additional detail.
2. **WTNA Officer Nominations – Report of the Nominating Committee.** President Gurski called upon Susan Cale, Chair of the Nominating Committee, to present the nominees for the office of President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer for the 2021-22 and 2022-23 years, terms ending in June 2023. Susan Cale reported the nominees as follows:
   President – Petar Lemajic
   Vice-President – Jarett Nicholson
   Secretary – Nancy Wilson
   Treasurer – Gail Thomas
   President Gurski asked if there were any other nominations from the floor. After pausing to give all adequate opportunities to unmute and speak, President Gurski announced that the nominations were closed. She asked for a motion of approval by acclamation. Mike Turner made the motion to approve the slate as presented. Susan Cale seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
3. **AirBnB Concerns.** President Gurski called upon Petar Lemajic to relate some recent concerns about abuse of AirBnB regulations. Petar noted that his neighbor, Patricia Comfort-Capers had come to him about an AirBnB at the corner of Ashley and Simmons. She related that there were 5 persons in 5 cars residing in a home next to hers for several months as an AirBnB. She reported that one of the men was urinating in the yard in full view of the neighbors. Amanda Gurski recommended that these abuses be reported to the city official in charge of AirBnB enforcement. She offered to provide a city contact and also urged that the City of Charleston Citizen Services Desk be notified at (843-724-7311).
4. **244 St Margaret Zoning Exceptions and Variance Request.** Ms. Spencer Wetmore, attorney for the owner of 244 St. Margaret, was recognized by President Gurski to provide an overview of the request for support of their zoning exceptions and variance. The current structure at the corner of 6th Avenue and St. Margaret is a duplex. Ms. Wetmore showed a plat detailing the expansion of the two-story structure to include a garage on the first floor and more living space on the second floor for the upstairs tenants. Ms. Wetmore noted that the encroachment was on the garage side and mirrored the neighbor's garage. Petar Lemajic asked if he could

make a contingent motion supportive of the requests. He suggested that the neighbors on the 6th Ave and St. Margaret sides needed to approve of the changes. Gail Thomas reported that Owen Meislin had approved of the changes in a telephone call from her. President Gurski suggested that Ms. Spencer have the other neighbor send her an e-mail approving of the changes and that she would then be able to send a letter of support to the Zoning Committee of behalf of the WTNA. The motion was made by Petar Lemajic and seconded by Jarett Nicholson to send a letter of support. The motion was approved.

5. **130 Darlington Ave Zoning Exception Request.** The owner, Mike Elder, made a presentation to the membership. His home is currently 800 sq. feet, and he needs to expand his home for his growing family. He plans a 1200 sq. ft. two-story expansion on the back side of the current structure, but he will fail to meet the set-back requirements at the rear of the structure without a zoning exception. A plat of the lot, current structure and proposed expansion was presented and discussed. Mr. Elder reported that the neighbors did not have an objection to the expansion. A motion to support Mr. Elder's request was made by Jeffrey Montgomery and a second to the motion was made by Jarett Nicholson. The motion passed.
6. **Other Business.** President Gurski asked if there were any City Council, Police, or Citadel representatives in attendance. There were none. She asked if there was any New Business/ Local Issues. Mike Turner noted that the latest attempt to address traffic safety concerns in Hampton Park seemed to be ineffective. The City had placed NO TRUCKS signs at strategic spots entering Mary Murray Blvd. However, trucks were still entering into the traffic and completely disregarding the signs. More concerning, many of these were city trucks. Turner opined that it would seem that vehicle traffic will need to be prohibited entirely to make the Boulevard a safe place. Yard-of-the-Month winners announced to be Louis and Amanda Bagdonas with their son, Emmitt, who always helps with their yard at 28 Piedmont Avenue. Petar Lemajic stated that he would make arrangements to have flowers sent to Sis Marshall from the WTNA in memory of Hal Marshall who passed away recently.

The next WTNA Meeting will be **June 21, 2021 at 7:00 pm**. An email announcement and phone call will be made regarding format of the meeting.

Handy Contacts:

WTNACharleston@gmail.com
www.wagenerterrace.org
Police Dispatch (non-emergency) 843-743-7200
Lowndes Grove MOD 843-708-4314
Councilman Gregorie 843-327-7900 (Mona Lisa)
Councilman Gregorie's personal # 843-819-6619
City of Charleston Citizen Services Desk
843-724-7311

Tree Program: Anna McAllister
843-814-5553 or annamcallister@aol.com
www.crimeweb.net
Code/Livability 843-805-3226
Councilman Sakran (District 3) 843-819-0507

BOD: Amanda Gurski, Petar Lemajic, Mike Turner, Gail Thomas, Jeanie Knowlton, Susan Cale, Nancy Wilson and Anna Turner

Completed: May 27, 2021