

Wagener Terrace Neighborhood Association

January 16, 2023

Minutes

[Hybrid Meeting at 45 Moultrie St. and via Google Meet]

WTNA website address: www.wagenerterrace.org

The January meeting was called to order at 7:01 pm by President Petar Lemajic. There were no new members present.

MINUTES: The previous month's minutes are posted on the WTNA website. Liz Bronneberg moved to approve the minutes from the November 2022 meeting as posted on the website. Treasurer Gail Thomas seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously, and the minutes were approved.

FINANCIALS: Treasurer Thomas had not yet calculated the total expenses and income from the oyster roast, so she agreed to tally them to be included in the minutes. Ultimately she calculated that the Oyster Roast expenses, including Snyder rental, portable toilets, the band, the caterer, the bar, the Rose Pavilion rental fee, and miscellaneous Oyster Roast Committee expenses, totalled \$18,075.45. The event income, including all ticket sales, bar sales, and sponsor support, totalled \$18,898.44. There was therefore a total profit of \$822.97. Treasurer Thomas has transferred \$10,000 from Checking to Savings, so the current totals are \$9,036.91 in Checking and \$22,509.13 in Savings.

PRESENTATIONS: There were no presentations. President Lemajic noted that the Magnolia developers will likely be presenting at a future meeting, but they want to first meet with the WTNA Board. He is not sure what they want to relay. President Lemajic offered Tim Jarosch, with the Environment Committee, and James Bishop, with the Zoning Committee, the opportunity to join the Board at the meeting, and they accepted.

CITY COUNCIL/POLICE/CITADEL: Councilmen Sakran and Gregorie were not present, nor was a representative from the police. President Lemajic noted that Officer Katelyn Brogan is replacing Lt. Dasher as our representative.. Ms. Bronneberg said the Citadel is just returning from winter break, but she will get in touch with them about having a representative come to an upcoming meeting.

LOCAL ISSUES: There were no issues to discuss.

COMMITTEES:

1. Yard of the Month - Congratulations to Bert Lee at 63 Devereaux Avenue for winning January YOM!

2. Sunshine - Treasurer Thomas reported that John Campbell died. He was a longtime resident who lived near St. Margaret and 6th Avenue.
3. Environment - Mr. Jarosch reported that Charleston Water Systems is now doing re-paving, and the project should be done by the end of the month. He said they will make all changes and improvements required to meet their permit, including redoing the sharrows, but they will not go beyond that. Any issues with the streets after that will have to be directed to City Engineering. Mr. Jarosch also noted that CWS handled the December freeze well, but he is concerned about the future burden of all of the new apartment buildings on the water supply and about how that increase in volume will affect future freezes. Mr. Jarosch separately pointed out that above Mt. Pleasant St., including Sunnyside Avenue where he lives, is not considered to be part of Wagener Terrace, so President Lemajic would like to reconcile that and pursue change with the City. Mr. Jarosch also said that the City Engineering department is leading the next phase of the Wall, which is the design phase, but they are currently waiting on Congress to approve money.
4. Zoning - Mr. Bishop said that two projects within our neighborhood were recently presented to the BAR. The owner of 205 Gordon St. was seeking to demolish historic windows, and the owner of 42 St. Margaret St. wanted to demolish their historic roof. The meeting decisions have not been posted yet. Mr. Bishop said there continues to be an ongoing conversation about what we should be allowed to do. WT used to only fall under BAR jurisdiction in the event of whole-house demolition, but in 2020 the BAR essentially annexed us into their purview by changing the definition of 'house demolition' to include demolition of porches, windows, and roofs. There are people within the neighborhood that are doing demolitions anyways without requesting permission. Mr. Bishop thinks we should focus on replacing the look, in order to keep the character of the neighborhood, and focus less on materials.
5. Publicity/Membership - Ms. Bronneberg thanked Lynn McCollum-Lasher for getting 7 new members at the Oyster Roast. Treasurer Thomas reported that we have 49 current members, which is more than we have had in awhile.
6. Oyster Roast - VP Jarett Nicholson said he thought the Oyster Roast went well. There were slower sales than we were hoping for or expecting, but many people are drawn by Lowndes Grove being the venue, which was not an option this year. He thinks one of the main challenges this year was the additional costs (about \$6500) due to venue rental, liquor license, bar, and Snyder rentals. He does not think we made much money, and we likely mostly broke even, but he thinks it went smoothly considering all of the additional variables. He thinks there were approximately 300 ticket-holders, with total attendance around 350. Ms. Bronneberg said it would be better to not have it be on a holiday weekend again, which would also be more alluring to sponsors. She said all of this year's sponsors have already said they will do it again next year. Ms. McCollum-Lasher thinks we should give the sponsors more visibility next year and allow banners to be hung, and Ms. Bronneberg said that she spread the oyster roast information widely on social media and provided links to all of the businesses, so she is hoping they will all get some new business. Everyone agreed that the event was lovely, everything flowed well, the volunteers were well-organized, the weather was great, and the food was good. VP Nicholson said that there were supposedly enough oysters for 500 people, but the last bucket was put out at 2:30p. Everyone thought the oysters were delicious, and VP Nicholson thinks Hans and the Crazy Dutchman were great and really professional.

ONGOING BUSINESS

1. President Lemajic said that he gets a lot of information sent to him from Becca Hopkins with Neighborhood Services, and he thinks there are opportunities to think about what services we

provide. He asked Ms. Hopkins to join a future meeting, and she will likely come in March. He thinks we need to find a way to get the information out more promptly. Ms. McCollum-Lasher said she has seen through her job that there is a strong network of neighborhood newsletters that go out to relay and link the information. President Lemajic will think about it and talk to a few other people to figure out the best way forward.

2. There is a one-day trash/garbage delay due to MLK Day, but the recycling schedule is the same as usual with no holiday-related delay.
3. President Lemajic has not yet ordered a projector screen, despite our authorization a few months ago, but he said he still plans to buy one. He may also start printing paper agendas for people to have too.
4. Anna McAllister said there are 10 trees moving forward, with us funding half of the cost. She is trying to get an answer from the Charleston Parks Conservancy about whether they are still doing their 'buy a tree, get one free' program, and if so she is hoping to get a few more trees. She noted that there are no live oaks being planted under power lines now, and the City is having someone come out to make sure that the trees chosen are okay for the areas in which they are being planted.

Treasurer Thomas moved to end the meeting, and VP Nicholson seconded. There was a unanimous vote to close the meeting. Meeting closed at 7:56 pm.

The next WTNA Meeting will be February 20, 2023 at 7:00 pm.

Handy Contacts:

Wagenerterrace@wagenerterrace.org

Police Dispatch (non-emergency) 843-743-7200

www.crimeweb.net

Lowndes Grove MOD 843-708-4314

Code/Livability 843-805-3226

Councilman Gregorie: 843-327-7900 (Mona Lisa), personal #: 843-819-6619

Councilman Sakran (District 3) 843-819-0507

City of Charleston Citizen Services Desk 843-724-7311

BOD: Petar Lemajic, Jarrett Nicholson, Gail Thomas, Jeanie Knowlton, Tyler Hueter, Susan Cale, Nancy Wilson, and Anna Turner

Completed: January 24, 2023