

## Wagener Terrace Neighborhood Association

July 17, 2023

### Minutes

[Hybrid Meeting at Mark Clark Hall and via Google Meet]

WTNA website address: [www.wagenerterrace.org](http://www.wagenerterrace.org)

The July meeting was called to order at 7:02 pm by President Petar Lemajic. There were no new attendees present.

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

**FINANCIALS:** Ms. Thomas reported that we had a deposit of \$50 this month for 5 new WTNA memberships. We have \$6,012.85 in Checking and \$22,510.18 in Savings, \$17,500 of which is set aside for the Oyster Roast. Ms. Thomas found that the price for 2 new signs and 2 new banners is \$112, and only \$100 can be spent without membership approval, so she made the motion that we purchase the new signs and banners for \$112. Ms. Bronneberg seconded the motion. All were in favor. The expense was approved.

**CITY COUNCIL/POLICE/CITADEL:** No representatives were present. President Lemajic reminded us that the City Council recently went through redistricting, and Cm Gregorie is now representing neighbors who were formerly represented by Cm Sakran.

**PRESENTATION:** No presentations.

**LOCAL ISSUES:** President Lemajic mentioned several local events coming up - the First Day Festival, Ask an Arborist, and the Gullah Geechee Heritage Preservation Project information sessions. There is also road rejuvenation work expected in WT in the upcoming week, as several groups collaborate to install a pavement preservation treatment on the roads, which they hope will extend the life of the roadway, reduce air pollution, and reduce polluting run-off. President Lemajic also reminded us to take the downtown traffic survey.

Blake Scott, Assistant Professor in International Studies at the College of Charleston, has a couple of students at the College - Sarah Ocampo and Ann Gray Steadman - who are doing an oral history project of Wagener Terrace and are interested in how people have experienced the neighborhood, what they love about it, how they have seen it change over the years, and what their relationship is to the community and to nature. He noted that the people who grew up here in the 1940s and 1950s are getting older, so these students would like to document that history and keep it archived. It would also be something for older neighbors to share with their families as a record of the stories they have told. Mr. Scott asked that we recommend neighbors who have lived in the neighborhood for a long time who

may want to participate. President Lemajic thinks this project is a great idea and knows of several neighbors who might be interested.

**ONGOING BUSINESS:** Andy Gladstein and other residents who live near the public right-of-way at 3rd Avenue and Wagener Avenue coordinated with Cm Gregorie about a sign to put up that would meet their needs and not seem intrusive to the neighborhood. They hope to prevent unauthorized vehicles from trying to drive back there, as well as reducing or eliminating theft and trespassing. The sign they agreed to says “City of Charleston: Due to Wetlands and Marsh Ahead, Authorized Vehicles Only Past This Point.” Those present at this meeting agreed the chosen sign is acceptable. There was a suggestion that Mr. Gladstein and his neighbors should put in a plant border or fence to mark and protect their property line, but he said they do not want to do that because they want to maintain their own personal vehicular access. He expressed frustration that a developer was able to come and cut down trees at that corner with no repercussions, and he would like to see those trees replanted, but there was no complaint made at the time about this, so it is unclear whether there is any evidence to corroborate what he saw happen. President Lemajic said he should let us know if there is something we can do to support him against the developer if he has any avenue to pursue action.

## **COMMITTEES**

1. Yard of the Month – Congratulations to July’s YOM winner, Bob Neuman at 223 W. Poplar! Ms. Bronneberg said he was very excited, and WNTA’s YOM facebook post had the highest engagement ever. Our previous YOM committee leader has moved, so we are looking for a new volunteer to choose a yard each month and make contact with the homeowner. Ms. Bronneberg will then take pictures of the yard and write up the facebook post, and VP Jarett Nicholson will put up the sign. President Lemajic said he will pick next month’s winner, and maybe we will rotate each month who will take the lead on it. Ms. Bronneberg would like a list of the past YOM winners, and Amanda Gurski will reach out to a past YOM committee head to see if he still has the old list.
2. Sunshine – Nothing to report.
3. Environment – Nothing to report.
4. Publicity/Membership – Ms. Bronneberg said that she updates the WTNA brochure every 6 months or so, and Mrs. Gurski leaves the brochure in one of the WTNA reusable bags on the porch of new neighbors. She thinks we are down to about 25 bags, so she thinks we need to consider whether we plan to buy more bags to give to new neighbors. Ms. Gurski said it is not urgent since there is not that much turnover in the neighborhood, so the bags should last a few more months. Ms. Bronneberg said that she would also like to get the website updated, and President Lemajic said he could help with that. She will work on the content, and they will collaborate on the update.
5. Zoning – Nothing to report.

**NEW CONCERNS:** No new concerns or new business.

Ms. Bronneberg moved to close the meeting, and Ms. Thomas seconded. There was a unanimous vote to close the meeting. Meeting closed at 8:02 pm.

**The next WTNA Meeting will be August 21, 2023 at 7:00 pm.**

**Handy Contacts:**

Wagenerterrace@wagenerterrace.org

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

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, DonnaMarie Patten, Jeanie Knowlton, Tyler Hueter, Susan Cale, Nancy Wilson, and Anna Turner