# Wagener Terrace Neighborhood Association

www.wagenerterrace.org

August 19, 2019

# Minutes

1. **Welcome and Call to Order**. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President Amanda Gurski.
2. **Introduction/New Attendees/Guests**. New Guests were: Mike Hilfer & Kerry Murphy; Amelia & Jeff Kearney.
3. **Reports -- Minutes and Financials**. Secretary Mike Turner noted that the minutes of the July 15, 2019 regular meeting were posted as a draft for the last month on the WTNA website (see above) and asked for the minutes to be approved as posted. The motion to approve was seconded and approved by voice vote. Secretary Turner then read minutes of the August 5, 2019 Board of Directors meeting as information for the membership (see attached.) The Financial Report was given by Treasurer Gail Thomas, who noted that payments to Florence Crittenton and the Greater St. Luke AME Church had been made in compliance with prior authorizations. The balance of checking and savings accounts were printed on the agenda: Checking -- $33,500.57; Savings -- $5003.97.
4. **Committee Signups**. President Gurski distributed sign-up sheets to the membership for the various WTNA Committees. She asked members to please participate, noting that the Oyster Roast event needed not only committee members, but also volunteers on the day of the event itself.

   **Board Nomination**. President Gurski announced that Beatrice Frask had resigned from the Board of Directors (see attached) due to her recent Citadel faculty appointment. President Gurski thanked Beatrice for her service, noting that she had organized two very successful Silent Auctions at prior Oyster Roast events. President Gurski announced that the Board of Directors had nominated Nancy Wilson to fill this Board vacancy at the August 5 Board of Directors Meeting. She then opened the floor for any additional nominations. There were none. Motion to elect Nancy Wilson by acclamation was approved by voice vote.

   **Enough Pie – Shanequa Singletary**. The Executive Director of Enough Pie gave a report about the art collaborative's work and projects in the Charleston Upper Peninsula. She asked for ideas/ input from WTNA members as Enough Pie continues its work.

   **Election Poll Manager Recruitment**. President Gurski distributed flyers and asked WTNA Members to consider signing up as Election Poll Manager for the upcoming election. Qualifications and remuneration were discussed.

   **Q & A with Mayor Tecklenburg**. Mayor John Tecklenburg and his wife, Sandy, were introduced to the membership by President Gurski. The Mayor introduced Councilmen Lewis (District 3) and Gregorie (District 6) who were in attendance. The mayor outlined three major emphases in his current work as mayor of Charleston. The first was the

expansion/ improvements of parks and recreation areas in the city, including Corrine Jones; Longborough waterfront and dock; Stoney Field improvements; and the beginning progress to establish the Lowcountry LowLine, a linear park for bicycles and pedestrians up and down the spine of the peninsula. The Mayor also reported that Senator Lindsay Graham may help with securing funding for a pedestrian/ bike bridge over the Ashley River. In response to a question whether it was possible to utilize the current bridges with more narrow lanes for cars, the Mayor noted that such a proposal had been rejected by the Charleston County Council. The mayor indicated that his second goal was the creation of more affordable housing in Charleston, and the third goal was mitigation of flooding and improving the drainage on the peninsula. He reported that $40 Million has been set aside to build 900 units of affordable housing as a start. In response to questions from WTNA members, the Mayor addressed (1) the possibilities of consumer shopping venues (i.e., Target, Walmart, etc.) being established on the peninsula, (2) garbage pickup improvement on the 800 block of Rutledge, (3) the Spring St./ Fishburne 5-phase drainage project that is 5 or 6 years out from completion, (4) partnership with the US Corps of Engineers to address sea-level rise around most of the peninsula, and (5) the conversion to electric vehicles and installation of charging stations in the city.

6. **2019-2020 Fiscal Year WTNA Budget**. Treasurer Thomas presented the proposed 2019-2020 WTNA budget (attached) that was recommended by the Board of Directors. Highlights included a $15,000 contingency reserve fund for Oyster Roast expenses and an initiative to distribute reusable bags to all Wagener Terrace households before the single use plastic ban ordinance takes effect. Councilman Gregorie suggested that the WTNA contact the Community Foundation regarding a possible grant to help offset costs of Wagener Terrace neighborhood signage proposed in the budget, and Mayor Tecklenburg suggested that a member of his staff be contacted about the WTNA reusable bag initiative. The staffer might be to help in obtaining funding to offset some of the costs of producing 2000+ bags. One WTNA member requested that the membership have more time to study the budget and vote at the September meeting. President Gurski agreed to postpone the vote until the September meeting.
7. **Yard-of-the-Month and WTNA Bylaws Amendments**. The Yard of the Month is 230 W. Poplar Street. President Gurski noted that the draft amended WTNA Bylaws had been posted on the WTNA website since July 15. A motion to approve the amended Bylaws was made by Petar Lemajic and seconded by Gail Thomas. The motion was approved without a dissenting vote.
8. **Sunshine**. There was no report.
9. **Growth Management**. President Gurski introduced Mr. & Ms. Shemtov, who presented their plans to renovated 56/ 58 Dunneman Ave as their new residence. They presented floor plan and street view drawings of their planned improvements, which included adding a room to the back of the existing structure that is classified as a "non-conforming structure" by the City. The Shemtovs requested WTNA support for their waiver request to the city to move forward with their plans to renovate. Petar Lemajic made a motion to support the Shemtovs' application to the City. It was seconded by Alston Middleton and approved by voice vote.

10. **New Concerns**. Petar Lemajic expressed a safety concern about the recent daytime shooting that took place on the East Side of the Peninsula. He noted that this daytime shooting was a new development, and urged that the City increase patrols in the area.
11. **Close Meeting**. A motion to adjourn was made, seconded, and approved at 8 p.m.