Wagener Terrace Neighborhood Association

July 18, 2022

Minutes

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

WTNA website address: www.wagenerterrace.org

The July meeting was called to order at 7:01 pm by President Petar Lemajic. He welcomed everyone to WTNA's hybrid meeting. There were no new residents present.

MINUTES: The previous month's minutes are posted on the WTNA website in a zip document that includes additional relevant meeting documents. Liz Bronneberg moved to approve the minutes from the June 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 reported that there is $3,113.91 in Checking and $22,508.91 in Savings.

PRESENTATIONS: Christina Moskos, the Recycling Coordinator for Charleston County Environmental Management, was present to provide education on the county's recycling program. She explained that the Environmental Management department handles the proper disposal of waste in our county. They run the residential recycling program, which is their biggest and most prolific program, as they serve about 180,000 houses every 2 weeks. They also have a commercial business program where they serve local grocery stores and businesses, in addition to schools and multi-family apartment complexes. They run the Bees Ferry Landfill, and they manage the 8 staffed convenience centers where you can recycle certain items that are not accepted in your curbside bins, like batteries, paint, electronic waste, and lightbulbs. She emphasized that recycling is happening in Charleston County, with recycled items being separated into type, baled into giant bales, and then marketed and sold to manufacturers domestically and internationally who make them into recycled-content products. She said that the caveat is that they do have to landfill a certain percentage of material that comes into the recycling facility because of items that people attempt to recycle that should not have been included and which then cause contamination. Examples of these 'contamination items' are plastic bags, plastic wrap, food waste, construction debris, etc. These items can cause the machines to shut down and can cause worker safety issues. The County keeps it simple in what they accept for recycling: bottles and cans, paper, and flat cardboard.

She said that the Romney St. facility is closed because they sold the property. The closest drop-off facility for our neighborhood is 122 Bee St. behind the MUSC Central Energy Plant. The closest processing facility is Bees Ferry. Charleston County Council privatized recycling collection services a few months ago and have transitioned to using Republic Services for collection. She said they are aware of the service issues that have been reported recently, and she said it is a combination of new collectors,

new routes, and new drivers. They are aware of the streets that have been missed and are working with them to make sure there are no more gaps in collection. She concluded the discussion by reminding everyone to not put plastic bags in the recycling bin, to instead let items be loose in your cart, to only recycle plastic bottles and containers and do so with lids on, and to not attempt to recycle any plastic you can crinkle in your hands.

POLICE/CITY COUNCIL/CITADEL: No one from the Citadel was present, nor was Lt. Dasher or Councilmen Gregorie. Councilman Jason Sakran was present and gave a brief report. He said that the landlord rental agreement, which was discussed a couple of years ago and was again discussed at the last neighborhood consortium meeting, is now on this Thursday's Community Development agenda. The idea behind this agreement is that landlords would have to register with the City via business license, city registration, or some other method, in the hope that this would help address the current issues with absentee landlords. It has been hard for the City to address ongoing issues like noise, trash, etc. because they do not have available contact information for landlords. He said he anticipates discussion between city staff, his fellow councilmen, and the mayor to see if they can come to an agreement on a pilot program of this nature. Cm Sakran said the other conversation that continues is about the changes in the BAR north of Line Street. He said that the BAR staff is coming to the August Community Development meeting to present their suggested changes.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Elizabeth Brumbach with Charleston Parks Conservancy was present to introduce herself. She said if there is anything anyone is interested in seeing in the parks, to please reach out to her directly. She wanted to let us know about a few events between now and the end of the year. Garden in the Parks is a good program to learn about home gardening. It is on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays from 8-10am at various parks throughout the City. There are also ongoing volunteer opportunities in the parks themselves, including every other Wednesday from 8-9:30am at Corinne Jones Park. Charleston Parks Conservancy is bringing back Sunday brunches and also starting a painting workshop on the second Saturday of every month from 10am-noon. There will be Herbal Walks in Hampton Park the second Thursday of the month from noon-1pm to learn about plants and their healthy benefits. She said they are always looking for volunteers and would appreciate anyone who may be willing to pass out flyers to neighbors.

Cm Sakran asked whether they used to do movies at Hester Park, and she said that yes, they did do events like that in partnership with the City Recreation Department. She said we can look at getting more movies in 2023. Cm Sakran said that his neighbor Lance, who always does the music for our WTNA Oyster Roast, is interested in playing at the park. Cm Sakran thinks neighbors would show up on a Friday or Saturday evening to listen to music and socialize. Cm Sakran agreed to have Lance reach out directly to Ms. Brumback at the Charleston Parks Conservancy. She also let us know that the Mojo Arts Festival will be from September 29 to October 9.

2. Amber Cote with Patrick Properties Hospitality Group was present. She thanked everyone who attended the yoga class they hosted at Lowndes Grove. She would like suggestions for kinds of events they can host in the future that may appeal to the masses. President Lemajic and VP Jarett Nicholson

both said that there is an interest in Brew with a View, which is a neighborhood happy hour at Lowndes Grove. She said she is looking at August 18 as a potential event date, but she wants to first verify that Snyder Events is okay with donating the tent for that night. She will keep us in the loop.
Ms. Cote said Lowndes Grove has really big maintenance and construction projects in the works, and while there should not be a problem with sound, these projects, including having the roof replaced, are potentially lengthy with unpredictable timelines. She said she is having a very hard time finding potential dates for the oyster roast, so the CFO approved a $5,000 donation to WTNA so that we can either find an alternate oyster roast venue or we can use it for one of our projects. President Lemajic thanked her for letting us host there to begin with and said that we understand that they have to make improvements to their facilities, and that we did not expect such a generous donation but do appreciate it. She said that she welcomes any suggestions anyone has for neighborhood event ideas or for how to more broadly reach neighbors.

LOCAL ISSUES: Secretary Thomas reminded everyone that it is time to pay annual membership dues. Ms. Bronnerberg is still working on setting up Zelle.

COMMITTEES:

1.Yard of the Month - A winning yard has not been chosen for July. Ms. Bronneberg made a motion that we give one free membership to each YOM winner if they want it. Susan Cale seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

2. Sunshine - This committee is about doing what you can for your neighbors. Susan Cale and Gail Thomas agreed to be the heads of this Committee.

3. Environment - We still need someone to join Tim Jarosch on this committee. Mr. Jarosch secured Ms. Moskos as the presenter at this meeting. He also let us know that he is trying to find out from Charleston Water Systems whether there is a good way to keep residents updated on where they are in the water main project. This project is being done in sections, wherein they test each section, then permit with inspection, and then make connections to homes and other water line branches. This is a lengthy project, as they will be replacing the main all the way down Grove Street to 5th Avenue and then up Wagener Avenue to 3rd Avenue, so it would be helpful to have more regular status reports. He will continue to follow up on this.

4. Zoning - James Bishop and Carmen Gaston were not present.

5. Publicity and Membership - Ms. Bronneberg is trying to maintain and update the WTNA Facebook page. She asks that if you see anything interesting, then please let her know so she can take a photo and post it. She also asked that we continue to try to increase engagement with the WTNA page by liking her posts.

6. Growth Management - There are the usual permits for Charleston Water Systems work on Grove St.

NEW CONCERNS:

1. George Frenzel asked about progress on the Lowline since that is an area with a potential high return on investment. We will look to get an update on that at a future meeting, as Cm Sakran had already left the call.

2. There have been recent concerns expressed on the I Live in Wagener Terrace facebook page about the Dominion Energy-related tree cutting, and Treasurer Thomas wanted to make sure that neighbors know that you can request that the city arborist come out and be there while the cuts are being made. You can also pay an arborist to do it for you before Dominion gets involved.

3. Caroline Mosteller is getting married at Lowndes Grove on September 30 and would like to do a little parade after the ceremony, which is at the River House. Guests would leave that location and parade down 6th Avenue to St. Margaret Street and to the main Lowndes Grove entrance. She said that she walked it slowly, and it took 6 minutes and 20 seconds. There will be 300-350 guests, so she expects it to take 15-20 minutes maximum, roughly from 6pm to 6:20pm. There will be a 5-piece brass band with them. She wants to cause as little disruption as possible and said there will be no alcohol or glasses being carried. She got a permit and talked to the police about road blocking. She is hoping this will be a fun way to celebrate, and she would love it if people came out and gave supportive energy. Everyone at the meeting expressed support.

Treasurer Thomas moved to end the meeting, and Mr. Frenzel seconded. There was a unanimous vote to close the meeting. Meeting closed at 8:05 pm.

The next WTNA Meeting will be August 15, 2022 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: July 29, 2022