

Charlestowne Neighborhood Association
Membership Meeting Minutes
January 9, 2017

A meeting of the Charlestowne Neighborhood Association (CNA) Membership was held at 5:30 PM on Monday, January 9 at First Scots Church in Molly Wier Hall. Ms. Ginny Bush, acting as President, called the meeting to order.

The first order of business was for Ms. Bush to recognize outgoing CNA Board members Mrs. Adelaida Bennett, Ms. Elizabeth Bradham, Mr. Will Cleveland and Mr. John Thompson.

The next order of business was for Ms. Bush to review the slate proposed by the nominating committee, including Mr. Wiley Becker, Ms. Phyllis Ewing, Mrs. Lynn Hanlin, Mr. Kim Joyner and Mr. Jerry Smith. There was a motion made and seconded to approve the slate, which was approved by the membership. Ms. Bush announced that Mrs. Joni Hazelton and Mrs. Liz Fort were elected by the CNA Board to fill two one-year term vacancies.

The next order of business was for Ms. Bush to call on Mrs. Leigh Handal to introduce the first guest speaker, Lt. General Colby Broadwater, President of the American College of the Building Arts (ACBA). Mrs. Handal provided a brief biography on the Lt. General before turning the floor over to him. Lt. General Broadwater briefly addressed the group about the evolution of the school and said that ACBA educates and trains artisans in the traditional building arts to foster exceptional craftsmanship and encourage the preservation, enrichment, and understanding of the world's architectural heritage through a liberal arts education. Classes include stone carving, masonry, ironwork, timber framing, plasterwork and architectural carpentry. Classes will be open to the public this summer in historic preservation and CADD. He noted that the original site of the school when it was the School of the Building Arts was the Old City Jail. The College's new campus is now located at 649 Meeting Street. ACBA is the only college in the country to offer an Associate and Bachelor of Applied Science degree in the Building Arts. Lt. General Broadwater encouraged members to visit the campus and said there

will be a reception on January 18th at 5:30 PM to unveil a new exhibition featuring some of Charleston's most notable salvaged architectural artifacts. A few questions were asked including the degree program, the size of the endowment and the number of students.

The next order of business was for Ms. Elizabeth Bradham to alert the membership that the CNA Board approved a motion to request an independent study on best practices for the health, safety and welfare of working horses involved in the carriage industry. She then introduced Mrs. Ellen Harley to speak about the necessity to fight for the humane treatment of carriage horses. Mrs. Harley provided a visual presentation that showed why independent oversight of the industry is needed. Concerns include heat and humidity, inadequate water, weight load pull, hours worked, inadequate rest (vacation) and rest in between tours, stall size and tethering and feed and stall care. She encouraged the membership to write to Mayor Tecklenburg (tecklenburgj@charleston-sc.gov) and Councilman Gary White (whiteeg@charleston-sc.gov) in support of a peer-reviewed study of the Charleston carriage industry using a science-based approach as recommended by the Charleston Animal Society. Mrs. Harley also provided a handout on the facts about the animal drawn industry in Charleston and answered several questions from the audience.

The next order of business was for Ms. Bush to state that she is hopeful Ms. Bradham will be elected to the City Tourism Commission as several neighbors have recommended her for the post. Ms. Bush also said that membership renewal and new member letters will be mailed out later this month.

The next order of business were the committee reports and project updates, which were as follows:

BAR/BZA-Z: Mr. Randy Pelzer said the CNA Board voted to support the City ordinance that prohibits short-term rentals and recommended that infractions in our neighborhood be reported to Dan Riccio, Director of Livability and Tourism or Ana Harp in the Zoning and Codes Department. Mr. Pelzer said the Jasper will be returning to the BAR soon.

Streets and City Services: Mr. Mike Frederick said the City is about to implement a bike share program. He said the Mayor had committed to a resident-only parking program, which has yet to be implemented. The good news for those who live on streets with unlimited parking is that one can apply for one or two hour limited parking if the majority of neighbors on the street sign a petition.

There was a question about street lamp outages and Ms. Bush said that SCE&G is responsible for maintaining and repairing the lights, not the City.

The next order of business was for Ms. Bush to report that the new flex valves for drainage outlets on Murray Boulevard have been ordered and are beginning to be installed. The major drain on Water and East Bay Street will have a flex valve installed as well. Ms. Bush also reported that the First Baptist School is moving the high school to James Island in the fall of 2018.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Margot Rose
Secretary