

Charlestowne Neighborhood Association
Membership Meeting Minutes
May 13, 2013

A meeting of the Charlestowne Neighborhood Association (CNA) Membership was held at 5:30 PM on Monday, May 13, 2013 at First Scots Church in Molly Weir Hall. Mr. Steve Gates, acting as President, called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM.

The first order of business was for Mr. Gates to describe the full agenda of information items. He then introduced Mr. John Avlon of Church Street to comment on issues concerning the First Baptist Church School. Mr. Scott Barnes, attorney, and Mr. Jerry English, of Cummings and McCrady, presented background information on the past and present operations of the School that impact the neighborhood and the applicable zoning and Board of Architectural Review steps that would apply to any proposed changes as the School pursues it's campus master plan. There were several questions following the presentations and Mr. Gates reported that the CNA Board had formed a committee to analyze and discuss future plans with the School.

The next order of business was for Mr. Gates to describe a rezoning request by the Beach Company to redevelop the Sgt. Jasper site and St. Mary's Field on Lockwood Boulevard. The proposal was deferred after input from the Preservation Society, Historic Charleston Foundation, Harleston Village Neighborhood Association and CNA. The Beach Company has indicated it will consider ideas from these groups in making development plans more specific. Mr. Randy Pelzer commented on various traffic and density issues and on arrangements for coordination among the interested groups.

The next order of business was for Mr. Gates to report that the residents on Murray Boulevard had gathered sufficient signatures to introduce Zone B permit parking on the residential side of the street. He also reported that the City was on schedule with planning for Phase 1 of the seawall repairs, those being the replacement of the concrete extension at the corner of East Battery and Murray Boulevard, with work to be completed in the first quarter of 2014. Mr. Pelzer, Chair of the Tourism Committee, reported on efforts to enhance enforcement of tourism ordinances and reported that court and administrative actions to address cruise ship operations remained in the early procedural stages.

The next order of business was for Mr. Gates to introduce Mr. David AvRutick, who described his proposal to acquire Burbage's and operate it as a grocery/deli/restaurant with 39 seats, which would be open from 7:00 am to 8:00 pm and serve beer and wine. His application for zoning is scheduled for May 21. Mr. AvRutick expressed his desire to perpetuate the Burbage's legacy in an

updated and sustainable way. Several nearby residents expressed opposition to the proposal with concerns about parking, noise and the character of the area.

The next order of business was for Mr. Park Dougherty to describe plans for the reopening of the Memminger School, grades K-6, using the International Baccalaureate program. He provided handouts, mentioned changes in the curriculum and faculty, stated that the school would open this summer and encouraged residents to consider this new public school alternative.

Mr. Richard Lilly raised the issue of the proliferation of hotels on the Peninsula. Mr. Gates reported that the Peninsula Task Force had determined to take up this issue, beginning with listing known hotel projects in progress or information. Ms. Elizabeth Bradham indicated that the Preservation Society had compiled this information and planned a symposium on this and other issues of livability.

Mr. Gates indicated that all of these issues impacting CNA would be monitored and any significant developments would be reported over the summer. The next membership meetings are scheduled for September 9 and November 11, 2013.

The next order of business was for Mr. Richard Knoth to give a brief overview of his new equine sanitation company. Mr. Knoth provided his cell phone number, which is 478-7903, in case residents have questions or concerns.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Margot Rose
Secretary