

Charlestowne Neighborhood Association
Membership Meeting Minutes
March 11, 2013

A meeting of the Charlestowne Neighborhood Association Membership was held at 5:30 PM on Monday, March 11, 2013 at First Scots Church in Molly Weir Hall. Mr. Steve Gates, acting as President, called the meeting to order. The first order of business was for Mr. Gates to announce the newly elected officers, those being Mrs. Mary Cutler, Vice President, Mr. Calhoun Witham, Treasurer and Mrs. Margot Rose, Secretary.

The next order of business was for Mr. Gates to introduce Mr. Randy Pelzer, who spoke eloquently about Jo Simonds, good friend and CNA Board member, who recently passed away.

The next order of business was to hear the committee reports, which were as follows:

Streets: The Board asked the Department of Traffic and Transportation to review the current unlimited parking situation along East Battery Street and Murray Boulevard. The initial proposal is to institute a two-hour parking limit around White Point Gardens with monitoring every hour. CNA is first on the list for a street-sweeping program on certain yet to be identified streets in early 2014. There have been several requests for additional handicap parking.

Crime: The next Team 2 Citizens Advisory Meeting will be on Thursday, May 2 at the Charleston County Public Library on Calhoun Street from 6:30 to 7:30 PM.

Membership: Renewals are running ahead of last year, with 41 brand new members to date.

The next order of business was the introduction of Mr. John Cay, who spoke briefly regarding the Charleston Horticulture Society's Street Tree Program. Mr. Cay asked for volunteers to help with the program and reported on plans to eliminate overhead power lines on lower King Street.

The next order of business was for Mr. Pelzer to make several reports. With regard to tourism, he met recently with the city officer on tourism management. Of concern is that Pedi-cabs have been overheard giving tours south of Broad Street, which is prohibited. Mr. Pelzer then reported on the First Baptist School master plan and concerns about parking, a proposed bus stop on Meeting Street and current school size. As Cruise Ship Task Force chair, Mr. Pelzer stated that CNA joined other organizations in seeking an administrative review of the pilings permit granted by OCRM for Union Pier to facilitate a new cruise ship terminal.

The next order of business was for Mr. Gates to report that Mayor Riley's letter of February 6 outlined plans for repair of the High and Low Battery in three phases. The letter indicates that bids will be obtained this spring for Phase One (replacement of the concrete extension of the High Battery) and that work should be completed by the first quarter of 2014. Phase Two, repair of the High Battery and Phase Three, repair of the Low Battery, will commence in sequence and without delay following Phase One. The proposed sloped walkway at the corner of East Battery and Murray Boulevard is designed to present the same profile as the existing steps when viewed from the street. The City will need to obtain approval from the State Historic Preservation Office. Regardless of final design, skateboards and bicycles will be prohibited on the Battery. Mr. Gates also noted from Mayor Riley's letter that the seawall was never intended to be a hurricane protection device, but the repairs will meet standards for up to a category 4 hurricane.

The next order of business was for Mr. Gates to ask the audience for questions/comments, of which there were several regarding the new 95-gallon recycling bins. The meeting was followed by a brief meet-and-greet reception.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Margot Rose
Secretary