

Charlestowne Neighborhood Association
Membership Meeting Minutes
September 9, 2013

A meeting of the Charlestowne Neighborhood Association (CNA) Membership was held at 5:30 PM on Monday, September 9, 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 introduce Councilman Mike Seekings, who gave an update on city matters since the May Membership meeting, focusing specifically on the need to address infrastructure issues in view of the building boom on the peninsula. He also addressed parking improvements on Murray Boulevard, opposition to a proposed ordinance providing for compensation in the case of down zoning and the upcoming seawall repair schedule. Mr. Gates then introduced Sgt. Adams and Sgt. Shelor of Team 2, who described new telephone scams recently appearing in the neighborhood and the police department's website features and contact information. Mr. Gates thanked them for their effectiveness and accessibility on behalf of the neighborhood.

The next order of business was for Mr. Gates to provide several updates, including:

1. Replacement of the concrete extension of the High Battery at the bend between Murray Boulevard and East Battery will begin in late October followed by repair of the High Battery next year.
2. Legal proceedings related to cruise ships will focus on procedural issues this fall and hopefully thereafter the merits of the matters will be addressed.
3. In view of increased filming activities, the CNA adopted filming guidelines, which address notice, hours, parking and street closures and call for a contribution to the CNA of \$1,000 per day.
4. CNA has donated \$2,500 to the Angel Oak Preserve project to expand the park around the Angel Oak as an indication of our interest in improving all of Charleston.

The next order of business was for Mr. Randy Pelzer, chair of the CNA Tourism and BAR committees, to speak about efforts to increase enforcement of carriage and pedi-cab ordinances and to review matters scheduled for BAR and BZA hearings. He reported that CNA has proposed that adjacent neighbors receive actual written notice of BAR applications, which is being acted upon by the City.

The next order of business was for Mr. Harry Lesesne of the Charleston Parks Conservancy to describe plans for the enhancement of Colonial Lake, improving water flow, curbing and landscape design. The Conservancy is seeking to raise \$1 million to supplement City funds for the project.

The next order of business was for Mrs. Margaret Hagood of the College of Charleston to describe the successful opening of the new Memminger Elementary School with state-of-the-art facilities, good enrollment and a diverse student population.

During the question and comment period, members spoke of the increase in traffic and parking problems (even in summer time), flooding issues, parking enforcement and the proliferation of planned hotels. Councilman Seekings commented on the need for comprehensive long term planning. Mr. Gates noted that the Preservation Society has planned a Livability Summit in early 2014 that may address many of these issues, and the membership will be briefed on this development at the next meeting.

The next membership meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 29, with Mayor Riley as speaker.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:10 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Margot Rose
Secretary