

Charlestowne Neighborhood Association
Membership Meeting Minutes
November 9, 2015

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

The first order of business was for Mr. Waring to introduce Mr. Jacob Lindsey, the City of Charleston Director of Planning, Preservation and Sustainability. Mr. Lindsey provided a quick summary of his education and background before stating that the solutions for future cities lie in Charleston and that “tourism follows preservation.” He went on to say that controls are the key and that although Charleston has done a good job to “stem the tourism tide” the biggest work is yet to come because Charleston has become more popular. The City’s vigilance has led to the formation of the Livability and Tourism department headed by Dan Riccio. Mr. Lindsey addressed the issue of short-term rentals and the suggestion by Andres Duany to split the Board of Architectural Review into two groups – one to evaluate projects less than 10,000 square feet and the second to evaluate projects over 10,000 square feet. He ended on two brief points, one about the Sergeant Jasper and the necessity for it to be architecturally excellent and the second about traffic and the need for a multi-pronged approach to include adding capacity, stagnated work shifts, point to point transit, etc. Mr. Lindsey then fielded questions about the Tourism Advisory Plan, evacuation routes and flooding and ended by saying that we have to be the best at preservation and the best at managing tourism.

The next order of business was for Mr. Waring to introduce Lt. David Bridges from Team Two. He reminded everyone to lock their cars and discussed how the City and the police department have been working on the flooding problems, offering alternate routes where possible. A question was raised about bike safety – bikers run red lights and ride down one-way streets the wrong way. Neighbors asked for better enforcement.

The next order of business was for Mr. Waring to ask Mrs. Ginny Bush to provide a brief update on the Sergeant Jasper. Mrs. Bush reported that there are three simultaneous efforts at work:

- The Beach Company has appealed the BAR's decision to deny their application, seeking to overturn that decision and have the ordinances declared unconstitutional. CNA is trying to intervene as a party.
- The Beach Company announced plans to reopen the existing tower and add two more buildings. No plans have been filed with the BAR but the TRC (Technical Review Committee) will review the plan later in the week.
- The Planning Commission voted to eradicate the 3X height zone, which would include the Sergeant Jasper tract, and the next step is for the recommendation to go to City Council on November 23.

Mr. Waring thanked Mrs. Bush and said how diligently the Sergeant Jasper committee has been working on behalf of CNA. He then introduced Ms. Elizabeth Bradham, who announced that to date, \$37,000 has been raised to assist with the Sergeant Jasper legal expenses.

The next order of business was for Mr. Randy Pelzer to give a brief presentation on the Army Corps of Engineers hearing regarding the Area of Potential Impacts (API) for the proposed cruise terminal. The next comment meeting will be in January of 2016.

Mr. Waring took back the floor and encouraged everyone to vote on November 10. He told the group the meeting dates will soon be established for 2016 and that postcard and email reminders will follow.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:35 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Margot Rose
Secretary