

## **ARA Board Meeting February 6, 2017 Final Draft Minutes**

Board Members Present: Dean Anderson, Pam Baker, Mollie Cardamone, Carol Fournier, Julie Gurguis, Rob Hoff, Bob Kimbrough, Jean Ruff  
Guests: Sally Bailey, Teresa Carafelli, Fran Melnick, Carolyn Van Helden, Tihda Vongkoth

Approved Minutes from Board meeting on December 6, 2016

Treasurer Report: 48 members for 2016-2017. Balance: \$2,379.12 Income: \$250 Picnic Grant from City, \$60 dues; Annual Report was filed and Tax returns will be filed in the next few weeks.

### Old Business

Membership Directory: Julie developed a PDF member directory. Rob will distribute it after Julie checks with 2 members who did not opt in to include their address. We will ask residents to correct errors in the email.

Planned Social event: This free event will be held on April 22, 2017 from 6-8 PM and include live music! People will be asked to bring appetizers and BYOB. The City will provide chairs; We decided to use electronic invite (Evite) to members and paper invites to non-members. This will be an adult only event and no pets. A motion passed unanimously to fund up to \$300 in expenses (eg, musicians, flowers). Rain date April 29, 2017.

Update on Avondale Website ([www.avondalesarasota.org](http://www.avondalesarasota.org)): A Website Logo with integrated link was developed by Tihda. It will be included in email communications.

STOP!: Mollie summarized administrative approval for downtown projects. STOP! advocates for a public process which can lead to discussion and voluntary changes to development before approval. The current draft of Form based code extends administrative approval to entire City, not just downtown. STOP! will be added as an agenda item at the member meeting.

Annual Member meeting: It will be scheduled for Sunday March 5, 2017 at 2PM at 1905 Alta Vista Street. An agenda will be developed and sent to members at least 10 days prior to the meeting.

### New Business

Bahia Vista Waterline Replacement Project (between Orange Avenue and Brewer Place): There will be a meeting to discuss this upcoming project on February 14, 2017. Dean Anderson and Mollie Cardamone will attend the meeting.

CCNA Report: In January there were 35 automobile break-ins in Sarasota. It was stressed that locking doors and closing windows would prevent most if not all of these break-ins. When parking in a public lot do not place purses or other valuables in your trunk. You never know who might be watching.

The micro tunneling underneath the Osprey Bridge was completed on February 4, 2017. There was an agreement between all Sarasota agencies involved to focus on housing the homeless as a priority in order to get a \$1 million grant. <http://www.heraldtribune.com/news/20170207/city-county-leaders-seek-common-ground-in-addressing-homelessness>

A City Commissioner candidate Forum will be sponsored by the Alta Vista neighborhood on February 23 at 7 PM at the Concordia Church 2185 Wood Street.

The downtown condo association will have a workshop on the optimal living in Sarasota at the Hyatt on April 12. More information will be available at a later date.

In order to minimize gridlock near the Vue, FDOT will re-time the traffic signals and this will be enhanced by placing a "tripwire" on the Ringling Bridge to trigger traffic lights to green when traffic backup reaches the bridge.

Four Avondale Residents Association members expressed concerns which were addressed by the Board.

1. One question concerned whether the Board transferred decision making rights from members to Board members in the updated Bylaws.

The members approved Bylaw changes at the Annual meeting in November 2014. One change is to increase the number of board members from 7 to as many as 11. The previous Bylaws stated at Board meetings 4 board members would constitute a quorum. The updated Bylaws state a majority of the Board members constitutes a quorum. This change specifically addresses Board meetings only and not member meetings.

2. An explanation of what the CCNA is and how the Avondale Residents Association involvement was provided.

The Board asked Dean write an article on this topic for our next newsletter.

3. A concern was voiced that the ARA board was investigating potential changes without resident input (eg, investigating the potential of a no left turn sign at Irving Avenue and US-41).

The board pointed out that all Board meetings are open to all residents and all Board agenda meetings and minutes of those meetings are now included on our website and sent to all members.

4. A request was made for the Board to look into the timing of the stop light at Mound Street and Orange Avenue. Since the Lift Station 87 project has started, the backup on Orange Avenue can be quite long.

The Board will look into this including contacting FDOT.

Next Board Meeting: April 3, 2017 5pm at 1932 Irving Street