

December 5, 2017 ARA Board Meeting Minutes

ARA president Dean Anderson called meeting to order at 5:30 PM. Attendees: Dean Anderson, Carol Fournier, Gary Buckhold, Jean Ruff, Pam Baker, Julie Guirguis, and Robert Hoff. Guests: Sue Hoff, Beth Messer.

Minutes were accepted for the November 6, 2017 ARA board meeting were approved.

Treasurer reported a balance of \$2,537.33. Income was \$60 from Membership dues in November. ARA has 39 paid members. Rob will send out the ARA 2018 directory in early to mid January. He will send out an email to last year's members who have not yet renewed including a letter from Dean about the value of membership.

OLD BUSINESS

CCNA December monthly meeting: Sarasota crime statistics through November 2017; the majority of reports consisted of motor vehicle robberies thread followed by home/business burglaries. We plan to add future CCNA minutes to the Avondale Residents Association website. Dean attended a meeting on December 5 of the Bayfront planning group. A private company is going to put together a master plan and summary with the first draft due May 18, 2018 the link to the website is: www.TheBaySarasota.org

There was a follow up discussion on neighborhood watch program. Dean will investigate if signs can be posted in the neighborhood stating our neighborhood is on the lookout for potential criminal activity. The Board encourages residents to be on alert for individuals and cars that do not appear to be in our neighborhood for legitimate reasons and report it to the police, lock windows and doors at all times including motor vehicles, and ensure the property is well lit at night. In addition, the Association sent information about a video doorbell a few weeks ago.

Jean and Carol reported Connie Riesenbeck is interested and she was unanimously approved as a member board due to the recent vacancy.

At the February 2018 Avondale Residents Association annual meeting there will be a discussion on protecting ourselves and our neighborhood from robberies, a presentation on Selby Gardens expansion plans by CEO Jennifer Rominiecki, Board member election, President report, Treasurer report, Secretary report. The meeting will be held on February 18, 2018 from 4 to 6 PM at Selby Gardens, Education Classroom.

NEW BUSINESS

There was a short discussion about ARA bylaws. No changes were recommended at this time.

The city is working on replacing the Hudson Bayou retaining wall near the dentist office (white 3 story building), Lincoln and Tamiami Trail. The timing to perform the wall construction is to be determined.

The winter edition of the ARA newsletter will be sent out to members in January 2018. It will include a column by President Dean Anderson, a feature on new neighbors, a summary of what each of us can do to minimize the potential of crimes in our neighborhood and a reprint of recent article on Avondale in the Sarasota Herald Tribune. Carol obtained permission from the newspaper to utilize the article.

Beth Messer brought up her concerns about homeless activity in our neighborhood. There are a number of homeless people who periodically "live" in the area between Walgreens and Mandarin Park. She is concerned about safety, especially of children in the neighborhood. Residents are encouraged to contact the police at 941-316-1199 should they see anything of concern. Dean will contact the city for more information including asking for extra police patrols of our neighborhood.

Meeting adjourned at 6:35 PM.

Respectfully submitted as Avondale Residents Association, Secretary, Robert Hoff

