

Minutes from the ARA 1/8/19 Board Meeting

Attending: Dean Anderson, Mollie Cardamone, Julie Guirguis, Gary Bockhold, Jean Ruff, Connie Reisenbeck, Rob Hoff, Carol Fournier

Guests Attending: City Manager, Tom Barwin, Nancy Kelly, Neighborhood Planner, Anthony Centurione, LS87 Project Manager, ARA website editor, Tihda Vongkoth, and residents Kathy Bockhold, and Medora Sheehan.

- The 12/3/18 ARA board meeting minutes were approved and accepted.
- Treasurer's Report: Julie reported our treasury balance is \$2,704.81, with some expected December picnic expenses yet to be reported. There are currently 35 paid ARA members. Julie has also received some donations from neighbors toward our planter purchase project. Julie, Rob, and Carol will work on an updated membership list for distribution to members.
- Announcements/Dates: The annual ARA business meeting for all Avondale residents will now be held on March 3rd, 2019 at Selby Gardens. The next ARA board meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 5th.

Old Business

- Avondale Planter Project: Gary announced the planter delivery from Treasure Cove II and placement locations: Irving and Brewer, Bahia Vista and Brewer, and Bahia Vista and Orange. Dean volunteered to paint them with many of us offering to help, Jean will be in charge of plantings.

New Business

- Rob and Dean attended the recent 1/5/19 CCNA meeting. Dean presented a report on Avondale, and Rob covered the many topics discussed: Ringling College of Art expansion, the June opening of the Art Museum, and the important City-wide survey.
- Midtown Plaza rezoning report: Dean reported about his attendance at city hall with the Planning Board regarding the proposed rezoning request by the owners of the Midtown Plaza. They want to rezone from "Commercial Shopping Center - Community (CSC-C) zone district" to the "General District (CGD) zone district". This will allow them to be able to better sell, develop, and conform properly with its size. The City Commissioners will be meeting on 1/22/19 at city hall to discuss the final approval of this rezoning request. The Planning Board was unanimous in its approval of this. If interested, check out all the details of the application on the city's website:

www.sarasotafl.gov (click on Public Records Access under "Services")

- Lift Station 87 Report - Anthony Centurione, Project Manager: Anthony discussed the current status of the Lift Station project. The micro tunnel was successfully installed, phase three will begin in early 2020. He outlined various street and possible sidewalk closings at that time on Osprey Ave. It was agreed that a mailing should be sent to all Avondale residents informing them of the LS87 schedule and its effects on our neighborhood during the final phases of construction.
- Avondale Infrastructure Proposal: Dean introduced Nancy Kelly, who discussed the sea wall (Brewer Place/Lincoln Rd.), poor lighting on our streets, street drainage, street repaving, and new curbs and sidewalks. Nancy, the City Engineer, Jan Wiercinski, and Frank Murray, the Right of Way Arborist have been in contact with FPL about additional tree trimming at pole sites as well as the installation of new lights. Nancy informed us of a Neighborhood Partnership Grant with City funds, supplemented with labor provided by Avondale residents, and \$500 from our ARA budget that could be used to pay for this important improvement to our neighborhood. A motion was made by Rob and seconded by Gary of our agreement to participate in this grant. Nancy also discussed our poor drainage concerns. She has been in contact with Michael Del Rossi and they will possibly attend our next meeting. Other items covered were traffic calming and possible use of solar traffic diverter.
- City Manager, Tom Barwin took time to highlight the 2018 accomplishments by the City of Sarasota: the Legacy Trail, Bay Front, the relocation of the Sarasota Orchestra, affordable housing, improvement of five City parks, and the approved renovation of Bobby Jones' 45-hole golf course. The 2019 focus will focus on the homeless situation and the over-crowded City jail, as well as the environmental challenge of removing carbon monoxide from the atmosphere and Florida's contribution to the expansion the "red tide" and what Sarasota is going to do about it.

The meeting adjourned at 7:00.