

Minutes from the 5/7/19 ARA Board Meeting

In attendance: Dean Anderson, Mollie Cardamone, Connie Reisenbeck, Jean Ruff, Gary Bockhold, Pam Baker, Julie Guirguis, Rob Hoff, Carol Fournier

- The minutes of the 4/9/19 ARA board meeting were accepted and approved.
- Julie reported a current balance of \$1,920.88. To date we've received \$1,250 in donations toward the planter project and have spent \$810.32, which leaves \$439.68.
- The next ARA board meeting will be held on June 4th. This is the final scheduled meeting until Fall, as the Board adjourns for the summer months.
- Dean distributed a list of 2019-2020 meeting dates to everyone. All agreed it would be prudent to meet prior to Nov 3rd annual picnic. Therefore, the October date (first Tuesday of the month) was moved from 10/1 to 10/8.

Old Business:

- Dean provided an update on Avondale infrastructure proposal, including the three recommendations by the city for repairing the collapsed Hudson Bayou seawall. The recommendation to the city is for removal of the existing seawall and replacing it with an installation of a new sheet pile wall in the same location. The tree trimming has been accomplished and completed, with FPL work (new street lighting) pending.
- Sarasota neighborhood coordinator, Nancy Kelly, has informed Dean there is a surplus of \$1,229.00 remaining in our Neighborhood Grant proposal. Since we are co-sponsoring this grant, we would have \$614.50 available to us which can be applied toward our planter project. Gary itemized planter costs as follows: \$395 mold for a new base, six urns and five bases, totaling \$1,743. A motion was made and passed for Gary to order three bases and four urns immediately. Connie agreed to have them temporarily stored in her side yard as three will be located on various Osprey Avenue intersections. Gary and Dean will do the install and painting.
- Jean reported on the neighborhood "Sarasota Day Spa" suspicious activities. On 4/15/19, a Sarasota police surveillance was conducted and everything was found to be in correct order. However, neighbors and board members should continue to monitor this business activity.

New Business:

- It was agreed the annual Spring Social held at Carolyn Van Helden's home was a huge success with many neighbors attending. The 2020 event will be held at Lisa Morris's home, with proposed dates of April 17 or 24, depending on availability of Lisa's schedule and the tables and chairs from the City.

- CCNA: Dean reported that Avondale, for the month of April, had only one car theft and no other crimes. The city voted 4-1 for the permanent closing of School Avenue (at Sarasota High School) to both pedestrian and vehicular traffic, despite many neighborhood objections. Also discussed was a CCNA resolution to support an increase in sound control ordinance violation fines. The CCNA will vote on this at their 6/1/19 meeting. The ARA board unanimously supports this resolution.
- ARA newsletter: The publication for the ARA newsletter is scheduled for May 15. It was agreed anyone requesting publishing comments should send them to the Board for prior perusal/approval and the author of any published comments should have their name associated with such publication.
- The trimming of the overgrown hedge at the corner of Alta Vista and Osprey is a concern for all pedestrians and drivers. Dean and Gary will discuss this with the current owner since we need to discuss trimming that same hedge to accommodate the new Avondale planter.
- ARA board member elections were discussed, and as per our By-Laws, elections need to occur in the next “even” year (2020). Dean asked the board to let it be known if any of our existing board members would like to step down after numerous years of service and for names of potential replacement candidates. Ideally we will be able to diversify board member location with representation throughout Avondale.
- Dean told us the homeowner on Lincoln and Osprey corner is willing to provide a light on Avondale sign as long as we agree to the lowering of our Avondale sign. This has been requested due to the newly constructed home-owner wall that is situated behind our sign.
- Mollie reported attending a recent Selby Garden meeting. Currently, Selby is short approximately \$10 million on phase one of their expansion plans. Mollie also reported that Selby has been responding to neighborhood issues and concerns.