

Minutes from the January 14, 2019 Avondale Residents Association Board Meeting

In attendance: Dean Anderson, Pam Baker, Mollie Cardamone, Rob Hoff, Carol Fournier, Jodie Vashistha. Guest: Tihda Vongkoth

A motion was made and seconded to approve the 12/3 minutes of the December ARA board meeting. Approval was unanimous.

The Treasurer's report was given by Dean in Julie's absence. The current balance is \$3,235.51, with 47 paid members.

Announcements:

- Next ARA BOD meeting - 2/4/20, 5:30-6:30 p.m.
- ARA Annual Business Meeting - 3/1/20, 3:00-5:00 pm, at Selby Gardens
- ARA annual Spring Social - 4/24/20, 7:00-10:00 p.m.

Old Business:

- ARA Annual Business Meeting: Dean opened a discussion on the agenda for the Annual Business Meeting (3/1/20). Topics considered with different presenters suggested were the Lift Station 87 and its impact on Avondale, an update on Selby Gardens modified masterplan, and a discussion of the Avondale infrastructure proposal. It was agreed upon that each presentation will be limited to 15 minutes. Pam will report on the Nominating Committee's role and a vote will be held for ARA officers. There was agreement to not add any new Directors at this time. In addition, there will be an opportunity for questions from those in attendance.
- Newsletter: At Georgia's request, Dean asked that residents receive Newsletter electronically will those that wanted a printed copy, could receive one.

New Business:

- Mollie attended CCNA for Dean and Rob, and reported that she expressed appreciation for the recent paving of our streets. She said the Assistant City Manager stated permits have been issued for curb and sidewalk projects.
- Mollie brought to our attention that the Friendship Senior Center is an appropriate location for Avondale's use for any meetings and events. This facility is being offered to all neighborhood associations for free use.

- Dean reported his recent meeting at City Hall with city manager and public works representatives, the city electrical engineer, and the city's neighborhood coordinator, Nancy Kelly. This meeting was a revisit to our infrastructure proposal, what can be done and by whom, time frames, and the expense for adding curbs, sidewalks, and antique lighting. The cost was suggested for Avondale be considered as a taxable "Assessment District". A thorough study would need to be done by the city with the cost of that study needing to be approved for by the city commissioners and paid by the city. It was suggested that our new mayor, Jen Ahern-Koch should be made aware of this situation. Dean said that he would invite her to the next ARA board meeting.
- Jodie reported she has tabled traffic calming study at this time.
- Jodie distributed an excellent detailed report on Operating and Reserve Funds, in the event of a need for future ARA legal matters. It was agreed to call it a "Contingency Fund" rather than "Reserve Fund", due to potential legal ramifications. Further discussion and decisions will be addressed in the future.
- Dean suggested the present Mayor be invited to our next Board Meeting. This was received with everyone's enthusiasm. He recommended questions and topics of discussion be prepared in advance.

Meeting adjourned at 6:30.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Carol Fournier

The minutes of the 12/18/2019 Avondale Residents Association board meeting were accepted and approved.

Treasurer's Report: Julie reported Avondale Residents Association balance at the end of October was \$1380.54. 38 homeowners have paid for membership 2019-20 as of today. Approximately 10 utilized PAYPAL at the ARA website.

Secretary Report: It was agreed Board members may receive a copy of the paid member list including addresses, emails and telephone numbers.

The next Avondale Residents Association Board meeting will be held at 5:30PM on December 3, 2019. The Spring Social will be held on April 24, 2020 from 7-10 PM.

OLD BUSINESS

Avondale Residents Association Picnic was held on Sunday November 3, 2019. Mollie has the number of attendees and will report at the next meeting. Pam is stepping down as Coordinator and Connie will replace her with Jodie assisting. Next year's picnic is scheduled on Sunday November 1, 2020 from 3-5 PM.

NEW BUSINESS

Dean welcomed new members Georgia Salaverri and Jodie Vashistha.

Dean requested all members review the Avondale Residents Association By-Laws which are available on the website.

Dean appointed a Board Member Nominating Committee to consider presenting at the Member meeting for approval. Pam will coordinate the Committee and Mollie and Rob will be members. They will report the recommended slate for nomination at the December Board meeting.

Dean will contact Nancy Kelly, our neighborhood City contact, to see if the Avondale neighborhood sign (in front of 1810 Lincoln), can be replaced with a composite one. The sign will be lowered so it is clearer it is a neighborhood sign rather than a sign for that address. The sign may be moved onto a new island at Lincoln Avenue and Osprey which will be constructed as part of Osprey repacking North of Bahia Vista.

Avondale book club: Connie reported Carol and she are coordinating an effort to establish a women's book club. The Selby Library has book bags with books to loan for book clubs. The goal is to have members and have the first discussion of a book in January 2020. Connie/Carol will draft an email for Rob to distribute to members. Information may be listed on our website and in the next newsletter.

CCNA Report: No police report presented. Arlington Park circulated a proposal for an Overlay District and Strategic Action Plan for approval consideration by CCNA at the January 2020 meeting. The Board voted unanimously to support the resolution unless Dean determines it is not in Avondale's interest at the January meeting. Dean asked city members at the CCNA meeting what the timetable for the sea wall construction is (at Hudson Bayou). They plan to start construction of the City's portion in January 2020. The city is in discussion with the responsible homeowner and business owner about their portion of the sea wall.

Avondale Residents Association Newsletter: Georgia will complete the newsletter by December 15th for distribution by email and hard copy. Dean will write the President's letter. It will include introductions of new Avondale residents.

Rob will contact the dentist William McElveen, DDS about installing landscaping if Avondale Residents Association pays for it. He will report back to the Board at the December meeting.

Members questions: Marjorie asked about the Avondale Residents Association support of Hudson Bayou's opposition of Marie Selby

plan. The Board unanimously approved their support at the February 2019 meeting. The Board agreed on matters such as this to survey members before considering (eg, via Survey Monkey or similar).

The Annual member meeting will be held on or around March 1, 2020 at Marie Selby Gardens. Dean will firm the date with Marie Selby Gardens and report back to the Board.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:40PM.