

**MINUTES**

**SRCA MEETING**

**May 5, 2022 – 7:30 PM by Zoom Conference Call**

**In attendance:**

Jeanne Jacob, President; Kate Hennigan, Second Vice President; Susan Clark-Sestak, Secretary; David Pritzker, Parliamentarian; Laura Plati, Chair SRCA Welcome Committee; Mike Brookbank, SRCA Historian; Beth Chase, St. Stephen’s and St. Agnes School (SSSAS) Liaison; Sgt. Tony Moore, Alexandria City Police Department (ACPD) Liaison; Lt. Lemuel Houston, Alexandria Sheriff’s Office Liaison; SRCA residents Bill Pfister and Jan Campbell.

1. **Welcome and President’s Report – Jacob**
   1. Jacob called the meeting to order at 7:33 pm.
      1. Open mic session: There were no issues raised during the first open mic session.
   2. **Reports from SRCA’s ACPD Liaison/Alexandria’s Sheriff’s Liaison**
      1. Sgt. Moore noted that the new Chief of Police was recently announced. During the discussion session, one resident raised a concern about speeding on Fort Williams Parkway and whether a speed bump might be installed at the lower end of the street.
      2. LT Houston promised to send an email with information on upcoming community engagement events, including 7 May Recreation Festival, 14 May Spring Fling, and Police Week, which Alexandria will host 11-17 May.

1. **Secretary’s Report – Clark-Sestak**

**Approval of 7 April 2022 Minutes**

Clark-Sestak noted that revised April minutes were distributed prior to this meeting and no additional changes were proposed. **Brookbank moved to approve the minutes as modified; Hennigan seconded. The minutes were unanimously approved**.

1. **Treasurer’s Report – Browne**

Browne was unable to attend the meeting, but provided a written update after the meeting, reporting a balance of approximately $16,400 in SRCA’s account.

1. **SRCA Committee Chair Reports – Committee Chairs**
   1. **2022 Recent and Near-Term Events/Activities – Hennigan**

**Spring Clean Up**: Many neighbors participated in the April 23 cleanup on Fort Williams Parkway and the Fort Worth Avenue island. A huge thank you to all those who helped! Last year only 6 people participated, but this year more than 20 residents did so. Reports from those who joined the spring clean-up included: Fort Worth island still needs to be mowed and poison ivy removed by the City (the Fort Williams median was mowed right after the clean-up event); the Fort Williams median is still not ready to be seeded and when it is more ready, consideration should be given to a drought-resistant ground cover. SRCA will likely have another clean-up event in the fall. Date and information to be provided in the coming months. Jacob had five reusable signs printed for the clean-up event at a cost of $148.40. **Clark-Sestak moved to approve reimbursement of this expense; Hennigan seconded and it was approved unanimously.**

**Annual Yard Sale**: SRCA’s annual yard sale will be held 14 May, 8:00am until noon. So far, 12 households have signed up. Jacob will post directional signs. A flyer has been provided to the block captains for distribution, which is also posted on seminaryridge.net on the Events page and the SRCA Facebook page.

**Ice Cream Event**: Bertles Real Estate will sponsor an ice cream truck to celebrate the start of summer on 10 June from 3:00-5:00pm in front of Kate Hennigan’s home (3721 Fort Worth Avenue). All SRCA residents are invited to stop by to enjoy a free ice cream.

**Screen on the Green**: The first of two Screen on the Green movies is tentatively scheduled for 17 June at about 7:00pm. Hennigan will work with Chase on movie options and other arrangements. See the seminaryridge.net for information as it becomes available. The second Screen on the Green will be held in August, likely either 5 or 12 August, and will be sponsored by Bertles Real Estate.

**Annual Meeting and Picnic**: The annual meeting and picnic will be held 18 September, pending SSSAS approval as the meeting will be held on SSSAS grounds. Hennigan requested that someone volunteer to lead the organization of this event, and will provide information from last year’s caterer, etc. SRCA leadership would welcome assistance from other members of the neighborhood! Please let us know by emailing: [news4srca@gmail.com](mailto:news4srca@gmail.com).

Jacob also noted the need to form a nominating committee, which would be responsible for coordinating information on who would be interested in remaining in officer and committee chair positions and which other residents would be interested in running for these positions. Anyone interested in serving on the nominating committee or as an officer or committee chair is encouraged to email [news4srca@gmail.com](mailto:news4srca@gmail.com).

* 1. **Home Sales in Seminary Ridge – Hennigan**

Hennigan reported that 3605 Trinity Drive sold for $920,000 and that 4009 Harris Place and 4115 North Garland were under contract.

* 1. **Seminary Hill Association (SHA) Liaison – Judge**

Judge was unable to attend the meeting

* 1. **SSSAS (St. Stephen’s and St. Agnes School) Liaison – Chase**

Chase stated that SSSAS will be hosting the election of a new bishop on 4 June, and some 500 people are expected to attend. SSSAS graduation will be held the morning of 11 June. After the meeting, Chase also provided documents depicting planned changes for SSSAS upper campus; these are posted on seminaryridge.net on the “issues of interest” page.

* 1. **BEHC Update – Jeremy Flachs**

Flachs was unable to attend this meeting. In an email, he stated that he had no updates to report other than the loss of several large trees on Beth El property due to climate change but are in the process of replanting for future generations.

* 1. **City of Alexandria Liaison – Weiblinger**

Weiblinger was unable to attend the meeting.

Jacob noted that the consulting group’s report on **Strawberry Run** was due in March; SRCA still has not received it. She also mentioned that two volunteers have recently been removing invasive weeds from the area. And, if any future city work will affect the areas where there are attractive plantings of jonquils, SRCA will try to dig them up and replant the bulbs elsewhere.

The first meeting of the **Duke Street in Motion** committee was held on 28 April.

Residents are encouraged to call in concerns about things the City needs to repair or actions it needs to take (e.g., downed street lights, mowing the public areas, broken tree branches on public areas that need to be cut down and removed). All such non-emergency matters should be reported on the Alex311 website or by calling 311.  The City is more likely to listen if more than just one person makes such calls! (The number for emergencies remains 911.)

* 1. **Welcome Committee for New Residents – Plati**

Plati reported that she will be stopping by with the welcome package for 4021 North Garland. It was agreed that, although not part of the covenant section of SRCA, the new residents of 3605 Trinity (and other new non-covenant residences) should be provided a welcome package as well.

* 1. **Communications – Susan Clark-Sestak**

Clark-Sestak had nothing to report, other than that the website continues to be updated and newsletters sent on a regular basis.

* 1. **SRCA Historian – Mike Brookbank**

Brookbank requested that, as people move out of Seminary Ridge, if they have old SRCA records (including old directories, meeting minutes, etc.), he would gladly take possession of such documents. Pritzker promised to provide copies of some old directories in his possession.

1. **Old Business – Jacob**

Jacob asked if Pfister had additional information to report on the MacArthur School reconstruction. Pfister showed several photos and diagrams and affirmed that there is now significant visible progress. The plan remains for the work to be completed in July 2023, in time for the school to open in September 2023.

1. **New Business – Jacob**

Pritzker asked whether consideration should be given to amending SRCA documents (e.g., renaming the SRCA Executive Committee as the SRCA Board). Jacob suggested that all officers and committee chairs review the SRCA documents prior to the June meeting and be prepared to discuss possible changes at that time. Such changes to SRCA documents would require majority approval by SRCA covenant households.

**The next SRCA Meeting will be Thursday, 2 June 2022 at 7:30 pm on Zoom.**

1. **Adjournment of SRCA Meeting – Jacob**

**Pritzker moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:29 pm; it was seconded by Clark-Sestak and unanimously approved.**