

Minutes of Seminary Ridge Civic Association Board Meeting

JANUARY 15, 2020

In Attendance: Don Frahler, President; Paul Judge, First Vice President; Jeanne Jacob, Second Vice President; Maria Browne, Treasurer; Elizabeth McIntyre, Secretary; Mike Brookbank, Parliamentarian; Sue Goodhart, and Beth Chase, St. Stephen's and St. Agnes School, CFO.

1. President's Welcome and Report by New Police Liaison, Sgt Moore

1.1 Meeting was called to order at 6:55 PM by President Frahler, and Sgt Moore stated that no crime was reported for our neighborhood, but that there have been complaints about Seminary Road. After some discussion regarding the difficulties caused by the narrowing of Seminary Road and the number of trucks/large buses coming down Ft Williams Parkway, Sgt Moore stated that he will ask the City Council for No Thru Truck signage. He can only ask – no guarantee request will be granted.

2. Secretary's Report – Liz McIntyre: The Nov 19, 2019 meeting minutes were accepted. We did not have a SRCA board meeting in Dec, 2019.

3. Treasurer's Report from 2017 - 2020 – Maria Browne

3.1 Browne reported the annual income for 2019 was \$11,557.60, with a balance of \$16,501.14 in the treasury. All holiday party bills had been paid, with the exception of one that was received this week.

3.2 Browne requested an increase in the Directory Printing budget and the request was approved.

4. Seminary Hill Report – Paul Judge

4.1 Discussion of Episcopal HS construction. They removed trees they had planted and they will plant new trees.

4.2 SHA submitted a FOIA and received 630 pages of communication to/from the Fire Dept. about the narrowing of Seminary Road for \$700. Frank Putzu is writing a three-part series for the Gazette on his findings after reviewing the documents.

4.3 Other topics discussed include the eScooter pilot program, which has been renewed to give the City time to develop regulations over the scooters; MacArthur School; the Alexandria Mobility Plan and Alexandria Renew, which is improving the sewer system and will be increasing the cost of sewerage for Alexandria citizens.

4.4 Single Family Zoning – Expected to impact neighborhoods within walking distance of metro stops. City is expected to loosen standards on zoning and noise restrictions.

5. Holiday Party and Scheduling Upcoming Events – Don Frahler

- 5.1 Frahler declared the holiday party a success and thanked all volunteers. We discussed the large amount of leftover food and decided to reduce the amount of food ordered in lieu of increasing the budget for next year's party to cover future cost increases. We tentatively agreed to **Sunday, 12/13/20 for next year's party.**
- 5.2 **Annual picnic:** 9/13 or 20/2020. Beth Chase will coordinate with the School's calendar. **Garage Sale** – April or May – we are looking for a volunteer to lead effort. Maureen Brookbank will support. **Screen on the Green:** a Sunday in June. Beth Chase will again coordinate and get back to the SRCA Board. **Halloween:** 10/31/20.

6. Address Directory – Maria Browne / Block Captains – Jeanne Jacob

- 6.1 A discussion on the SRCA Directory and how to obtain permission/verification of names and a single email address and telephone number was discussed. Goodhart and Browne will develop an email and a google document to accomplish this goal
- 6.2 This year's dues request will include a statement about granting permission to include telephone and email information in the directory. The directory will include a statement prohibiting the use of information to create mass mailings to residents except for SRCA business.
- 6.3 Once email addresses have been verified, the Board is hoping that we will no longer require the services of Block Captains because only a small subset of neighbors will require receipt of flyers via mail or hand-delivery. For those residents who object to inclusion of emails in the directory, flyers will be received via bcc: emails sent by the SRCA Secretary.

7. Arborist Update and Neighborhood Beautification Update - Jeanne Jacob

- 7.1 Jeanne Jacob gave a detailed report on the Beautification Committee. A motion was made and passed to accept the four recommendations of the committee.
- 7.2 A member of the Beautification Committee will communicate their plans for the four islands to the City and request the City adopt and implement the plans. The plans concern the small island at the corner of Dearborn and Ft Williams Pkwy; the island at Ft Worth; and the islands on Ft Williams, including the replacement of unsightly Bradford Pear trees.
- 7.3 The committee is also concerned about the loss of tree canopy from the Strawberry Run project. The SRCA board agreed to discuss the committee's concerns with the SHA at their next meeting.

8. SSAS Update – Beth Chase: The Upper School is extending its due diligence regarding the purchase of part of the land from St. Andrews United Methodist Church.

9. No New Business/ Adjournment: Next meeting is scheduled for February 18, 2020 at 7 pm at Judge's home. Don Frahler will be out of town until March 15, 2020. Motion was made, seconded and passed by voice vote. Meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm.

