

**MINUTES**

**SRCA MEETING**

**March 3, 2022 – 7:30 PM by Zoom Conference Call**

**In attendance:**

Jeanne Jacob, President; Richie Weiblinger, First Vice President; Kate Hennigan, Second Vice President; Maria Browne, Treasurer; David Pritzker, Parliamentarian; Don Frahler, Immediate Past President; Mike Brookbank, SRCA Historian; Laura Plati, SRCA Welcome Committee Chair; Beth Chase, St. Stephen’s and St. Agnes School (SSSAS) Liaison; Jeremy Flachs, Beth El Hebrew Congregation (BEHC) Liaison; Paul Judge, Seminary Hills Association (SHA) Liaison; SRCA resident Les Pierre

1. **Welcome and President’s Report – Jacob**
   1. **Welcome**

A quorum was present, and Jacob called the meeting to order at 7:35 PM, welcomed those attending, and explained how the “open mic” sessions operated.

* 1. **Reports from SRCA’s ACPD Liaison/Alexandria’s Sheriff’s Liaison**

No representatives from the ACPD or Sheriff’s Office were in attendance to report.

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

Jacob noted that Clark-Sestak was on vacation, so Weiblinger and Jacob would be taking minutes. She asked that those reporting provide a written summary to ease the taking of minutes.

**2.1 Approval of February 3, 2022 Minutes**

Jacob reported that the draft minutes of the February SRCA meeting had been distributed earlier by Clark-Sestak and any edits that were submitted were accepted and incorporated into the copy distributed. She then asked for approval of the February minutes.

**Weiblinger moved to approve the February minutes as distributed. Hennigan seconded the motion. The minutes were unanimously approved by voice vote**.

1. **Treasurer’s Report – Browne**

Browne joined the meeting near the end and reported that there were no changes since what she reported at the February meeting. She will present a complete financial report at the April meeting.

**3.1 Budget for 2022**

Because so much of SRCA’s expenses were related to events planned throughout the year, much of the meeting was focused on discussion and approval of the events. Then, the draft 2022 Budget develop in advance by Hennigan, Browne, and Jacob was presented for the leadership to review and then vote upon at the meeting. The draft budget presented was as for $11,097.00, which was $1,091.00 over income expected of $10,000. Jacob asked for a line-by-line review of the budget presented so the amount over budget could be reduced and a balanced budget could be approved. Discussion ensued and the following items were eliminated or reduced: Hennigan thought the St. Pat’s Day event would come in under $350; Paper Document Shredding Day ($800) was eliminated because it was thought it was too expensive for only two hours; Community Yard Sale’s new signs and printed maps ($300) was reduced to $200 because current signs could suffice and Hennigan would print the maps; June’s Screen on the Green #1 will cost nothing as it will be sponsored by Bertles Real Estate; Screen on the Green #2 ($750) was reduced to $500 by limiting food items offered; and “Welcome Wagon” Gifts to new SR residents ($300) was reduced to $200. Gift certificates will be increased to $15 for Great Harvest bakery up from $10, but not to $20. If events early in the year exceed what was budgeted, the December Holiday Party budget of $3,000 could be reduced because there has been too much food in previous years.  Judge asked that the cost of the SRCA website be reviewed to see if the website was being used and worth maintaining. Given that the cost of the SRCA website is less than $300 a year and that most of the work on it is volunteered, it was felt that it was worth the small expense. Jacob will ask Clark-Sestak to review the traffic numbers to the website. Overall, the amount of the revised budget to be presented was reduced by $1,250.

The revised budget presented for approval was $9,847.00, a reduction of $1,250 from the $11,097.00 budget originally presented. Jacob asked for a motion to approve the budget as revised.

**Frahler moved to accept the revised 2022 SRCA Budget of $9,847.00 (see attached). The motion was seconded by Brookbank. The motion was approved unanimously by voice vote.**

1. **SRCA Committee Chair Reports – Committee Chairs**
   1. **2022 Events/Activities – Hennigan/All**

With the 2022 Budget approved, Hennigan proceeded to present the upcoming 2022 SRCA events.

* + 1. **St. Patrick's Day**

SRCA’s first St. Patrick's Day get-together is to be held on the Harris Place cul-de-sac on March 17 from 5:00 to 7:00 PM. Irish beer and light snacks will be available. A reminder notice will be sent out just before the event asking for RSVPs so Hennigan has a better feel for how many will be attending.

* + 1. **Community Yard Sale**

Questions have been received regarding a date for the SRCA annual Community Yard Sale that normally is held the week before the City’s community clean up drives. Due to Covid, the City did not hold these pickups in 2020 or in 2021. SRCA is waiting to hear if they are planning a return in 2022. If not, a Saturday date in early May (May 7 or 14) will be selected. Jacob noted that she has the event signs in her garage and will inventory them to see if any new ones need to be made. Hennigan said that she again would copy the maps for distribution. A Chair and Committee are needed for this event.

* + 1. **Other Upcoming Events**

Other upcoming events will be discussed at the April SRCA meeting as so much time was spent on the budget.

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

Judge reported that at the last SHA meeting on February 10, SHA approved sending a letter to the City supporting SRCA’s request for a change to the stop sign on Seminary Road and St. Stephens Road. The request was a change from the current “no turn on red” sign to a “no turn on red when pedestrians are present” sign. The change has been approved by the City and a new sign should replace the current one. Other issues in front of SHA include SHA signing onto a letter concerning a post-Civil War African American burial ground at Fort Ward Park to support the burial ground and the African American Ancestry Group of Alexandria and for SHA to be included in the meetings for development for projects that may impact burial grounds.  Plus, SHA will focus on top issues in 2022 that Judge will present at the SRCA April meeting including the cemetery found in Fort Ward Park, the Duke Street Corridor plans, continued traffic congestion on Seminary Road, etc.

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

Chase reported that SSSAS will present the musical Cinderella and that SR neighbors are invited to attend. She also mentioned that the school held a walk through for those neighbors interested in the construction changes to the Upper Campus and the St. Andrew’s property (construction will not begin until June 2023) and the response was very positive. The plans will be available soon to post on SRCA’s website.

* 1. **BEHC Update – Jeremy Flachs**

Flachs reported thatBeth El will make masks optional and loosening restrictions. Also, he noted that Karig Estates is still owned by Mike Ebrahim, but he is using a marketing agency to begin advertising the homes to be built. The new marketing name is Franklin Hills. There may be a discrepancy between what has been approved by the City and what is advertised on the signs in front of the property. The contractor is clearing bamboo and other shrubs on the property.  Ebrahim is looking at Wednesday, March 9, at 4:00 PM for a time to allow neighbors to walk through the property to see what trees will be removed. Beth El is continuing to evaluate trees along the property boundary, including other neighbors.  Nathan Randal is the City contact for the project.  SRCA or BEHC need to check with the City to see if the signs that are now posted with 8,000 square feet and three garages are indeed what is going to be built as it was thought that earlier plans called for four houses with two car garages and a smaller footprint. Weiblinger will contact Randal and Jacob and Pierre will notify interested SR neighbors (Needles, Tosark, Skruggs, Durkin, O’Toole) once the date of the walk through has been confirmed.

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

Weiblinger provided an update that Alex Carroll with Alexandria Complete Streets let him know that the City is kicking off its assessment of the Seminary Road Diet this Spring and it will focus on traffic safety.  The study should be completed by the summer/fall timeframe. Weiblinger also reported that interviews with SR neighbors Kocot, Wailika, and Jacob were to be done in March by the consulting group working on the future of Strawberry Run.

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

No new sales were reported by Plati. When new residents move in, she will provide the welcome package that includes a welcome letter, SRCA Directory, and Great Harvest gift card, which will now be for $15.

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

Clark-Sestak was unable to attend the meeting and will report in April.

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

Brookbank had nothing to report.

1. **Old Business – Jacob**

There was no old business to report.

1. **New Business – Jacob**

The next SRCA Board Meeting will be Thursday, April 7, 2022 at 7:30 pm on Zoom.

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

Jacob asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

**Hennigan moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Brookbank and unanimously approved by voice vote.**

Jacob adjourned the meeting at 9:05 PM.

**Minutes submitted by Weiblinger and Jacob in the absence of Secretary Clark-Sestak.**



**SRCA BUDGET for 2022**

**INCOME**

**DUES** $10,000.00

**INTEREST** 6.00

**TOTAL INCOME $10,006.00**

**EXPENSES**

**EVENTS**

**MONTH EVENTS COSTS**

**January**  NONE

**February** NONE

**March**  St Pat’s Day (beer/snacks) $ 350.00

**April**  Earth Day / Clean Up

**May** Community Yard Sale (new signs) $ 200.00

**June**  Screen on the Green #1 (Sponsored at $750) $ 0.00

**July** NONE

**August** Screen on the Green #2 $ 500.00

**September** Annual Meeting Announcement and First

Dues Renewal Mailing (printing/postage) $ 300.00

Annual Picnic Food $2,800.00

**October** Halloween Parade/Pizza Party/Flyers $ 900.00

**November** Dues Renewal Follow up (printing/postage) $ 200.00

**December** Holiday Lights (winner $50/runner up $25) $ 75.00

Holiday Party (Food/staffing & Flyers) $3,000.00

**MONTHLY** Welcome Wagon Gifts (10-15 per year @ $15) $ 200.00

**INSURANCE/DUES**

**AFCA –** Alexandria Federation of Civic Associations $ 30.00

**SRCA INSURANCE** $ 882.00

**VA CORPORATION FEE**  $ 25.00

**ZOOM** (reduced from $149 to $122) $ 125.00

**WEBSITE -** Square Space & domain name annual fees ($240 and $20) $ 260.00

**TOTAL EXPENSES $9,847.00**

**APPROVED ON MARCH 3, 2022**