Minutes of the Meeting of the

Neighborhood Council of St. Augustine, Inc.

January 13, 2019

19 Saragossa Street

3:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Kathy Schirmacher (SAUNA-Uptown), Melinda Rakoncay (Nelmar Terrace), Judith Seraphin (Lincolnville), Valerie Day (Flagler Model Land), Van Cogley (Flagler Model Land), Jeanette Berk (Treasurer of the NC), Blaine Murray (SANDS), Martha Mickler (Spanish Quarter), Nancy Pellicer (Spanish Quarter), Burry Gowen (Old City South), Michael Alfieri (Greater Fullerwood), Margaret Wallis (SARNA-Ravenswood). ABSENT: Lighthouse. GUEST: Amy Skinner, Deputy Director, Planning & Building Dept., COSA.

The meeting was called to order by President Melinda Rakoncay at 3:10 p.m.. Thanks to Val Day for hosting in her beautiful Craftsman style home.

All delegates were asked to sign in. All delegates present were asked to forward any updates in their roster to Kathy Schirmacher at [sauna.uptown@gmail.com](mailto:sauna.uptown@gmail.com). Delegates were reminded that any change in an Association’s roster or bylaws needs to be communicated to both Secretary Kathy Schirmacher and Treasurer Jeanette Berk, for IRS purposes.

The minutes of the September 30, 2018 meeting were reviewed and a few minor changes were noted. A motion was made to approve the minutes as corrected (Jeanette Berk) and seconded (Nancy Pellicer). APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

The Treasurer’s report showed a balance in the account of $1,582.11 as of December 31. The Council has received reimbursement of $1,994.61 from the City for our Neighborhood Grant, and the loan from Burry Gowen to cover our expenses has been repaid. The Treasurer’s Report was APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY. For accounting purposes, Polly Andrews at Ameris Bank will need a copy of each Association's bylaws and the name of the Association's Treasurer. If an alternate signer has been authorized for the account who is NOT an officer of the Association, she will also need a copy of the minutes giving that person signature authority. Copies of all these documents should be forwarded to Polly Andrews at Ameris Bank, either electronically or else send hard copies to her at Ameris Bank, 790 N. Ponce De Leon Blvd., St. Augustine FL 32084. Polly's telephone number is (904) 824-9211 Ext. 82210, should you have any questions.

The Council website is up and running. The address is [www.ncstaug.org](http://www.ncstaug.org/). Photos of Association officers are still missing and will need to be eventually added to each association's page.

Elections for Council officers were then held. The slate was presented: President - Melinda Rakoncay; Vice President - Judith Seraphin; Secretary - Kathy Schirmacher; and Treasurer - Jeanette Berk. A motion was made (Burry Gowen) and seconded (Val Day) to accept the slate and elect all officers. OFFICERS WERE ELECTED UNANIMOUSLY BY VOICE VOTE.

Melinda introduced Amy Skinner from the COSA Planning and Building Department. Amy gave a presentation on the Comprehensive Plan review process for the city, which the city is required to go through every seven years. The Comp Plan looks forward to 2040, so it is a very long term plan. The City Commission is encouraging a vigorous community outreach and is hoping for wide community participation in helping to formulate any possible changes to the Comp Plan. The final draft must be submitted to the State by November 2019. Area workshops and citizen board workshops have been scheduled beginning in February and continuing through August. Details can be found on the City website at [www.CityStAug.com/CompPlan2040](http://www.citystaug.com/CompPlan2040). Amy is also available to address meetings of individual Associations or merchant groups. She may be reached at (904) 209-4320. Specific areas of concern are: the mobility plan; the water supply plan; and the perils of flooding. Affordable housing, tourism, and historic preservation are also other important issues to be considered.

Val Day reported that Mayor Shaver has prepared a presentation on sea level rise and how it will eventually affect the City. She will be happy to present her report to any Association who requests her to do so. Interested NA's may contact Val Day who will coordinate with Mayor Shaver based on her calendar: valday@comcast.net.

Alexis Ayala prepared a YouTube instructional video on how to post info on the website pages. For the time being, send any NA updates to either Burry or Melinda. Training sessions will be set up at a later date.

While she has accepted the office of Vice President for the time being, Judith Seraphin would appreciate if someone could come forward to assume that position. Please let Melinda or Judith know if anyone would be interested.

Reports from the Neighborhoods

Lincolnville - A pot luck dinner has been schedule for next Wednesday. Sue Agresta will be presenting information about the Lincolnville CRA. Sidewalks may be funded with CRA funds.

Flagler Model Land - A successful Christmas party was held at Markland House. The next business meeting will be held in February, with a social meeting planned for April. Nothing else is scheduled before the fall.

Greater Fullerwood - An Easter event will be held in April. Elections will be held in February.

Nelmar Terrace - The Annual Meeting and pot luck was held in October. A Christmas party was also held during the holidays. They are updating the Nelmar Terrace directory. The May St. intersection is running behind schedule.

Old City South - They are working on becoming more organized. The Board meets the second Monday of every quarter. Meetings will be held on the third Thursday of March and October, and pot lucks are scheduled for April and November. Various proposed zoning changes have been addressed (changing a portion of HP-1 to CL-2, and a PUD regarding a wedding venue on Bridge Street, both of which were defeated). Dues are $15 per year per household. There are currently 73 paying members, and they are looking to increase membership to 85.

SANDS (North Davis Shores) - New officers were elected at a meeting in December. The City's mobility survey was addressed. A meeting to talk about implications and possible solutions will be scheduled in the near future.

SARNA (Ravenswood) - The Association has not met in several months. They are working on addressing mobility issues, including pedestrian safety and moving traffic off of Masters Drive.

SAUNA (Uptown) - The 7th Annual "Uptown Lights" contest awards presentation was held at the Raintree in early January. San Marco traffic and parking continue to be issues of concern to the neighborhood. Short term rentals have proliferated throughout the neighborhood and are becoming a problem, mainly due to parking issues. The Mission Nombre de Dios has plans to attract more visitors (and more traffic). Fencing is being installed around the entire perimeter of the site. A general meeting will be scheduled sometime in the spring.

Spanish Quarter - Since there are only 6 or 7 resdient households in this neighborhood, dues will have to be established in order to meet the minimal financial obligations of the Association. There was a discussion at the last HARB meeting about the Tolomato parking lot. Apparently an archaeological dig will need to be completed before any plans can be finalized. A Christmas party / pot luck was held and officers were re-elected. Students from Flagler College came to the party and sang for the attendees! There are still issues surrounding 18 St. George Street.

Lighthouse – No report.

Our next meeting will be on Sunday, April 7, 2019 at 3:00 p.m. at Jeanette Berks house, 52 N. St. Augustine Blvd.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathryn Schirmacher

Secretary