

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the
Neighborhood Council of St. Augustine, Inc.
Sunday January 24, 2021
3:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Melinda Rakoncay Matthew Shaffer (Nelmar Terrace), Sharon Green (Lincolntown), Roger White Jeanette Berk (SANDS), Martha Mickler (Spanish Quarter), Jim Budka (Greater Fullerwood), Burry Gowen Gail Crocetta (Old City South), Van Cogley (Flagler Model Land), Debbie Wicker (Lighthouse), ABSENT: SARNA(Ravenswood) and SAUNA (Uptown)

The meeting was called to order by President Melinda Rakoncay at 3:05 p.m. Due to COVID-19, the meeting was again held virtually via ZOOM.

The minutes of the October 18, 2020 meeting were reviewed. A motion was made to approve the minutes as written. MOVED: Melinda Rakoncay, SECONDED: APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

Treasurer Jeanette Berk shared the Treasurer's report showed an account balance of \$2,709.11. No activity since last meeting. The Neighborhood Council fees are due by each neighborhood of \$85.00. The payment can be mailed or sent electronically. Address to mail: 52 N St Augustine Blvd 32080. Please send Jeanette updated minutes and election information, particularly the position of treasurer.

NC Elections – Kathy Schirmacher has retired, after many years of service as secretary. Melinda nominated Sharon Green, of Lincolntown, as new secretary. A motion was made to approve the officers of the NC council. Melinda Rakoncay- President; Burry Gowens -Vice President ; Sharon Green – Secretary; Jeanette Berk- Treasurer Moved: Van Cogley Seconded: Roger White

A big thank you to Kathy for all her years of service! The Council is truly grateful.

Melinda reminded all present that, even though Covid-19 presents many difficulties, it is still important for each Association to hold at least one annual meeting and elections every year, either remotely or via Survey Monkey or at an outdoor venue, if appropriate. Each Association should review their by-laws and make the necessary changes to allow remote meetings, should their by-laws only permit in-person voting. Please forward all updated officer lists to Melinda, Sharon and Jeanette for their files.

Melinda reached out to Mark LaMaire of Community Foundation of NE Florida, for questions regarding another grant. Discussion of possibility of doing next "Putting Down Roots" series either virtually in the fall or wait until 2022.

The last series, from January 2020 was well received from our city.

Discussion by Melinda regarding the San Sebastian PUD. Update - it is back on the agenda, presented to the PZB, and is now up for 1st reading with the City Commission Meeting on January 25. Melinda has worked with the LNA and Old City South on gathering information on the density, parking and the overall impact to our city. Question about the role of the NC in regards to the PUD. According to our by-laws, the NC cannot take a side, but can gather facts and information and share it with the respected neighborhoods to keep their residents informed. Suggestion of a possible survey monkey to residents to get feedback and point of view.

Reports from the Neighborhoods.

Flagler Model Land - No update

Greater Fullerwood - Porch festival was a great success and well received in October, with 5-6 entertainers. Social distancing guidelines followed carefully. Jan 28 held an outdoor meeting. Reuben Franklin invited for discussion on flooding mitigation.

Lighthouse Park – Successful Christmas party and pizza food truck, all done outdoors. Use by exception request- currently zoned RS1, asking for RS2 for Neighborhood Recreation center. Concern it may be a sailing center for both residents and visitors, within the Lighthouse Park neighborhood. Traffic has been extremely heavy in the neighborhood, due to Lighthouse visitors. The Lighthouse has been very helpful with re-routing traffic via GPS platforms.

Lincolnvillle - LNA meetings held (via Zoom) for discussion about the Buckingham- Smith purchased for Veritas School. Many neighbors shared concern with traffic and the impact to our neighborhood. Other focus is on the San Sebastian PUD. LNA coordinated 3 Zoom meetings with the 4 City Commissioners- Valdes, Sykes-Kline, Blonder and Horvath to share information and allow the residents to discuss concerns.

Nelmar Terrace - Elections were held via Survey Monkey. The design of the right hand turn from Douglas into May St is still an issue. Sidewalks are completing on May St. Melinda is also doing the annual update of the Nelmar Terrace directory for resident, with a \$10 donation to the association.

Old City South -Elections – notice put out on 2/16/21- next meeting on March 18. Gail has been working on increasing membership. During the holidays, neighbors submitted videos of holiday greetings- the association put together a montage of the videos and shared on social media/website. Distributed poinsettia's to new neighbors over the holidays.

SANDS (North Davis Shores) Elections held; Janet Lewis is the new treasurer. Roger White is the President and Delegate to the NC.

SARNA/Ravenswood – No report.

SAUNA (Uptown) – No report

Spanish Quarter - Need to re-elect officers. High traffic during Nights of Lights- (pandemic did not slow it down). Martha and Nancy had a chance to talk to Reuben Franklin and inquired about the construction project on Spanish and Cuna. Reuben shared it was 60% approved, but has been delayed for 2 years, by request of the business owners.

Other Items for Discussion

Melinda would like to plan a Zoom meeting pertaining strictly to the San Sebastian PUD. Details forthcoming.

Our next annual meeting was set for Sunday, April 18, 2021 at 3:00 p.m., again via Zoom. The meeting was adjourned at 5:07pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon Green
Secretary