

Minutes of the Oct 10, 2021 N C Fall Quarter Zoom Meeting

Present:

Nelmar Terrace : Melinda Rakoncay

Lincolnvillle : Sharon Green

Greater Fullerwood : Nicole Eubanks

Lighthouse Park : Debbie Wicker

Old City South : Jim Kleinschmidt

Spanish Quarter: Nancy Pellicer & Martha Mickler

SAUNA: Stacy Anne Hume

Van Cogley of Flagler Model Land sent an email with his regrets.

Meeting started at 3:06 after waiting for people to arrive.

Jim Kleinschmidt made a motion to approve the July 11, 2021 minutes/ Nancy Pellicer second the motion. Minutes were approved unanimously.

Jeanette Berk, our treasurer was unable to attend so she sent the Treasurer's Report.

Neighborhood Council Account Balance is \$3008.11. \$85 dues was received from SARNA and our Annual bill of \$375 for the maintenance of our Website was paid.

Melinda updated everyone on the success of the George Gardner Award being given to Reuben Franklin at the beginning of the September 11, 2021 City Commission Meeting. The award was very well received and got good publicity for the Neighborhood Council. Reuben was very appreciative of the award. Sheldon Gardner did an article in The Record about the award, its purpose and why it was named after George Gardner, and also an article on Reuben afterwards on his feelings about receiving the award. Melinda also posted an article on the Neighborhood Council of St. Augustine Website. John Regan sponsored the presentation. It turned out that the only reason we could present the award at a City Commission Meeting, is because it is designed to recognize a City employee. While this will not necessarily be an annual award, Melinda is hoping that with Covid coming to an end, that there will be more interaction between the City and its neighborhoods on a person to person level. Nancy Pellicer mentioned the grounds keepers, who do such a nice job of keeping the City's flower beds and landscaping, might be considered in the future. Melinda felt that the purpose of the award to encourage a closer relationship between the City employees and its neighborhoods is off to a good start.

Melinda updated everyone on the the San Sebastian Inland Harbor project. She was pleasantly surprised the the City Commission voted 4 to 1 to turn down the request to rezone the property from a PUD (Planned Unit Development) to RGO zoning (Residential Mixed Use) even though the PZB had given it a recommendation to avoid a lawsuit. The four City Commissioners felt strongly about the control that a PUD gives the City and its residents, and were not deterred by a threat of a lawsuit. The Winery got their RGO request granted, so the PUD is now split up. The Winery will have to find its parking on the Winery property. We have not heard what Abbas plans to do. Because time ran out, the only item that did not get heard at the CC Meeting was the Granda Street PUD, which will heard at the next City Commission meeting.

Melinda hoped the Reuben could attend today's Zoom meeting to give a presentation on the Future of King Street, but he was unable because it was his 6th wedding anniversary. He will be giving the presentation to Lighthouse Park this week at the Yacht Club. Other neighborhoods were not invited,

Minutes of the Oct 10, 2021 N C Fall Quarter Zoom Meeting

because of lack of room at the Yacht Club. In addition to the Future of King Street, he will present a new solution on Red Cox Road the FDOT has come up with. The Presentation was given the the Downtown neighborhoods earlier and was well attended and received. Melinda sent a link to view the presentation to all the Neighborhood Associations. Anyone wanting Reuben to attend one of their neighborhood meetings should call Reuben. The most pressing thing now is not any final designs, but whether the City should take control of King Street from FDOT. Reuben has been in negotiations with FDOT and gotten good terms for the City.

Congratulations to Chuck Pappas for becoming a member of the PZB (Planning & Zoning Board) Chuck had planned to step up from being Fullerwood's Vice President to President, but Isabelle Lopez, the City Attorney recommended that he step down from the Neighborhood Council. Fullerwood will be having a meeting this month to determine who the new officers will be. Melinda reminded them to send minutes to both Sharon our Secretary and Jeanette, our Treasurer.

Melinda mentioned that the January Meeting will be our Annual Meeting where Officers are elected, so anyone interested needs to get their name in beforehand.

Since there were no other issues that anyone wanted discussed, Melinda opened the meeting to updates alphabetically from the NAs

Flagler Model Land: While not present, Van Cogley sent an email stating that they are having problems with an increase in Short Term Rentals, which are making it harder to have people interested in having a neighborhood association.

Fullerwood: Nicole Reported that they had to cancel last meeting because of Covid, but are planning their October Outdoor get together in Herbie Wiles Park.

Lighthouse Park: Debbie reported that Reuben is coming to speak to them about a round about designed to solve the the Red Cox Road. Also keeping an eye on the Sailing Center. It is on hold now, since the the PZB denied the rezoning for it. Also their Community Garden is up and running and is a lot of fun.

Lincolville: Nothing new. They need to schedule the next LNA meeting. CRA meeting on October 18 for rehabbing the Lincolville churches. Short Term Rental is about the same. Sharon no longer worrying about it.

Nelmar Terrace, things are quiet. Having a Zoom board meeting this week to discuss our annual potluck meeting, which will have to be cancelled because of Covid. Nelmar will probably use Survey Monkey for elections. Not sure what will be decided for our Holiday party. Nelmar had an incident that several houses were hit by pellet guns. Evidently it is a new thing on TikTok with the kids. After hours calls go to the County instead of the City. If it had been an "Active Shooter" the police would send out a warning.

Old City South: Have been having Zoom meetings. Plan to have an outdoor pot luck soon, which will be a nice way to get the neighborhood together.

Minutes of the Oct 10, 2021 N C Fall Quarter Zoom Meeting

SAUNA: Stacy met a new neighbor in Abbot Tract to find out that they are using it as a STR. She called the Host Compliance number, and got a nice lady, but she was in England, so she wasn't impressed that they could do anything locally. Then she called the City Short Term rental phone number and got a live person, which she was impressed with. They are able to see if a property is registered or not. However, this number is not open after hours, so it would not help for after hours problems. If it is noise, then call the police. Has seen an uptick in our merchants. More tourists walking back into the neighborhood. Met with new police chief about concerns in transitory traffic. Parking and fishing use by outsiders a problem, especially with drinking. Also problems with golf carts that come through and do not stop at stop signs. Losing more residents to Short Term Rentals. Harder to get a consensus on what to do about parking. Hoped to have their Christmas Lights, but with more STRs its harder to get people to do it. Also need the streets repaved. The Big Red brick house has been bought by the OC White family, who plans to restore it. Some confusion on historic preservation ordinances and partial demolition. Paint is not part of it. Chuck offered to find the link that answers the questions on what is affected.

Spanish Quarter: They plan to have Jenny come and speak on the new Preservation ordinance. Parking downtown is becoming a problem. Spoke to Barry Fox about STRs. Problems with them using Nancy's trash can. STRs will be given larger cans. Need to call Code Enforcement about problems. Another problem is people are paving over their yards. Originally parking was meant to be a way to control STRs, but they seem to be given parking by exception in the Public Garage.

Jim updated us, that Jenny will be leaving the City and someone new will be coming. Chuck informed us that Jenny got a job in Tallahassee.

Melinda concludes that the one issue that seems to be affecting our NAs is the STR problem. The big problem is that Tallahassee does not allow a City to enact any new regulations after 2009. Melinda will contact Barry Fox to find out how STR regulations are going to be enforced. Glad to hear that a live person will answer the STR division.

Also the resident parking program might need to be rewritten to make it harder for non residents to park in a neighborhood. Melinda discussed the need to dry up street parking to outsiders. Melinda will speak to Reuben about what possibilities exist.

The Council continued to discuss the STR, parking, and trash problem.

Melinda reminded everyone that glass is no longer recyclable. Nancy asked if someone can speak to us on what can and cannot be recycled. They are looking for someone to recycle glass regionally. At the last public workshop that Public Works had, Chuck talked to Todd about suggesting to the businesses to go "green" and sell more beer on tap instead of in bottles.

Someone mentioned that the Corazon PUD is not on the next City Commission meeting, which is interesting since they were simply postponed from the September 11 meeting. The Mayor does not let City Commission go past 9 pm. Chuck read the agenda. They were at the September 25 meeting for first reading. Further discussion on the Granddora PUD went on.

Martha raised the issue of what is the City doing to encourage people to continue to live downtown. Discussion followed on keeping the downtown neighborhoods alive for full time residents. The problem

Minutes of the Oct 10, 2021 N C Fall Quarter Zoom Meeting

of downtown becoming more devoted to tourism and drinking. History is no longer important downtown. Colonial Village is no longer historic.

The Neighborhood Council needs to work on enforcement of the STR regulations and to save the downtown residential neighborhoods for full time residents.

The next quarterly meeting is set for Sunday, January 9 at 3 pm via Zoom. Melinda reminded everyone to consider serving as a Neighborhood Council of St. Augustine officer.

Written and Submitted by Melinda Rakoncay