

Archdale Civic Association / General Meeting

Approved Meeting Minutes
05/19/2022

Opening

The Archdale Civic Association / General Meeting was called to order at 7:02pm on 05/19/2022 at North Charleston Fire Department Station 8 by John Trinkl.

Present

From the sign-in sheets (**approximately 19 people**)

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the 02.17.2022 General Meeting will be presented for approval. (Available online www.OurArchdale.com/aca).

Motion to approve requested by John Trinkl - first Diane - second by Peggy – no discussion – vote - unanimous approval

Treasurer's Report

1. Cindy Varnado presented the year-to-date ACA Financial report. (Available as a handout at the registration table and online prior to the meeting).
2. Membership Update - **about 60 memberships short of budget**

Old Business

1. Administrative Update – John Trinkl
 - a. Court Update – **Small claims court for Norman McDonald for items and old website costs - Court sided with ACA for monetary adjustment**
2. Communications Update – Krista McCracken
 - a. Reader board sign - **thankful for the payments to provide the materials for the reader board sign and thankful for Jason's volunteer hours to build the reader board sign. Open to suggestions for announcements or sayings for the reader board. Plan to have a year's worth of information for the reader board to include dates for Crime Watch, Food Trucks, holidays, and upcoming events for neighborhoods**
 - b. Website – **Always changing and has all the info you might ever need**
3. Volunteer and Events Announcements—Krista McCracken
 - a. Archdale Hall Beautification update - **picnic table donated and next steps for trails**
 - b. Next event tbd -- "Welcome Summer" event, greenspace cleanup, sign fundraiser - **please watch for announcements on ACA Facebook and ourarchdale.com and reader board**
4. Sign Committee Update – Marty Bescancon
 - a. Update on progress since the last meeting:
 - i. **Looking to pay someone to install the posts because once the project starts it can be completed without delays and ensuring that the signs are all put in properly and correctly and consistently by a company**
 - ii. **The sign committee and the ACA Board is requesting additional funds of \$10,400 (in addition to the \$9,000 already budgeted) to move forward with the understanding**

the money collected for sponsorship or donations would offset the \$10,400 requested today

- iii. **Plan to have "adopt a sign" changed to sponsor a street sign**
 - iv. **The Board has discussed in length about one person "adopt a sign" proposal and many positives and negatives were considered**
 - v. **If more than one neighbor wanted the same sign? The logistics of keeping up with who wanted which sign and who claimed the sign first**
 - vi. **If someone just wanted to donate to the sign committee at different levels, how to acknowledge the donations verses a sponsor level**
- b. All apartments want signs and their wood posts/caps have been purchased and are drying - **all three apartment complexes will pay \$300 ea. for their sign**
 - c. We will contact the businesses in the front of Archdale for contributions to help pay for signs – **the street sign committee has discussed businesses to reach out to**
 - d. The proper spelling and abbreviations for all street signs have been verified - **thank you to John Trinkl and the street sign committee and Marty Bescancon**
 - e. Vendors have been contacted for price quotes for the signs and brackets - **DOT approved**
 - f. We have been monitoring the price of wood posts/caps and plan to make the purchase before the next General Meeting. Lowes of Summerville offered a discount TBD. We may save additional money if we can transport ourselves. – **It was agreed by all that a small delivery charge would be worth the money. Lowes may have free delivery.**
 - g. Sign Sponsorship Levels were developed as requested at the last General Meeting to help offset the cost of the approved funding. - **The plan is to have three levels of sponsorship: \$150, \$75, \$35 with acknowledgement on the website listed in alphabetical order per level then for donations at any level**
 - h. **QUESTIONS? - Motion to approve the additional funds by John Trinkl - first by Deneen - seconded by Rhonda - discussion below - motion approved**
 - 1. Do we have the money in the bank? – **yes**
 - 2. If we do the installation ourselves, do we have enough volunteers for a safe, quick, and consistent process? – **no**
 - 3. Will we try to generate income by reaching out to other businesses with an approved letter from ACA to raise money to offset the use of ACA funds? – **yes**
 - 4. To be clear, we are approving the total for the signs to be a maximum of \$19,400 from the ACA funds today? – **yes**
 - 5. Will a request for bids go out to companies? – **yes**
 - 6. Does Lowe's have the lumber and quantity in stock? – **yes**
 - 7. What is the cost of the delivery fee? - **estimated \$300, but not positive- Lowe's has free delivery**
5. Neighborhood Update – John Trinkl
- a. Utilities work in the neighborhood - **notices on doors and in mailings and social media**
 - b. Recent concerns & complaints - Pursuing idea to have county compliance officers attend a future meeting - **see the website ourarchdale.com for list of departments and phone numbers and emails**
 - c. Questions on if Airbnb's and VRBOs are allowed in Archdale – No known Dorchester County ordinance prohibits them - **discussion of covenants and restrictions up to individuals to research and take action to enforce. Do Airbnb pay the higher tax rate – Yes, they pay 6%**
 - d. We get a number of requests concerning tree removal, to which we have a standard reply...ACA

- has no say in the matter – **individuals need to contact the tree companies for proper permits and or county departments and or lawyers as they see fit**
- e. Someone donated a picnic table which is now at Archdale Hall
 - f. Residents have questions on fences located in the utility right-of-way. It is the owner's responsibility to remove and replace if necessary - **discussion about plats and 50 foot right of ways for roads. Roads are about 26' wide which leaves 12' on each side into a person's yard for usage of utilities companies**
 - g. Biggest question raised by a few residents is if someone can run a business from their home, especially if it causes a disturbance. ACA has no control over this, but private residents do, if they choose to. They can file noise complaints with DC Sheriff's Office or consult their covenants and restriction for violations, which would require legal action on their part to enforce. - **Check website for information of county departments contacts. Again, educate yourself or check with lawyers about your concerns on covenants and restrictions- ACA does not enforce and is not responsible for these. ACA maintains the Blvd. and common areas. Talked about Pond at back of neighborhood- Dorchester County not enforcing tax collections or upkeep as long as water passes to river. Discussed solicitor's – please refer them to the sign in front of neighborhood - no solicitation and ask them to leave**
6. Neighborhood Watch – Deneen Sorenson
- a. Update on latest meeting. - **Restated individual safety rules and commonsense safety tips. Meetings on Old Dominion every other month- will be on reader board**
7. ACA Bylaws Review & Public Comments – John Trinkl
- a. Bylaws shared with ACA members in March
 - b. Summary of Comments:
 - i. Resident asked for clarification between bylaws and covenants
 - ii. Another resident pointed out the difficulties involved in trying to establish one set of covenants for Archdale vs the ten in place now. The same resident requested clarification as to what ACA was trying to turn Archdale into
 - iii. A third resident requested clarification on the changes between the old and proposed new bylaws, which was provided by our Treasurer. The same resident then commented Sec 4.06 Quorum and Sec 4.08 Voting.
 - 1. Based on their comment on Sec 4.06, the Board is suggesting that the current language be replaced with "The total of ten (10) Members present at any properly announced meeting will constitute a quorum at such meeting." This language is in the current bylaws.
 - iv. A final resident commented on how residents vote and suggested absentee or online voting or other nights of the week so maybe more people could attend to prevent the "few running the many".
 - c. **ACA members will be voting on the bylaws, 2023 ACA budget, and board members at the November meeting**

Public Comments

Diane Linker announced the Congressional voting district for Archdale 1 and 2 is now District 6 under Jim Clyburn -please check your voting registration and voting ballots for the June 14th primaries

Question- when will business be able to be on ourarchdale website? – TBA

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at time by John Trinkl. The next General meeting will be at 7p on 8/18/22, in the meeting room at NCFD Station 8.

Minutes submitted by: Rhonda Sweatman and John Trinkl

Approved by: Membership at 08/18/22 General Meeting