Archdale Civic Association

General Meeting

Minutes

 8/21/2025

**Opening**

The ACA General Meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm on 8/21/2025 at the at North Charleston Fire Department Station 8 by Marty Besancon, ACA President.

## Present

From the sign-in sheets

## Introduction of Special Speaker on Crime Prevention

## Dorchester County Sheriff Representative, Lt. Mitchell. Lt. Mitchell, was introduced then gave his presentation on Crime Prevention. He reviewed the crime statistics in our neighborhood for the last three months and said we are a low crime neighborhood. He spoke to residents about the recent rash of crimes, 13 vehicles broken into in our neighborhood and stated four adults were arrested earlier in the day. The group also hit another neighborhood the same night. Lt. Mitchell talked about different crimes and what to do in the situation. He told attendees to lock vehicles, do not leave belongings in vehicles, stay in your home if someone is outside, don’t go outside to confront, use a weapon if someone gets inside your home, keep FOB key inside the house away from door, use motion detector lights, keep outdoor lights on for better security video, be an attentive or noisy neighbor, report suspicious behavior.

## Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the 5/15/2025 General Meeting were presented for approval (online **www.OurArchdale.com/aca)**. Dianne Linker made a motion, 2nd Charles Besancon.  Call of the Motion all approved. No Nays.

## Membership drive: 353 paid members.

## Treasurer’s Report

1. The Treasurer’s year-to-date report (available handout and online following the meeting.)
* Savings $38,665.16 as of 7-31-25.
* Checking $17,986.71 as of 8-21-25 with more checks to deposit not included in this amount.
* Actual collections YTD $20,415.00.
* Actual spent YTD $8,538.63.
1. Tax Filing Update – Rhonda Sweatman, ACA Treasurer sends a monthly email to the accountants for an update and get back an email about every third month stating ‘will work on”.
2. Membership Drive Update - 353 paid members.
3. At our May General Meeting, the membership approved moving some of our funds at South State Bank into either a CD or Money Market at our bank. Angelika Dorsch-Bruckner, VP ACA, checked the rates and the board made the recommendation of CD’s as they are paying better interest than Money Market accounts at this point. The President opened the floor to discuss the amount of money the membership wants to put in CDs. The membership stated they wanted the board to make that decision. All agreed by common consent. No nays.

## Old Business

1. Administrative/Neighborhood Update

1. Website Business & Services listing and Facebook Updates.
	* Vice President Angelika stated she has added several pages on the website for quarterly events.
	* Membership listing has been updated.
	* ACA Facebook page: She is reviewing the questions for people who want to join ACA Facebook to see if clarification of wording is needed on who can join.
	* Angelika gave an update on Steven Hennenberry who wants to do the 3D web rendering of the history of Archdale Hall. He is making progress and plans to give an update and presentation at the General Meeting in November.
2. President Marty updated the Welcome Letter for new homeowners. The letter is being mailed out each month to new home owners. A sample of the letter was available for review.
3. Dorchester Road Widening Public Meeting. Board member Jodi gave an update on the public meeting of the Dorchester Road Widening project. Jodi told the county representative that she is glad we are getting sidewalks because there is a Kidney Dialysis Center at Dorchester and Archdale boulevard and folks in wheelchairs cannot get to bus stop across the street. The representative said please write this down and they will determine if something can be done about it. Marty also attended the public meeting and distributed copies of the handouts for the membership to review. Long arial photos extended the length of numerous tables depicting the overlay of the road, sidewalk, shared use path, landscape, interchanges and other details. Our part of the construction will not be until 2028.
4. Dorchester County Code Enforcement has provided a phone number (843-832-0015) for Commercial Truck parking violations that occur on weekends and after business hours. Trucks cannot park for longer than one hour in a residential neighborhood.

2. Budget Surplus Funds 2024 – (ACA Budget Surplus Funds 2024 for Neighborhood Improvement Projects and a Map of

 Archdale Neighborhoods with numbered Common Areas were distributed.)

1. Update on Projects since last General Meeting:

Charles Besancon reported the repairs to the Archdale subdivision entry sign are completed. He worked with Don Emerson and Ted Hucks to frame the top, sides, and front of the sign with treated lumber to repair the decayed wood. The entire sign was painted black to match the street signs, and the lettering was repainted white. Marty noted the blue Neighborhood Covenants sign was removed from the back of the entry sign. It is an important sign that needs to be reviewed and replaced with a black and white sign to match our new signs. There is an additional blue Neighborhood Covenants sign on the Archdale Landing sign that needs to be removed. The small web address sign was also removed from the entry sign and disregarded as we now have a large web address sign under the Reader Board. To finish cleaning up the Archdale entry sign, a large bush needs to be removed from one side of the sign as the bush on the other side is missing. Ted Hucks reported on the poor condition of the Reader Board Frame. He coordinated with Don Emerson to make new frames. Don reported on the repair. He purchased kiln dried wood and made a new frame. The Plexiglas had to be replaced, estimated cost of $176. The sign was repainted, and all repairs are complete. Marty Reported on the Parking Signs previously approved for Archdale Hall. The board has decided to purchase two signs soon and will purchase more if needed. A copy of the sign was available for review. Marty reported AT&T has offered to reimburse ACA for our last order of Asiatic Jasmine Est. $60 to replace the plants that were destroyed during the fiber installation on the island at the entrance of Mansfield Boulevard AT&T emailed notice that the reimbursement check has been sent by mail. The plants have been ordered and replanted by volunteers.

1. Next Step Neighborhood Improvements Projects:

Marty reviewed the next steps. Since we shifted to seasonal grass cutting of the large common areas, we now have money for neighborhood improvement projects in common areas in every neighborhood and we have been able to save money to put towards a new Archdale entry sign. The blue Neighborhood Covenants sign that was removed from the back of the Archdale entry sign during repairs needs to be reviewed and replaced as it contains important information for all homeowners. We will wait until the next General Meeting in November to review the wording and replace it with a black and white sign to match the new signs. We will remove the second Neighborhood Covenants sign in Archdale Landing. The two picnic tables we purchased last year for Archdale Hall does not provide enough seating for community events. Marty recommended purchasing 3 additional picnic tables for approx. $150 each. Dianne Linker made a motion, 2nd Jodie Smith.  Call of the Motion all approved. No Nays.

Neighborhoods are working on sign repairs for the Brookshire neighborhood sign and the two small Stirling Forest neighborhood signs. The signs look terrible and need to have the wood portions replaced.  A review of the budgeted funds and the estimated costs indicated the repairs for each sign may be an additional $300. The membership agreed by common consent to the additional repair costs. We will have the funds to complete these neighborhood improvements as not all neighborhoods are working on improvements that will be done this year. We will continue to work on other neighborhood improvements projects in common areas as neighborhoods get involved. Common Area #6 in Archdale Landing is not being taken care of, if we have enough volunteers, it would be nice to plant low maintenance landscape before the planting season ends.

3. Volunteer and Event Announcements

a. Quarterly Event Quarterly Event – Debrief Neighborhood Fun Day, Sat. June 14th, 9:30am – 12 pm

The Facebook and Reader board promotions were well done. We received positive comments by those in attendance. More people attended our second year. The scavenger hunt was a great success and Kinga Bryant stated she might do something similar for our December event. Deneen Sorensen scheduled a food truck which served lunch. Sales were limited due to the short time frame and perhaps the heat, we’ll need to evaluate for next year. The only tables and chairs were the picnic tables and the ones Charles and Marty transported from home. It was not enough seating. Three other families used to provide tables and chairs for community events but for various reasons are no longer able to do so. We need three more picnic tables to accommodate people attending community events

## New Business

1. Quarterly Event – Prep for Community Yard Sale, Sat., Sept. 13th, 8am-1pm Information was provided on the

 upcoming Yard Sale. Participants were encouraged to sign up on the web to participate or contact Marty for more

 information.

2. Nomination to fill any ACA Board Vacancies. We currently have two Board Vacancies. If you know anybody that

 would like to run for board, let us know. Elections will be held at the next General Meeting in November. We also

 welcome anyone interested in helping the board without serving on the board, especially someone willing to help

 with Quickbooks or technical skills.

3. Proposed Donation Fees for use of Archdale Hall: AT&T was granted use of Archdale Hall for two days to update

 neighbors of the fiber upgrade. They asked for an additional date. Angelika proposed to the board that we ask for

 donations for any future business requesting to have an event at Archdale Hall in order to avoid any appearance of

 endorsement of a business. Proposed minimum donation amounts: $100 for a business, $50 for non-ACA member, S25 for an ACA member. The board agreed to add the recommendation to the August General Meeting Agenda.

 Angelika led the discussion on the recommendation. After clarifying an indemnity or liability clause will be included

 and that the donation does not apply for residents general use of Archdale Hall, Angelika made a motion to approve, second by Dianne. All approved, no nays.

**Public Comments**

1. A comment was made about lighting for neighborhood. Jody is going to a county meeting to look into getting

 lights.  The broken light at Mansfield is going to be fixed according to Dominion.

**Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned at time by Marty Besancon. The next General Meeting is scheduled for Thurs.,

North Charleston Fire Department Station 8 on 11/20/2025 at 7:00 pm.

Joe Friend, Secretary Archdale Civic Association