

Northern Henrico Civic Association
January 8, 2019
7:00 p.m.

President, Dr. Delta Bowers called the meeting to order at 7:14 p.m. following attendees partaking of food and refreshments. She welcomed everyone to the new year of 2019. We opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of the United States of America.

Dr. Bowers commented on the following items:

- Welcome back to Mark Ballos, Zoning Inspector and to Officer Gough, Henrico Police Department.
- Mr. Christopher Christian was welcomed as the new VP in charge of Building and Operations. We need to work to improve and maintain the facility.
- Costs were reduced in the area of insurance and landscaping. Insurance premiums cut by approximately \$1,000 with same coverage. Landscaping contract cost was reduced by over \$1,000 by changing the intervals for service.
- Review of the HVAC system by 2 companies concluded that we do not need a new system at this time. However, we need to continue to build the Capital Campaign fund as there will be the need for a new HVAC in the near future.
- We have secured a contract with The VA Repertory Theater and CATS; all rental fees are up to date at this time.
- We need to define who we are as a Civic Association and solicit support of all participants. Our community is strategically located, but needs improvement.
- We would like to be more aggressive with the County to make needed infrastructure improvements such as water leaks, increase property values, establish a strong shopping center and continue to improve education in the area to help define who we are in the County. We are a jewel in location: 3 golf courses, access to the main highways and are close to downtown Richmond. We want signage to make sure people know we are a family here in Northern Henrico. Dr. Bowers also noted that there will be sharing of some specific improvement ideas with the body once they have been fine-tuned with advisors.

Review/Approval of Minutes

Minutes of the 11/13/2018 meeting were approved as presented with a motion by Friend Wells and a second by Lisa Walker. Motion carried.

NHCA New Business

Security

Officer Gough provided the following information:

- Incidents in the 500 block of Diane Lane where there was a tv stolen and a fire
- 7900 block of Tamarind Lane a package was taken
- 1200 block of Wilkinson Road a swindle/larceny occurred
- 900 block of Ironingon Rd where an ID theft occurred

Questions were raised and Officer Gough responded accordingly. *What is being done with parking in the wrong direction?* At this time nothing is being done; the school has requested leniency. A request was made to have the area patrolled and this looked at specifically. *Safety concern about the school buses crossing Parham Rd at St Charles. It is felt that that is an accident waiting to happen.* An evaluation was conducted and it was determined that the intersection does not warrant a light. *A member recommended that the buses take a different route.* Officer Gough suggested that the Association pose the recommendation to the school. *Suspicious situation of neighbor being bothered as she was trying to enter her house.* Officer Gough reminded everyone to make sure you have your keys in your hand and ready before getting to your door and have good lighting.

Concern was raised regarding increased panhandling at street lights. Nothing can be done about pedestrians panhandling in the median as long as they don't enter the road. At the end of January the County will be making a count of the homeless. There are no homeless shelters in Henrico. Moments of Hope Ministry gives out food, clothes, and fixes bicycles at the Food Lion at Brook Hill Azalea Shopping Center on the weekends. *How does a resident keep informed regarding all the activity in the community?* Officer Gough noted that public crime data is available for the types of calls in the area on the Henrico County Police website. Mr. Christian noted that there is an app called Neighbors that shows what's going on in the neighborhood more specifically. Officer Gough was thanked for her assistance.

Community

Mr. Mark Ballos was glad to be back in the Department of Community Revitalization as Zoning Inspector, after a short term in a different position in the department. He reported on and addressed concerns. In regards to leaves in yards and along streets, there is no leaf ordinance in the County. Virginia Center Commons Shopping Center is continuously fined for not maintaining the property. Road fees are being handed out to hopefully improve the parking lot. Paving is being done but the contractor has pulled out because they haven't been paid. Possibility of an Adult Day Care at the old Azalea Mall site. Macy's building at VCC has been purchased but no idea of what is going to be done there at this time.

Eric Leabo is the community liaison. He will check to see what can be done to make the area nicer. Contact information was requested.

Member reported a house on Diane Lane that needs help with a broken garage door. It was reported that John Butler has been following up with the daughter of the elderly resident. Mr. Ballos recommended checking a rehabilitation program. Member Lisa Walker recommended Agency on Aging, Delisa Turner Coordinator, the Catholic Church and Operation Paint Brush. Thank you to Mr. Ballos.

Community and County Initiatives

Lisa Walker provided an overview of the water line replacement process happening in Chickahominy Bluffs. This will be on going in other areas of the neighborhood but no time line known as of now. They are doing a good job so far, they start around 9:00 am and leave by 4:00 pm. Workers are very respectful, will knock on the door to notify that the water is being turned off. They dig in your yard to put in new pipes and then return to hook up the new install.

In some cases, the driveway may be blocked for up to 2 hours. They will let you know ahead of time as to what is going on.

Houses are being used for AirBNB rentals. Regulations are being developed as to – registering of properties, contact information, state codes about the length of time, 30 days a year, define, short term rental, hosted visit, etc. Meeting in the County building will be held on January 10, at 7:00 pm for more information about short term rental of residential property for BNB.

OLD BUSINESS

Marketing

Dr. Bowers reported use of website is available. This is the Association's primary means of communication.

Building and Grounds Update

Chris Christian, new Vice President of Building Operations, announced that he is eager to learn and work in his role.

Membership Drive

Ms. Carmen Daughtery reported no new members since last meeting. Recommended a competition to encourage new members. Have the new member tell who referred them with a gift to the person who makes the most referrals. 184 members at this time; last year we had 217. Membership cards would be nice, as they are available. We are looking to get some discounts associated with the card. Suggested that we attach a copy of the membership application with the email. Friend Wells will include the appeal and application in his next mailing.

Treasurer's Report

Mr. Phillip Kirby reported that as of 12-31-18 we had \$17,408.41 on hand with Capital Campaign funds raised from 2016-2019 of \$3,562.50.

- At this time we are receiving \$1500 month from CATS and it is coming in on time.
- We have new light fixtures in the building. Install services were donated; association provided a \$100 for each as a gratuity.
- Landscaping now \$305.83 month saving \$1,052 annually. Services are the same. Changes in the amount of hours and labor cost to cut down on the landscaping costs.
- Insurance went down from \$2,500 to \$1,100 annually with same coverage.
- Our non-profit status continues and the paperwork is submitted annually.

Thanks to Mr. Kirby

50/50 raffle

Total of \$33 to be shared. The winner was Mr. Ballos who donated it back to the organization.

Suggestions/Wish List

President Bowers posed starting the meeting at 6:30 pm instead of 7:00 pm. Motioned by Chris Christian and seconded by Joyce Newsome to change the meeting time to 6:30 p.m. Motion carried. The signs, website and fliers will be changed accordingly.

Discussion was held regarding residents converting to gas heating. The more people interested, the lower the cost to install the line.

Underground cables have been installed in some communities. Streets have been repaved only in the areas where the lines are installed instead of the whole street.

Residents would like to have a walking trail and a dog park.

Solar lighting on NHCA sign needs adjusting to make sign more legible.

Election of Appointed VP of Building Operations

Motioned by Joyce Newsome and seconded by Phyllis Washington to officially approve Chris Christian to the position of Vice President of Building Operations. Motion carried.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Deborah Norris, Secretary
Phyllis Washington, Assistant Secretary