

Northern Henrico Civic Association Meeting
March 12, 2019
Minutes

Welcome/Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:36 p.m. by President Dr. Delta Bowers.

Dr. Bowers announced her intention to run for the Henrico County Board of Supervisors in the Fairfield District. She noted that she is looking to improve the growth and development in the area. Crime has been minimal in our neighborhood and we aim to keep it that way. Remember to inform the police and community if problems arise. She stated that water lines are being replaced in certain areas and not others. A conversation with Public Works indicated that this is due to budgetary restraints. This is not being made clear to the residents and the residents have concerns. She plans to stand by the residents of Northern Henrico and make changes on their behalf. She wants the County to know the assets of Northern Henrico and showcase its positive attributes. Dr. Bowers stated that after being at the corner of St. Charles and Parham Road there is a concern for safety at that intersection. A light is needed there. She wants to be able to address the above issues and more from the inside of government. Dr. Bowers plans to remain the president of the NHCA. There are plans for a fund raiser at her home for the upcoming election. Dr. Bowers will submit her candidate package by next week. She is asking for support of the Association.

Community: Members stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Review/Approval of Minutes: The minutes of January 8, 2019 were reviewed silently. Motioned by Joyce Newsome and seconded by Bill Schmidt that minutes be approved as presented. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Phillip Kirby, Treasurer distributed and reviewed the Financial Report for the period ending 2/28/19. The balance reflected \$17,028.78 cash on hand. Mr. Kirby was thanked for his services. Motioned by Marvin Tart and seconded by Joyce Newsome that the report be approved as presented. Motion carried

New Business

Community Maintenance: Mark Ballos, County Zoning Inspector, reported the following:

- County Community clean-up scheduled for March 23 thru November 2, 2019. Mr. Ballos handed out a schedule of dates for the neighborhoods.
- Brochures for community services were made available for attendees. *Volunteer Assistance Program* is available to qualifying persons 62 or older, serious mental or health condition, single parent with a child under 12 and who do not have family members to help with such tasks as yard cleaning, moving trash and debris to curb, etc. The Program works with churches and can link folks who need help together. *Operation Paintbrush* recruits volunteers to paint homes for qualified citizens. Monetary donations are sought to help purchase supplies. *REAP* is a senior real estate tax exemption

program that is available if you own your property outright, \$75,000 or less income and less than \$400,000 in the bank for your household. *Code Enforcement*, under Community Maintenance enforces environmental and zoning ordinances which apply to both commercial and residential properties.

- Collection of bagged leaves has ended, however vacuuming remains in effect for a \$30 fee. Public Works is responsible for addressing leaves being raked into the road.
- Street sweeping machine is around at different times to clean the streets. Neighbor expressed appreciation for the service.
- Re: the Days Inn Hotel on Chamberlayne, it is rumored that a permit is in the works to demolish two rear buildings.
- There is no update on the O'Reilly lot at Brook and Wilkerson.
- Concern on Diane Lane re: a truck parked in a curve causing a blind spot which is a danger to traffic and walkers. Mr. Ballos will make a note to discuss with person.
- Question was asked about how long a commercial dumpster could remain on a property. The dumpster is allowed throughout the time limit of the building or renovation permit.
- Concern about dogs on a property causing a terrible odor from feces. Mr. Ballos noted that the ordinance states that no more than three dogs are allowed on a property. Mr. Ballos will get the information and look into that situation.
- County Ordinance has been passed to track vacant houses. This makes it easier to go after the owner and foreclose on the houses with no water or electricity. More information is forthcoming.

Mr. Ballos was thanked for his assistance. His contact number is (804) 291-6112.

County and Community Initiatives

Stanley Homes: Jeremy Swink reported on the construction of quality homes in back of the Brook Run Shopping Center. Mr. Swink spoke about building neighborhoods to help improve communities. 11 sales completed to date. House prices range \$199,999+ at 1500+ sq. feet. Mr. Diaz commented that the cost of the houses is too low compared to other houses in the area. This will only lower other property values. Mr. Swink noted that Stanley Homes is trying to pull people out of rentals into ownership, trying to give young families the opportunity of buying a home. Question was asked about the possibility of a tenant for the Martins Store property. Mr. Swink hopes that there will be growth in the shopping center but does not know anything specific at this time. Stanley Homes has a good relationship with property management.

Stanley Division President, who accompanied Mr. Swink, stated that they are trying to bring new homes to the market; that there are lots of interests in the area for community building. They are building 126 homes. There will be a park in the area, a green area, and a playground area. There will not be a pool because it is an extra cost to the homeowner and/or the HOA. Mr. Ballos stated that there has to be roads and sidewalks in these communities. The County has passed guidelines that community/builders have to maintain these infrastructures. It was

stated that this area was an eyesore and we could not get anyone to improve it or move on it. Now it is being revitalized.

National Night Out, Tuesday, August 6, 2019: Bill Schmidt, Event Coordinator, reported on Nextdoor Neighbor website there was a picture of last year's Night Out event. 250 people attended the different sites last year. We need a committee to plan for the upcoming event. An appeal was made and a form passed for volunteers. Please, sign up.

OLD BUSINESS

Marketing: Dr. Bowers reported that NHCA's website is updated; minutes are uploaded after each meeting. Annual letters will be sent out soon. Friend Wells, community real estate agent, sends out a monthly newsletter and includes information about the Association. Mr. Wells was thanked for that inclusion.

Dr. Bowers read a letter regarding the installation of a water main. At this time 32,000 linear feet of water main has been contracted for installation in identified communities.

NHCA Building & Grounds Update: Christopher Christian, VP Building Operations Mr. Christian replaced light bulbs, an exit sign, and will work with Capital Landscaping to improve the look of the building and grounds. Signage lighting will be updated at the Association Building. There will be signage put up for Wildwood Neighborhood. Stanley Homes will help with that signage. Ms. Hicks will speak with the parties involved, Mr. Schmidt and Mr. Diaz.

Membership Drive: Carmen Daugherty, VP Membership Ms. Daugherty reported that we have 3 additional memberships since last meeting. Friend Wells will announce the membership drive in his next mailing. At this time we have 187 members which is 30 less than last year. Mr. Swink stated that Stanley Homes can include the Association membership in the home sales.

Motioned by Bill Schmidt that membership drive contest will continue if we get 50 new members by May; if not, extend the membership drive to September. Seconded by Ken Walker. Motion carried.

Fundraisers (50/50) Drawing

1 st The War Room DVD	Joyce Newsome
2 nd Thermal lunch bag	Deborah Norris
3 rd Living Courageously book	Gaye King
4 th Thermal lunch bag	Carmen Daugherty
5 th Becoming book	Mel Brown
50/50 - \$20	Carmen Daugherty (donated back to Association)

Special Note: Some winners whose names were drawn returned their prizes to the pool.

"Anything for the good of the order"

Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, *Deborah Norris, Secretary*