

Minutes

Sherwood Forest Neighborhood Association Quarterly Meeting

May 10, 2011

6:30 p.m., Sherwood Forest Presbyterian Church

Welcome:

Ed Tilden welcomed everyone in attendance. Everyone introduced themselves and where they live in the neighborhood. There were 17 members in attendance (see attached sign-in sheet).

Treasurer Update:

Account Balance is \$1,699.52. No outstanding bills. Monthly CANDO maintenance of \$30/month is the only current financial obligation.

Guest Speaker:

Bill Kunze, owner of Jungle Taming, provided an informational presentation on "How to make your garden beautiful." He provided contacts and informational handouts as well as many helpful suggestions on yard maintenance.

Old Business:

Minutes from the February 8, 2011 meeting were approved by members in attendance.

Membership Drive:

Lewis Kirk and Melanie Johnson provided updates on the membership drive. It is still in progress. Some neighbors have been joining as a result of the drives.

Yard Sale Update:

Neighborhood Yard Sale is still scheduled for May 14, 2011 from 8 am – 1pm. Mark Herring announced that items could be dropped off at the church to be sold with funds going toward a church project. Tables would also be available at the church if residents wanted to set up a table. Lewis Kirk provided information that individual permits are required by the city if residents had a yard sale at their house. They would need to pick up a permit for \$5.00 from the city.

New Business:

Social Committee:

Ashley Norton announced a neighborhood block party is scheduled for Memorial Day, May 30, 2011 from 4 – 7 pm. Kalmia will be blocked off at the 5-way stop. Bring a covered dish, drinks and chairs.

Arboretum Foundation Update:

Ed Tilden provided information on the Friends of the Arboretum Foundation. It has been started to assist with Arboretum maintenance expenses. Normal foundation individual membership is \$10. Dr. DeCoursey has agreed to give SFNA members a discount membership of \$5 if paid in conjunction with SFNA annual dues.

Questions were asked as to the difference between this and the existing fund for the Arboretum managed by USC. Ed was going to follow-up with Pat DeCoursey to get clarification on the two funds.

Updated information from Dr. DeCoursey on May 11th:

The new Friends of the Belser Arboretum Society received its legal status in February 2011. We have been so busy at the Arboretum, keeping up with the unprecedented growth of trees, shrubs and WEEDS! for the past month that I really haven't had time to organize or publicize the Friends Society. The sole mission of the Friends Society is to support the restoration, maintenance, and programs of the Belser Arboretum. Like most other Friends Societies (Friends of the Columbia Philharmonic Orchestra, Friends of the Columbia Museum of Art, etc.), the Friends of the Belser Arboretum Society is an independent legal charitable entity with its own Board of Directors and has no connection with the University of South Carolina.

Since the annual dues for the Friends of the Belser Arboretum are truly nominal, we don't view this as a money generating entity. Rather, we hope that those joining Arboretum Friends will become enthusiastic and involved in the running of the Arboretum: helping as volunteers on committees, as well as helping run the programs, etc. Special Arboretum programs will be offered to Friends as thank-you rewards.

The primary funding of the Arboretum still remains our two accounts at the USC Educational Foundation. All donations to the Arboretum made from 2006-2011 remain in those accounts and will continue to stay in those accounts for the indefinite future. The **Spendable Account** is quite small and consists of gifts from donors who wish their donation to be spent on the day-to-day running of the Arboretum (equipment, repairs, gas for the mowers, new projects such as The Orchard, or the new Electric Line to the Outdoor Classroom, etc.). The second fund, called the **Belser Arboretum Endowment Fund**, is a long term project to raise a half-million dollars or more in the coming years. The "corpus", which is invested by the Foundation in a portfolio, remains forever unspendable; only a specified aliquot of interest earned from the investment, equal to 4% of the corpus may be used for the Arboretum. The Endowment Account now contains approximately \$72,000. The driving force of the Endowment will be to provide the salary of a permanent Manager for the Arboretum. The Manager will work with the Arboretum Director in planning the growth and operation of the Arboretum. The Manager will carry out the physical activities for maintenance of the Arboretum (repairs to the facilities and trail, removal of dead or dangerous trees, pruning and planting, etc.) as well as the scheduling and running of the Arboretum programs.

Columbia Police Department Update:

Officers Baire and Mahon gave an update on crime in the area. The last quarter has been fairly calm with few incidences in this area. A new burglary division is being started by the CPD.

- The officers also provided a crime watch program update. If we would like to purchase signs, the city will install them. The phone number for the City sign department is: 803.545.3555. We no longer have to have 80% of the neighborhood houses surveyed.
- If any peddlers come to the door soliciting they must have a Peddler's License for the City of Columbia. Neighbors should ask to see it to verify they are a legitimate vendor. If any criminal activity is observed please call 252.2911. Officer Baire's cell phone number is: 803.509.0544 and his e-mail address is: trbaire@columbiasc.net

SCE&G Gills Creek Substation Update:

Ed Tilden provided an update on the Gill's Creek Substation. Everything was approved for SCE&G to build the substation on Rosewood. They made modifications to make it less noticeable and blend better with the surrounding areas.

Adopt a Highway Trash Pick-Up:

Ed Tilden announced the trash pick-up is to be held on Saturday, May 21, 2011. Meet at Brad Painter's house at 9:00 am. Coffee and doughnuts will be provided.

The meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Rhett Bailey, Treasurer.

SIGN IN PLEASE!

5/10/2011

ED TILDEN

Karen & Mac Road

MARK HEWING

Kelly Skatson

Valerie Marcel

Samuel Jacobs

Mawin Lare

Pat Lare

Melaine Matthews

Glenn Matthews

Sandra Kelly

HENRY NECHEMIAS

LEWIS KIRK

Rhett Briley

~~BUD TISSERAND~~

Polly Tilden

Ashley Norton

4040 Bloomwood Rd

4221 Blossom St

4321 Wilnot

4247 Wilnot

4 Robin Hood Ct.

Belser Arboretum

604 Athens Way

" " "

227 Kalmia Drive

227 Kalmia Drive

5 Robin Hood Ct

4 ROBIN HOOD CT

4000 Yale Ave

511 Kalmia Dr.

~~66 Poinsettia St.~~

4040 Bloomwood

321 Kalmia