

Sherwood Forest Neighborhood Association
Quarterly Meeting
August 13, 2025

Meeting called to order by Gail Wojtowciz, President.

Police Update: Sgt. Desrochers reported a downturn in crime in the overall area.

Guest Speakers:

Heather Bauer, SC State Representative

Rep. Bauer highlighted her emphasis on roads, sidewalks, and safety, getting funds for our district. It takes new money to be applied to sidewalk issues. This money does not come from SC DOT. Rep. Bauer stayed for the entire Quarterly Meeting.

SC Dept. of Transportation/

Focused on the impact of the 2017 Roads Bill, known as the "Gas Tax," with emphasis put on rural roads, paving, bridges, and interstates. Contact SCDOT.org for damage claims or maintenance issues. An effort is made to address pot holes within 48 hours. The Roadway Information System (RIS) identifies whether a road is state or locally maintained. The Connector E-Edition is a regular email newsletter.

Minutes/Susan Culler: The May 14 minutes were reviewed & passed.

Treasurer Report/Henry Nechemias: Current bank balance of \$2,223. Financial standing is good. The biggest concern is membership dues. Fifty households pay dues out of 270 in the neighborhood. A Membership Representative is needed.

Arboretum/Trey Franklin:

The arboretum has staff on the grounds almost every Saturday & Wednesday from about 9 or 10 a.m. until noon. If interested in volunteering, come out on a Saturday or Wednesday morning. They will connect and coordinate with you. Also, you can communicate at arboretum@SC.edu. Several groups such as the Midlands Master Naturalists continue to have events at the arb.

Upcoming events:

Bookclubs: Sundays, Sept. 7 - Sacred Nature, and Oct. 12 - The Feather Thief
Art in the Forest, by Artist Friends group.

Forest Friends/Valerie Mancil

Background work is being done concerning the Demonstration and Instruction Garden (DIG). Discussion revolved around enhancing our forest environment.

Artist Friends/Ron Hagel:

Gemini Arts has opened at 2847 Commerce Dr., Columbia. The current exhibit, Four Horsemen, is open 6 to 10 p.m. on Fridays, July 25 - Sept. 5 or by appointment.

Digital Platform/Ed Tilden:

Submissions for the Crier e-letter are due by Aug. 22.

VOTES REQUIRED:

By-Laws Revisions/Gail Wojtowicz. Revisions were explained. Henry made the motion to approve; Ron made the second to the motion. The by-laws were approved by a majority vote.

Business Friends/Pat Mason. Discussion was held to order 2-sided signs that will designate "Sherwood Forest Loves...." and complete by designating the name and identifying information of the individual business (True Pharmacy, Weaver Realty, etc). Soda City Smiles dentist office and Dunbar Funeral Home have become the newest Business Friends. Each business will be contacted individually to ask if they would like the sign, where to place it, and for how long. A motion to purchase the signs was approved by majority vote.

Gail will be making a 45 minute presentation about the history of Sherwood Forest at a gathering hosted by The Lourie Center. Also, Sherwood Forest will be nominated by the Columbia Council of Neighborhoods for Neighborhood of the Year.

Pickup Patrol/Dave Nelson:

Saturday, Aug. 16 is our next neighborhood pick up, beginning at 9:30 a.m.

Social Events:

** Note:As of the Nov, 2025 meeting, the Art in the Forest event has been rescheduled to March 15, 2025.

Annual Neighborhood Yard Sale. Sat, Nov.8. Cary Perry hosts this event to raise money for kids of incarcerated parents at Christmas. Last year funds were raised for 33 children at \$200 per child. The event is held at the home of Laura and Boyd Young, 4229 Wilmot Ave. There is the possibility that it will be moved to the ARP church where there is more space.

It was decided that the block captains give a notice to each home in their block about the yard sale. The SFNA is offering to pay the \$5 fee for any household that would like to have a yard sale of their own, coinciding with the one on Nov. 8th. This would increase the amount of foot traffic through the neighborhood, benefitting the Annual Yard Sale as well as individual ones. Interested households can sign up with Sign-Up Genius.

Halloween Street Party/ Violet Beets and Sarah Powers : Fri., Oct. 31, 5 - 7 pm on Kalmia.

12th Night/ hosted by Regina Monteith: Jan. 9, 2026 from 6 - 9 pm

SFNA Merchandise/Pat Mason:

Merchandise available to order on-line. Clothes and bumper stickers.

Gateway Signs/Gail Wojtowicz:

4 signs have now been installed with 2 more signs to be installed.

Future Speakers: possibly Cason Developers, Wheatly Library, and Sonoco Recycling.

The next General Meeting is Wed, Nov. 12 from 6:30 - 7:30 pm. The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 pm.

Persons in Attendance:

Gail Wojtowicz

Macie Boyd

Skosh Foreman

Polly & Ed Tilden

Valerie Marcil

Henry Nechemias

Susan D. Culler, secretary

Rachel & Shannon Davis

David Nelson

Boyd & Laura Young

Ron Hagel

Greg Dunbar

Cary Perry

Trey Franklin

Susan Culler

Connie Hudson

Pat Mason

