

11/26/2012 Membership Meeting Minutes

Welcome & Introductions: We are going to try a new system of having District Reps announce their members. District 1 Marcia O'Neal, District 2 Greg Lance, District 3 Kathy Hitchcox.

State of the First District – Nick Pavlis gave a report – We had the privilege of having Councilman Finbarr Saunders present as well. Nick made notice that we have great representation from the at large councilmen. Nick is happy about the vote about the pension. There was another ribbon cutting at Ijams, 30 new acres was added and it seems to keep growing. There is now 3 more additional miles that AMBC will be adding for trails. Dec 6th at South Doyle Middle School from 5-7 there will be a public meeting to talk about the James White Parkway Extension. There will be Q&A at 5:40 after a walk through. Nick mentioned that it had merit when it came about but since the last 10 years, South Knoxville has branded itself differently and now the extension appears to hinder that growth. We went from 10 to 60 miles of greenways. It is one of the largest industries in the country that is growing and we are tapping into it. The bridge has hurt the businesses and he believes that the extension will make that worse. The businesses are going to be ready to start when the bridge opens up. The AMBC is also giving so much sweat equity as well to keep up the trails which benefits South Knox. He is not for the extension. He would like to divert some of the money 1/3 of the money to make Chapman Hwy safer rather than to extend the JWP. There was a request if Nick would mind sending ribbon cuttings to our list serves? He said that he would. There was a question about when the next Coffee with the councilman would be? He said that it is Dec 29th, the last Saturday of the Quarter at the Round-Up from 9-11. There was a question about how the 30,000 dollar grant would be affected by the JWP extension? It was planned right beside it so it could still be done but it would not be pretty.

The history of Woodlawn Cemetery – Roe Lyle presenting: The cemetery has been in the family for many years. It was incorporated 1894 and he brought an official cemetery stamp. His great grandfather Calvin Ford started the cemetery. He said that Woodlawn Pike was the County Line. He brought photos for us to look at. His grandfather had an office in the Burwell Building downtown but it was so expensive that they built an office on the property and conducted business from there. 4 brothers ran the business with a few business investors. Robert McGinnis was going to present and he is an historian. Old Grey Cemetery is one of his favorites and has famous people in Knoxville. He had 1 photo of a funeral. Most of the marble came from Candoro Marble for the headstones. There was once an old Mausoleum that the family was not able to maintain so it had to come down. When the civic coliseum was being built, they found a cemetery and it needed to be moved. They were moved to Woodlawn Cemetery. It was thought that there might be 200 caskets. But after digging and digging, it went from 200 to 1200 caskets. Woodlawn Cemetery just kept digging into their hill to place the caskets. This was from East Hill Cemetery and there were probably some of the old settlers buried in there. Taking all of those caskets helped them to buy a backhoe and until then the graves were dug by hand. It used to take 4 people 4 hours to dig a hole for a normal grave. The backhoe was a big deal at that time. They are the only family owned cemetery in Knoxville. The rest are owned by conglomerates. There is a book on the history of the cemetery by Robert McGinnis. There are photos in it as well.

Police Report – Officer Roark – He said to use email rather than voicemail now, but if there is an emergency, call 911. DRoark@cityofknoxville.org If there are suspicious people, call 911. They will check it out and they can pick up people if things are going on. Calls are prioritized so the police might not get there right away, but they will get there. Sam Duff Park Bike officers can now work the parks and the greenways. There are officers assigned to the parks. Burglaries are up with the holidays coming. South Knoxville has gotten pretty bad. There is a guy stealing jewelry. Put your Christmas presents away, do not have them out. The criminals will steal for their families if there is stuff that is out

and within view. Purse snatchings skyrocket around the holidays. Suicides also go up. There have been 3 since the last meeting. Metal prices went way down and now they are going up so be aware and put your things up.

Secretary's report – Approved by consent

Treasurer's Report – $339.50 + 206.00 = 545.50$ (191.18 for WHoSW) and the rest is for SWNA. Kat made a motion to approve. Marcia 2nd. Approved unanimously.

Frank Adams – He spoke about his ideas to help around the community – He gave a story about cemeteries and wanted to make mention of the people who dug the graves. He gave them honor as honor was given to those who were killed as well. (He was speaking of Kennedy in particular) He has a suggestion to thank the groups of civil servants that live and or work in our neighborhood. For instance, Postal workers. He discussed some of the issue that were going on with that were holding the postal service back currently. The pension plan has to be paid in full in advance and this is not normal. This is in the billions of dollars and the Post office is losing money. They are slowly shifting work from underutilized office. 1/3 of the offices were closed in Johnson City and transferred here with no extra pay for it. We would like to find a way to thank them for the service that they provide. It is a big business in our neighborhood. He has drafted a letter of thanks to make a copy to give to their postal person or at the post office when they go in. Elizabeth Kirby is the manager in our south office and her number is 573-4871. She declined to speak in public but she was appreciative that we are thinking of them. Janice will mail out the letter with EKs number. Put the letter with cookies for them or on the flag. We all agreed that Dec is to be our Thank –Our-Postal-Worker month.

WHoSW update: There will be a meeting Dec 2nd 6:30, location to be announced.

Retreat update ReCap – Handouts were passed around and everyone was asked to read it and get back with us to see if we are on the right track. Janice went over the purpose and mission. She asked if there was anything else the group would like to do more of, differently, etc. She mentioned that we are going to stop doing the newsletters quarterly. We are going to do an annual newsletter and postcards on the other 3 quarters. Janice asked for a Vote for Heavy Hors d'ouvers for food for January's outreach meeting totaling \$60.00. Marcia made the motion, Debbie Seconded. It was approved unanimously. Circle meeting in March – so we can talk and the elections will be at the end during business. Janice mentioned that Leadership can be open if anyone wants to step in and run for the spot. We went over the next year's agenda and people were receptive.

We mentioned that welcome packets are available – Danny has new neighbors and he will take one.

Announcement – TDoT Meeting: JWP Dec 6 5:30 – South Doyle Middle School

South Waterfront Form Code Administration in the City of Knoxville – Thursday the November 29th at 5:30 pm

South Knoxville Residential Group – Representatives are needed. If anyone is interested they can let Janice know.

There was a discussion on how there are so many groups in South Knoxville and some are doing the same thing. SKNBC might be that but there appears to be a great issue with SKNBC not being open to others to even be able to speak. We need to look at this further and open the discussion for South Knoxville to be more efficient, work better and to be what it was meant to be. South Knoxville

apparently has more than most, but keeping in mind that as David Massey said, smaller groups are more intimate and work better. A further discussion is needed with maybe Nick, David, Janice and SKNBC members as well as SKR Board too.

The meeting adjourned at 8:45