

A meeting of the Neighborhood Associations was held on **February 20, 2019 at 10:00 a.m.** at City Hall in the Planning Department's first floor conference room, 1911 Boundary Street. In attendance were the Neighborhood Association Representatives and City Staff.

RECONSTRUCTION ERA NATIONAL MONUMENT – SCOTT TEODORSKI, SUPERINTENDENT

Scott Teodorski introduced himself. Mr. Teodorski said he was here last year as the acting Superintendent and now has been promoted to superintendent permanently. Mr. Teodorski went over what is happening and what the National Parks means. He said its been in the news and not sure which name will be picked, but it won't affect the park itself. We are working on getting the park operational and opening the visitors center with Rangers who can educate people. We are also working on getting the facilities in good shape through restoration. He mentioned the blue book that you can collect stamps from each park. Mr. Teodorski talked about why communities need National Parks. In 1861, enforcements came into Beaufort and the big reason why this park site came to Beaufort is because of the community. Beaufort can tell their story via National Parks. We manage four reconstruction areas: The Arsenal, Penn Center and the Brick Baptist Church which was built by slaves in 1855 and where Emancipation Proclamation was read in 1861; and the site of Camp Sacks site sits in the middle of the Navy Hospital and we are trying to get access. Other reconstruction areas are at the Robert Smalls House and the Tabernacle on Hilton Head. Mr. Teodorski said this Friday they will start tours and will start operating soon with volunteers. He said regarding legislation, as things happen and/or change he will let everyone know.; won't change how the parks are maintained. Mr. Teodorski handed out maps and brochures [see attached]. Mr. Teodorski asked if there were any questions. Dave Easton referred to the front page of the Gazette which had an appropriate article. Mr. Teodorski said if anyone is interested in coming to the park before we open, to call him. Resident asked how someone can become a volunteer. Mr. Teodorski said we currently have college students and teachers volunteering, but anyone can be a volunteer and we will provide the training. He said volunteers are critical. Sue Sagui asked when can people go on tours. Mr. Teodorski said starting this Friday, we will have tours starting at 10:00 am with tours being every hour until 2:00 p.m. The tour is about ¾ mile walk. He also mentioned they are on Facebook. Andy Roberts asked, "where do we meet for a tour". Mr. Teodorski said in front of the Arsenal.

NEWS FROM CITY STAFF AND STRATEGIC PARTNERS

Waste Pro, Jermaine Robinson, said, things are going well. He thanked Kay Merrill for inviting Waste Pro to their association meeting; it was great. He said Waste Pro is working on a refrigerator magnet that will have all the information on recycle and trash pickup and may have them at the next meeting. Barbara Chemsak commented that she has not seen the truck with the arms anymore and has seen drivers manually dumping the trash today. Mr. Robinson said we use the trucks with the arms more in the larger areas. Ms. Chemsak said she saw one on Ribaut Road. Mr. Robinson said the truck is better for this area. Dave Easton thanked Waste Pro and said his area is better now. Resident said he noticed when trucks pass, he is seeing a trail of liquid, and asked what is was. Mr. Robinson said for the future to look for the number

on the truck so he can determine which truck it is. We do check our trucks every morning he said. Bruce Skipper said it could just be simple leftover trash. Ms. McIntosh said she manages properties and asked if Waste Pro comes out to the circle at Cedar Grove. Mr. Robinson said, yes, we do. Mr. Easton commented that this is the most positive interaction he has seen.

The Greenery, Reynaldo Gonzalez, reminded the group to contact them if they would like to have a presentation at their association meeting. Mr. Gonzalez said they are going to the Old Commons meeting tomorrow.

Mr. Harvey asked what can be done when trash cans that are left out on sidewalks for at least two days. Mr. Meola said to let him know and he will make sure they are taken in the same night their trash is picked up.

Southern Palmetto Landscape, James Graham, said he is working on the Waterfront Park and getting it ready for the spring. The first part of March we will be trimming at the park and doing flower rotations. Also, we are doing our normal routine and trimming overgrown areas including near stop signs.

City Public Works Department, Neil Desai, said the bathrooms are arriving at the Washington Street Park today and anticipate a 2 week completion. This Saturday at Southside Park we will have volunteers, including the marines from Parris Island, help prep the park. Lt. Squires said the marines are from the Golf Company and are a great group. Mr. Desai said the musical theme being done at the Pigeon Point Park, for the younger children, is complete. Mr. Merrill said it looks very nice. Mr. Desai said Public Works is also working on preparing all the parks for spring. The Commerce Park maintenance was updated, too. Kevin Woodlock from Old Commons said there are a lot of trip hazards and mentioned the diamond grade. Mr. Desai, said he addresses sidewalks in the spring and contract them out. We looked at diamond grade, but this it's better for smaller areas. Mr. Woodlock commented that the Washington Street Park bathrooms will be great, although the grass is not kept as well as other parks. Mr. Desai said the City doesn't own this park. Bridges Preparatory uses it and they will be doing something to give back to the City. Ms. Sagui said she can talk to Mr. Woodlock more about the Washington Street Park after the meeting. Mr. Merrill asked about the bike trail coming into town. Mr. Desai said the connection will be from the Depot Road area to Bay Street. It is in the preliminary stage and he has not seen any plans yet. Ms. Merrill is concerned about the illuminating of the Bluff. Mr. Meola said there was a conceptual presentation months ago. Ms. Merrill asked if it was approved. Not yet, said Mr. Meola. Peggy Simmer said she a week and half ago she saw a survey crew and she'll get speak with someone for an update.

Resident asked Mr. Desai asked about the issue of the orange mushrooms fungi in his yard and how he can treat it. Mr. Desai said we had a lot of moisture this year and this is the outcome. He said the city did treat the areas in January and will continue to do so. Mr. Graham from Southern Palmetto said we applied a liquid in the Point Park and a glandular outside called "Eagle". It takes about two weeks to work. Resident said he tried to treat his yard but no luck. Mr. Graham recommended trying baking soda.

Lt. Squires asked about the Pigeon Point dock damage. Mr. Desai said it is all in the city **except** the ramp and we have called in to have the damage fixed.

Broad Street resident said there is a pothole near the Broad Street gate toward Battery Creek Road. Mr. Desai said he will look into it. Ms. Chemsak reminded the group that you can go to www.SCDOT.org and fill out a maintenance request form and they seem to have things fixed within days.

City Fire Department, John Robinson, Deputy Chief Administration, went over some valuable information:

Reserved firefighters – we started with 30 and we will have 11 of them graduate in March with a National Certificate. Orientation is going on in July with another group with 27 involved.

Smoke Alarm Program – this is going great! 50 -80 alarms have been installed each month. We've been consistent for the last three years. He reminded the group to call the Fire Department anytime to have one installed.

Training – we are training with Parris Island in March at their old airport.

New Fire Department – we are partnered with the County and Port Royal. Our firefighters were finally able to sleep in the station last night. We will have a grand opening for tours of the station soon. Resident asked if there is a formal christening for the new station. Deputy Chief Robinson said yes today at 1:00 pm all firefighters will help to physically push the fire truck into the station. Mr. Harrison asked how effective and feasible the solar panels on the Ribaut Road fire station are. Deputy Chief Robinson said he wasn't sure. Mr. Meola mentioned the touch screen computer in the Lobby of City Hall that allows you to see the statistics. Resident said the investment return on it is 9-10 years. Deputy Chief Robinson said it's hard to answer because there are many variables involved; very large project for the Fire Department.

City Police Department, Lt. Squires, reiterated how great these meetings are. He thanked the Fire Department for recently coming out to his treat his mom who had a heart attack and saved her life. Regarding the Police Department, he said they've had some retirements which created some promotions. We also have two new hires waiting to go to the academy. We have four in the academy now. Crime trends seems to be car break-ins in hotel parking lots. We are using a "bait" to get some caught. Recently we had some suspicious person incidents. One incident was in Pigeon Point where someone was knocking on doors to see if anyone was home. This person has been arrested. Ms. Merrill said a person in our neighborhood called 9-1-1. Lt. Squires said we had information and pictures that we were able to send to other areas to let them know. Ms. Merrill said it's important for the neighborhood to know they can be vigilant. Lt. Squires said there is an increase in shootings in the NWQ. We have arrested the main person involved and he will be in jail for a while. There is a check fraud scam going on, be aware. We are adding an officer to Beaufort Elementary School very soon. The crime watch meetings are active. The mentoring for youths is expanding. We are waiting on an agreement

to use the Greene Street Gym. Officers have been involved in the dance recently for special needs and was nice. Officers also have visited the nursing homes. Regarding the Beaufort Movie Club, we are looking for a new place since the Beaufort Plaza Theatre is no longer available. The Police Department had some vehicles that expired and now you will see officers in new Ford Explorers. We will be stepping up the patrol with the police boats. We are also going over our emergency plan. Regarding the Nixel App, we are on it, but we don't use it as much unless there is a threat. Lastly, the Police Department is looking into drones for the City. Ms. McIntosh commented that she really appreciated Officer Phelan emails. Lt. Squires said he does a good job of sending out emails to apartment complexes letting them know of incidents in their area.

Building Codes, Bruce Skipper, Building Official, reminded the group that Spring is coming and should check their flood insurance. He said there is nothing new regarding the flood maps and it will be at least 6 before months any adoption. He reminded the group to keep up with their smoke detectors and carbon dioxides. Also, clean around your outdoor heating and air units. And check handrails and guard rails. Make sure you get your permits.

Codes Enforcement, Ken Meola, said he nothing to report. We've been extremely busy and are shorthanded. He reminded the group to contact him with any issues.

Community Ombudsman, Peggy Simmer, said the Royal Oaks and Mossy Oaks Stormwater Drainage Trask Force Public update meeting will be February 27 at 12:00 noon in Council Chambers at City Hall. There will be a one hour presentation, followed by a one hour question and answer period. The Point will have their meeting in the fall. She reminded the group to join her email group. She said the Fire Department will come out and help with smoke detectors.

City Planning Department, Ken Meola, said he was here on behalf of David Prichard, who had another meeting. There are some new houses being submitted as well as commercial. Longhorn Steakhouse has officially been submitted and going through the permitting process. We have a lot of things in the works, but not submitted yet.

NEWS FROM THE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION REPRESENTATIVES

Northwest Quadrant Rep said their meeting is next Thursday, February 28 at 6:30 p.m. at the Presbyterian Fellowship Hall, located at the corner of North and Church Street. This will be a meeting and potluck covered dish dinner. We regrouped last month and it's all coming together. Ms. Sagui said we now have 36 official people to become members.

Pigeon Point, Kay Merrill, said they had great communication regarding the "rake" thief. She mentioned the ads in the plastic sleeves that are thrown on the driveways and said she battled with the company who distributes it because it's a violation of our ordinance. She put out two emails for all to unsubscribe, and it worked due to all of us sending an email. She offered information to anyone who is interesting in not having this either. Mr. Meola said if you have

and want the subscription it's okay, but if you don't have one, they are in violation of the ordinance.

Old Commons, Mr. Harvey , said all is going good and their meeting is tomorrow at 6:00 pm at the Wesley United Methodist Church's Education Building, located in the 800 block of Duke Street.

Ms. Merrill asked about the parking on the corner by the dorms. Mr. Meola said this is temporary parking while they are working on the full-time permanent parking. Ms. Merrill commented that the new parking is a block away and very dark at night. Mr. Meola said it is and it was what the Design Review Board (DRB) approved. Mr. Meola said, "I'm sure the security will be appropriately addressed". Lt. Squires said USCB now has a white security car with their seal on it.

Next Meeting is March 20, 2018

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 a.m.