

MINUTES
NOTICE BOARD MEETING
September 12, 2016
7:30 P.M.
Portner's Landing Community Room

Present: Howard Middleton, Matt Hennesey, Ernie Lehmann, Tom Soapes, Christa Watters, Roger Waud, Fran Zorn, Clarence Tong
Absent: Anne Olson

President Tom Soapes called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m.

Minutes: The minutes of the August 8 board meeting were unanimously approved.

Treasurer's Report/Membership: Treasurer Clarence Tong reported NOTICE has a bank balance of \$9263.91. Membership stands at 153 households and 223 individuals.

Plans for September Meeting: Roger will be out of town so Christa will do the flyer and arrange its distribution with information provided by Roger. The space at the Old Colony is reserved for September 22, with coffee and water to be provided; Fran will provide the other refreshments. Tom has reconfirmed speaker Mark Levine, our representative from the 45th District to the Virginia House of Delegates. Sign-in and social begin at 7 p.m., program at 7:30. Sergeant Sean Casey has also been invited. Clarence confirmed the room will have seats for 50, arranged auditorium style, and a podium. Clarence will do sign-ins and membership renewals; Matt will assist him. All board members are to arrive no later than 6:45 to help set up.

SAP Progress and Policy Statements: Tom said we need to re-emphasize the inclusion of block by block zoning in the final plan. We discussed the ongoing combined sewer outfall issue in Oronoco Bay and relating it to the Environmental Policy Commission's recommendation that the plan name Old Town North as an Eco-District. In discussing ways to proceed, the board talked about the possibility of the sanitation authority issuing bonds and asking Delegate Levine to pressure the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality to require cleaning up Outfall 001.

The board also discussed the concept of rebranding North Old Town, whether as an eco-district, an arts district, or focusing on different names, such as the historic Canal District, the Chimneys District to commemorate our more recent industrial use, or something else. We also talked about the potential doubling of the transmitter station and what that might mean, and staying focused on upcoming developments.

Web Site: Tom is working to clear up the issue of finding a new hosting company for the site as our old one has expired and Mansi cannot take us live without a functioning host. The most recent host company is not making this easy.

Annual Meeting Speaker: For the November 17 Annual Meeting, several names were suggested as possible speakers. After discussion, the board decided Tom should ask Representative Don Beyer as our first choice. If he cannot do it, perhaps one of his staffers, or then we have a backup list of other local leaders.

Board Candidates: We continue to seek out viable new candidates for the board election at the Annual Meeting. We will need at least one, possibly two new board members. Tom will ask Mark Levine to suggest people he knows are active and willing to participate. Each of us should ask neighbors we know, keeping in mind an attempt to balance out neighborhood representation somewhat. We will send a request to our electronic mailing list colleagues in the condos where we don't have hard copy newsletter access asking for candidates.

Federation Letters: With regard to the two draft letters sent to us by the Federation of Alexandria Citizens Associations, the board voted not to intervene in the drafting of such letters.

New/Old Business: Fran mentioned that ARHA Director Roy Priest is coming to speak to Alexandria House about the ARHA redevelopment process. She said she would look into whether our board might be invited to attend and hear the Director's presentation.

Matt mentioned a conversation he had with Mayor Allison Silberberg regarding the possible renaming of streets and other items with Confederate era names and the possible moving of the Confederate Soldier statue Appomattox. He indicated his disapproval of attempts to rewrite history.

Next Meeting: The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, October 10 at 7:30 p.m. in the Portner's Landing Community Room.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Christa Watters, Secretary