

Minutes of the North Old Town Citizen's Association
March 10, 2017
7:30 p.m.
Portner's Landing Meeting Room

Present: Tom Soapes, Howard Middleton, Agnes Artemel, Clarence Tong, Christa Watters, Roger Waud, Anne White-Olson, Matt Hennessey and Frances Zorn.

Guests: Sgt. Sean Casey, Alexandria Police Dept., and Bob Quigley.

The meeting was called to order at 7:30.

Sgt. Casey, liaison to NOTICe from Alexandria Police, made his report: There was little crime. A shrub was stolen from a front yard. He provided additional info on police activities and priorities.

NOTICe Safety Committee: While Sgt Casey was in attendance Bob Quigley was introduced and the subject of a NOTICe safety committee was discussed. Bob Quigley is also the Alexandria House Safety Committee Chairman. He proposed that NOTICe form a safety committee with a focus on the coordination of security concerns of the neighborhood citizens. There was some discussion of possible topics, which included vehicular and traffic safety, commenting on the small area plan transportation study, and providing safety tips and other information to the neighborhood. A motion to form a safety committee passed and Mr. Quigley was appointed chair. Tom Soapes will send a message to all HOA's asking for a representative to the committee. Howard Middleton suggested finding a way to connect to ARHA residents.

The minutes from the February meeting were approved as corrected

Treasurer's Report: There are 144 households and 215 members. The bank balance is \$11,363.50.

Winter party summary:

Income: \$2,318 was raised gross, \$1733 net, as some money must still be collected from the silent auction.

Expenses: \$1033 (\$581 food, \$450 room expenses).

Critique of the Winter Party 60-70 came. Registration was not as smooth as it could be. Should we consider having one fee per person rather than rates for singles and couples? It might make it easier to check people in. We will discuss this again in advance of the party next year. Perhaps the auction should end earlier so that money can be collected from successful bidders before everyone leaves.

We needed 2 bartenders. That worked, as did having the bar separate from the food.

UDAC: 2 seats on the committee are up. Marie Tavernini is eligible to be reappointed and will reapply. She will let Tom know if she changes her mind. Business seat (Bruce Mechanic now) is term limited. Discussion of potential nominees including asking Engen Artemel if he will apply, and approaching the architect on Montgomery Street as a backup.

Policy Committee: Clarence reminded the group that lots of education needed to be done on the Oronoco Sewer Outfall. The Bill has passed the Virginia House of Delegates and the Senate. Now it is on the Governor's desk—he could make some amendments. Potentially they could be a 2024 start with a finish date of 2027, as was suggested by The City. There is a special session of the legislature on April 5 to deal with any amendments by the Governor.

North Old Town Small Area Plan (SAP): March 30 is the next meeting of the advisory group—transportation and land use chapters to be discussed. Comments have been sent on the urban design guidelines.

April/May newsletter: There was discussion that we need to need to spell out acronyms.

Topics:

May meet announcement

SAP chapter for review

Policy Committee—Oronoco St Outfall issue

Security Committee formed

Farmer's Market announcement.

Eden's ground breaking

Dedication of plaque for the greenway

Deadlines: text last week of March 30. Aim for distribution April by April 10

Website: We have buy-in from Brian Lam to finish updating and to manage our website. Anne will coordinate with him to get the remaining info into the site so that it can go live.

Next Meeting: April 10

The meeting adjourned at 8:45