

Wales Garden Neighborhood Association
Monthly Business Meeting
Wednesday, August 28, 2013

The business meeting began at 6:15 with a report that crime in Wales Garden has diminished over the past three months. Officer Brown stated that there had been arrests nearby, but not directly in the neighborhood. Lt. Gates reported that the Five Points area continues to have a police territory unit to walk the ground, plus an extra patrol on the weekends.

USC representative, Jamie Campbell told us that after Labor Day, she will send letters to current residents/students living in Wales Garden. The letter will outline the university's "conduct" expectations of students who live in the city of Columbia. A week later Jamie will lead teams made up of USC and WGNA representatives, who will walk through the neighborhood, knock on doors and talk with the residents to let them know, "This is what we expect from you."

Walter Marks said that Wales Garden Neighborhood will send a letter to landlords notifying property owners of city and neighborhood expectations. The letters are timed to be mailed when Jamie and her groups are doing their walk-through. Robert and Annie Wilson will help Walter to compose the Wales Garden Neighborhood letter.

Andy told us that Caroline Watson will be leaving her post on the City's Hospitality Task Force. Suzie Heyward will be taking Caroline's position going forward. Thanks to Caroline for her hard work.

Melinda Allen reported that she and Susan Thorpe have contacted the university horticulture department about the Saluda Median project. USC has offered to coordinate horticulture students to work for \$9.10 per hour when we plan our volunteer clean-up days. Sarah Hollar, Superintendent of the City's Forestry and Beautification Division has committed to replace the Saluda median azaleas that were destroyed by the big oak that fell across Saluda during the storm, particularly those in front of Tom and Sarah Terrill's house. There was discussion about the need for our making a practical long-range maintenance plan for Saluda Median so we can plan a budget.

Gene Zeigler reported that we have a total of \$4111.84 in the checking account. About \$2,590 has been donated for the Saluda Median maintenance fund, of which \$1,620 has been spent with Blue Moon Landscaping. This leaves \$970 that is included in the checking balance.

Andy mentioned that the Edisto Avenue speed hump/stop sign project has been approved and awaits city counsel approval after the Edisto neighbors have agreed to the latest plan. Andy hopes to give Traffic Engineering the go-ahead at the end of next week.

Ron and Debbie Prier reported that they had experienced the theft of a USPS parcel from their front porch. The opened box with contents had been found and returned to them by a good neighbor.

There was discussion about the effectiveness of limiting parking to the north side of Waccamaw Avenue between Wheat and Saluda. There had been a problem of cars entering from Saluda being blocked by on-coming cars while there were parked cars on both sides of Waccamaw. Judy Holliday explained the history of her committee's work with John Spade (City Parking) to solve this problem.

The next regular business meeting will be at the Lourie Center on Wednesday, September 25, 2013 at 6:15.

The Mid-Year/Street Party meeting will be held Sunday, October 20, 2013. (Rain Site: American Legion Hut)

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 pm.