

Correction is in bold.

APPROVED ON OCT. 9, 2018 GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Admiral Heights Improvement Association General Membership Meeting, March 6, 2018

Called to order: 7:39 p.m. by President Jim Burdick at Germantown Elementary School

Attendees: Norm Crews, Martha Thorn, Burdick, Rachel Breen, Mario Schiappacasse, Maria Lebow-Little, Scott Gibson, John Leupold & Grant Garcia. More than 40 other Admiral Heights residents, Alderman Fred Paone, & Sgt. Nicole Vaden of the Annapolis Police Department's Community Services also attended.

Not in attendance: Brandon Wright, Steve Fisher & Ed Cherneski

President's remarks: This year we had a record high membership of 300 -- half the households in Admiral Heights.

We'll talk about the dock on Williams Drive. At our last general membership meeting we voted on the dock repairs & lease. Since then, there've been some changes.

We'll also discuss the WNAV property at 236 Admiral Drive. The address for that won't change. Phone calls & e-mail worked. What you did mattered.

A sergeant from the Annapolis Police Department will be here to answer your questions about opioids & crime.

We'll elect a new board. Turnover keeps us from getting stagnant.

Lastly, Jean Tullier has brought 200 free AHaah bumper stickers.

Minutes: Minutes from the October 2017 general membership meeting were approved.

Treasurer's Report: We budgeted \$10,575 in 2017. The actual budget was \$13,005. The difference between the budgeted & actual income reflects this year's increase in membership.

The amount for food & supplies for the block party was high because we paid for both the 2016 & 2017 block parties in 2017.

We saved money on the tailgate by partnering with the Class of 2003.

We got a refund on our insurance claim for the big tree that came down in Ackerman Park, but the money went back out again to pay for the cleanup.

The budget for 2018-2019 was based on \$40 dues. A motion was made to increase dues to \$40. It was passed unanimously. The new budget was also approved unanimously.

The reserve balance in our CD is \$12,509. It's important to keep money in reserve because there are a lot of trees in the parks on Dewey, Halsey & Williams drives.

Burdick has lived in the neighborhood 35 years. He says we have three waterfront properties, two other properties that were deeded to us, & two entrances for a total of seven properties. The waterfront properties add value to our homes because of the water access. The dues & budget are necessary to care for the properties & sponsor events.

Events: Easter egg hunt – Saturday, March 24, 11 a.m., behind Phoenix Academy. Admiral Heights resident Karen Lofti has volunteered to organize the Easter egg hunt.

Yard sale – Saturday, April 14, 9 a.m. – noon, throughout our community. Rain date: April 15.

GreenScape – Saturday, April 21, 9 a.m. – noon, Dewey Park. Bring trowels, shovels, gloves & rakes. During GreenScape we're take care of our properties, including the traffic circle. We'll meet at Dewey & have refreshments. The City provides the plants. We do the gardening & take care of the properties, including preventing erosion. Nina Fisher organizes GreenScape. It usually lasts three to four hours but however much time you can donate would be appreciated, so come & bring the kids.

Meet the Creek - Saturday, May 5, 11 a.m. – 1 p.m., Dewey Dock. We'll have the Watermark taxi.

Fourth of July bike parade – Wednesday, July 4, 10 a.m., Sampson Place.

Block party – Sunday, Sept. 9, 4 p.m., Halsey Park.

Neighborhood Watch: Sgt. Nicole Vaden of the Annapolis Police Department's Community Services usually coordinates when street lights are out or when cars are abandoned. She bought fliers about preventing burglaries, Operation Identification, & residential & commercial security surveys. These surveys identify ways to make it more difficult for thefts to occur.

There have been some thefts from vehicles in the community. To prevent this kind of theft, don't keep keys in the car, don't leave valuables or spare keys in the car, & don't leave cars running. They can get broken into.

If you have an alarm system at home, use it. Alarms are good because there's no delay in reaching the police department. Alarm companies notify the police immediately.

PEDAL is a program to keep track of bicycles. The police recover a lot of bicycles but can't return them to their owners because they don't have any distinguishing characteristics. PEDAL helps with that.

The police are asking residents to take part in a third party survey that looks at the police department from all angles. Some demographics are collected but survey takers are anonymous. You can access the survey at annapolis.gov.

Trends for 2016-2017 indicate crime of all kinds has gone down. That includes theft from vehicles. Just remember to call right away when something happens. The non-emergency number is 410-268-4141. You don't have to leave your information unless you're the victim. If you see someone who's suspicious, make note of as many details as you can, including the person's shoes. Once the police had five people who met the suspect's description, but only one of them wore red shoes!

Residents asked how the speed limit on Farragut Road was set. They noted that Germantown Elementary School, the Phoenix Academy, & the community all had 25 mph speed limits while the speed limit on Farragut is 20 mph.

The police department doesn't determine speed limits. Who determines the speed limit depends on whether it's a city, county or state road. Alderman Fred Paone talked about the large numbers of people who daily drive more than 15 mph over the speed limit. He said he's been receiving many complaints and the speed limit would probably be changing. He said tickets are down 75 percent from when the speed camera was put up. He said the difference between Farragut & other streets in the neighborhood was the "line of sight" when people turn left on the road from Schley Road.

Grounds Committee: At the last general membership meeting board members were authorized to negotiate a lease with the Boat Club on terms predicated on a statement of work. Since then, the economics & statement of work have changed.

In a special meeting we were updated on the economics & the work. At the last meeting an estimate of \$15,000 was based on simple repairs & planking. AHIA was planning to pay 30 percent & the Boat Club 70 percent. Now the cost is in the \$30,000 range & is based on total replacement of the dock.

We're not comfortable on going forward with the negotiations until we've had time to process these new developments so ask that the membership rescind the authority that was approved at the last meeting & call for a special meeting to discuss the new development. This motion was approved.

Since the dock was installed about 47 years ago, this isn't an unexpected development.

The lease with the Boat Club expires at the end of May. Neither AHIA nor the Boat Club can afford to replace the dock alone, so the two must collaborate. Both have reserves but there's no "low cost option."

The question is, "How can we raise that kind of money?"

Discussed options included a floating dock, grant money, a “Dollars for the Docks” campaign, & additional repairs & estimates. A long-term list & need for a Capital Investment Plan were discussed.

An up to 2 ½-foot sign can be put in the Sampson-Porter Circle. Halsey Park probably won't ever resemble Murray Hill which is a city park.

Alderman Paone said that the offer for a dog park at the stadium is still there, but the new administration isn't comfortable with the idea. Likewise, people who live near the stadium may object. NAAA doesn't want to do it if anyone objects.

Between the two docks on Dewey & Williams drives, we have about 60 kayak racks in the neighborhood. We have a new kayak agreement for the racks on Dewey. If people don't pay the \$45, their kayaks will be removed.

Weems Creek: The work being done at the head of Weems Creek is almost complete. More than \$60 million has been spent to help stop the run off & silting.

The new mayor is part of the movement to make Spa Creek & Weems Creek “no discharge zones.”

Ed Cherneski is helping to reconstitute the Weems Creek Conservancy.

Traffic Calming and Public Safety: A crime prevention specialist for eight years, Norm Crews gave these tips:

- Stop signs mean stop.
- Screen doors should be locked.
- Take advantage of the police department's residential and commercial security surveys.
- Safety is up to everyone. If you see something, say something.

Webmaster: Leupold was thanked for all his hard work.

Election of board members: Norm Crews, Martha Thorn, Burdick, Rachel Breen, Mario Schiappacasse, Maria Lebow-Little, Scott Gibson, John Leupold, Brandon Wright, Grant Garcia, & Bo Conroy were on the slate of nominees that was unanimously approved. One vacancy still exists.

Bozzuto Homes: Bozzuto Homes no longer plans on buying a house on building a road through Admiral Heights. The WNAV property will only be accessed from Admiral Drive. The Compass Rose Theater will be in the center of the development and have less than 65 seats. Bozzuto has built three other theaters -- two succeeded & one failed. Bozzuto will deed the land to the theater, but the theater must pay for the building.

The preliminary plan calls for 25 – 30 homes. Bozzuto meets with the City this month with its preliminary plans. Bozzuto plans to show the community refined plans in late March or early

April. The radio towers will be removed. The transmitter will go to Silopannia Road where the Children's Museum is. Houses can't be built in two areas where poles are. Parking will be in these areas.

Remarks by Alderman Fred Paone: Fred has received the same information from Tom Baum of Bozzuto Homes. He says, "It's a quality company," and they won't build anything that will reflect badly on the company. He said the property is R2 zoned, so we can't stop the property from being developed. We just have to be sure it's done correctly.

Fred says property taxes may be raised. The mayor doesn't want to, but he may have no choice.

He had a community meeting in January to go over the Market House plans. The plan that the community favored was approved. However, Fred said that it was the worst commercial lease that he's ever seen. It did everything but give them a deed. He invited residents to come & see it once it opens.

He called the speed camera on Farragut "a moving target. No pun intended." He has received numerous complaints with some residents getting three or four tickets in the same place. The police chief is also getting complaints. Drives around the two intersections led to the conclusion that there aren't 100 accidents in that location but there are 100 near misses.

When the camera was initially put up about 500 warnings a day were issued. Tickets have gone since then. Now, there are only about 1,000 a month which is still high. The problem is that it's a blind intersection **& if a road is within a half mile of a school, the road is considered part of a "school zone."**

Fred expects the cameras to be moved within the next couple of months.

President's announcement: Burdick said he wouldn't be continuing as president, but he would still be active.

To do

- Send pdf of October general membership meeting to Leupold for posting on the web – Thorn
- Post approved minutes to web – Leupold
- Arrange special meeting to discuss lease with Boat Club & repairs to dock – Gibson, Breen, Burdick & Schiappacasse
- Look at options that will save on Internet domain & hosting Internet services – Leupold
- Change amount of dues on web - Leupold

Meeting was adjourned at 9:15 p.m. Submitted by Martha Thorn, Secretary