



SOUTH HILL REVITALIZATION COMMITTEE, INC.

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2008 AT 12:00 PM

The regular monthly meeting of the South Hill Revitalization Committee, Inc. (SHRC) was held on Wednesday, October 15, 2008 at 12:00 p.m. in Conference Room B of the South Hill Town Hall located at 211 South Mecklenburg Avenue in South Hill, Virginia.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Charles Wright, President, called the regular meeting to order at 12:00 p.m.

2. INVOCATION

Charles Wright called upon Sandra Kinker to render the invocation. Box lunches were provided by Brian's Steak House at a cost of \$6 per person.

3. SIGN IN

A. Committee Members

The following fourteen members were in attendance:

| | | |
|----------------|------------------|---------------|
| Robin Allen | Scott Burnette | Lisa Clary |
| Anna Cratch | Charles Hudson | Sandra Kinker |
| Frank Malone | Jimmy Martin | Gail Moody |
| Steven Stanley | Martin Wetherbee | Bill Wilson |
| Charles Wright | Tommy Zincone | |

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – SEPTEMBER 17, 2008

A motion was made by Tommy Zincone, second by Scott Burnette, to dispense with the reading of the minutes for September 17, 2008 and approve as submitted by Anna Cratch. Motion carried unanimously.

5. TREASURER'S REPORT – WOODY KIDD, TREASURER

In the absence of Woody Kidd, Charles Wright reported from a bank statement that the current amount in the SHRC account as of October 9 is \$17,139.18.

6. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Promotions Committee – Lisa Clary and Tom Smith, Co-Chairs

Lisa Clary reminded members about the Monster Mash event on October 23 featuring fun games, the Pitch Burst, inflatables and costume contests. The Rotary and Ruritans will be cooking food. Ms. Clary reported that Kim Callis has requested that people hang around after the Monster Mash event on October 23 to help clean up and restack straw bales on the Warren's trailer.

Ms. Clary is working on the South Hill Rings in Christmas. Forty businesses are participating so far in the giant stocking giveaway. This will provide advertising in three papers. Ms. Clary is thinking of giving away two stockings this year, each worth around \$500, to help draw more people.

Ms. Clary and Frank Malone reported on Toyland at the Depot which is planned for December 2. Photos with Santa will be taken by Robbie McMillan from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. The Chamber, trains and villages will be decorated, and gift bags and candy will be provided for the children. The idea this year is to mainly show off what the Chamber has inside. If the kids are interested, that will bring the parents, and then they will hopefully tell others. The Rotary will give out popcorn as the kids are leaving. Businesses are not asked to stay open but are welcome to do so.

Tommy Zincone reported that the downtown area will not have the lights again this year because Phase 2 will not be completed by then. The businesses along Mecklenburg and Atlantic are asked to decorate. Michael Carter says he has enough strings of white lights to frame every building in South Hill. He plans to wrap the lights around rope so they don't blow back up over the building. Kim Callis has offered the Town's assistance in helping businesses to string lights. SHRC members are asked to help pass the word. Mr. Zincone commented that adaptors could be plugged into the spotlights around Town to create extra plugs. He stated that it would be nice to send a letter to the businesses encouraging them to decorate. Frank Malone suggested that people send him emails with the business names of owners requesting assistance with lights and he will forward the information to Michael Carter.

B. Design Committee – Kim Callis

Gail Moody reported that VDOT has finally approved the Phase 2 Revitalization work to go to bid. The ad ran in the Richmond Times-Dispatch and the South Hill Enterprise in early October. There has to be at least a 21-day advertisement period. There will be a pre-bid conference for potential contractors on October 24. The bids will be opened November 5. On November 10, Kim Callis will request that Town Council tentatively award the contract. The award will not be official until after final VDOT approval. Work will hopefully begin in December. The streetlights are at the Town Shop and ready to be installed. They were paid for as part of the TEA-21 match. Construction should move swiftly because only the brick paver and electrical wiring is being installed; the entire sidewalk is not being taken out.

Bill Wilson reported plans are to overlay Mecklenburg Avenue in the spring.

Gail Moody will submit the TEA-21 funding application for \$373,000 for Phase 3 of the revitalization project on November 1. Phase 3 is the Harper Jewelry area, from the stoplight north. This will be an expensive phase due to the overhead utility relocation. We will not hear if funding has been granted until June of 2009. In answer to Scott Burnette in regards to any future government shortfalls, Ms. Moody commented that these funds come from the federal government. This funding cycle should be ok; however, we do not know what will happen down the road. It took three applications to receive all of the funding for Phase 2 which equaled a total cost of \$684,000 including engineering, fees, overhead utility relocation, construction and streetlights. The total project cost for Phase 3 is around \$750,000. If we come in under budget for Phase 2, the funds can be used to start Phase 3.

C. Economic Restructuring Committee – Judy Jacquelin and Sandra Kinker, Co-Chairs

Sandra Kinker reported that someone ran over one of the crepe myrtles at the police station while the vehicles were being moved for the auction. The Police Chief was paid for the tree, and it will be replaced.

Ms. Kinker complimented the SPDC's new plantings.

She stated that there is now an apartment in Kenny Sherman's building.

There will probably be one more Beautification Day scheduled this year before the weather turns too cool.

Number One Highway members may be receiving a letter about a meeting. Some money has been found which needs to be spent.

Tommy Zincone commented positively on the sudden influx of new businesses downtown.

7. OTHER BUSINESS

A. Events

Lisa Clary informed members that the South Hill Enterprise is creating a calendar and offering groups the chance to list events in it. Frank Malone will advertise May and December events. He and Ms. Clary feel the SHRC should advertise Farmer's Day for \$150.

A motion was made by Sandra Kinker, second by Scott Burnette, to spend up to \$150 to place a Farmer's Day ad in the new community calendar that the South Hill Enterprise is creating. Motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Clary reported that Rotary Night Casino tickets are on sale for \$50. Bill Wilson reported that the American Legion has some kind of function scheduled for the same night. Ms. Clary mentioned that they may have to reschedule.

B. Chamber of Commerce News – Frank Malone

Frank Malone informed members that the November program is going to be Buggs Island Telephone Cooperative. The December luncheon has turned into a Christmas party at Brian's on December 3 at 6 p.m. Road trips are geared up for the new year, e.g., BGF in April and the American Legion in May. The library and rescue squad are other possible destinations.

Charles Wright commented that the Special Edition in the Richmond Times-Dispatch was very good.

C. Colonial Center Update – Mayor Earl Horne

In the absence of Mayor Earl Horne, Scott Burnette reported that a reorganization has taken place which was needed in order for the theatre to apply for their tax credits. The tax credit

processes are in the works. Mayor Horne is working with the architect to finalize the theatre itself. The goal is to have the theatre 100% complete by the fall of 2009.

Robin Allen commented that is pretty good for a corpse. Sandra Kinker mentioned that many citizens remember when the theatre seemed to have no hope of ever coming back. Mr. Burnette stated that Mayor Horne, the SPDC, and many staff members from the Town have worked very hard on the Colonial Project.

More \$500 seats need to be sold. Mr. Burnette reported that discussions have been held regarding the possibility of allowing people two years to pay for their seats. Around 26 have currently been purchased.

8. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business matters before the SHRC, Charles Wright adjourned the meeting at 12:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Anna B. Cratch.

Signed:

Charles Wright, President

Attest:

Anna B. Cratch, Secretary