

Southampton Civic Association
January 2007 Meeting

Members Present:

Bob Scott	John Cardwell	Bert Young	Elizabeth Bolin
Jeff Donahue	Mary Blanchard	Caitlyn Zettl	John McCann
Sue Stewart	Bob Call		

Minutes:

The minutes for the October, November and December meeting were approved with some minor changes.

Business:

Southampton Baptist Church Ntelos cell phone tower project:

Mark Cornell from Ntelos and Gloria Freye from The Hunton and Williams law firm gave a power point report on the 100ft cell phone tower project that's moving forward. Neighbors of the church expressed concerns about curbside appeal and the financial health of the church. Since the church is owned by the members according to Wendy Inge income from the cell tower would help maintain the church and prevent future unwanted development at that site. Of note is cell towers now look like tall flagpoles, but equipment enclosed at the base of the tower can be generous. The pole can house a second cell phone company's antennae which would double the amount of fenced equipment (approx. 30ft x 35ft) at the base of the pole. The church can set conditions on what goes up the pole, landscaping, etc, by negotiating with Ntelos, but the pole will go up unless City Council votes against it. There was interest in what the church has in mind to do. Mrs. Freye plans on setting up a meeting with the church and interested parties in February and will contact the SCA.

Reports:

Communications Bob Scott reported that the web site is up and running. The broadcast email service, which was down for several months, is now working.

Neighborhood teams no report

Zoning no update on The Galleria.
No one has replaced Bert on zoning
The Citgo service station is for sale along with about 6 acres behind it on Forest Hill Ave and Cherokee Rd.

Schools the "Friends of Area schools" group raised \$900 from members as a gift to needy kids.

Treasurer There is \$7,910.89 in the SCA checking account

56 members have paid dues for 2007

Legislative

Urchie Ellis reported that no new info was available for the Huguenot bridge project.

City Council

Kathy Graciano (KG) reported that the Land Use Comm. Passed the enhanced speeding fines measure for Cherokee Rd and it will now come up for vote in City Council's next meeting.

Feb. 14 is KG's next quarterly meeting at St. Lukes Church @ 7:00PM
David Hathcock (DH) needs your emails. The Dept. of Public Works is changing the requests for services to go straight to the city computer. Access will be through the city web site or telephone system. David can help if necessary.

Riverside Dr. now has double yellow lines down the middle. White lines on the sides of the road are to come. Observations made included slower traffic and resistance by cars to cross the yellow lines to pass bicycles, walkers and runners

Traffic speed and vehicle counts will be redone

Changes made to Riverside can be revisited if not working.

Ralph Ruddy is working on a bicycling grant.

KG is working on a scenic byways designation for the road and area
Leaf collection-second round is set to start Feb. 2nd

Mayor Douglas Wilder's State of the City address is coming on Jan.20th

John Cardwell noted that on Cherokee Rd white lines were painted on crumbling road edges. KG said Painting and Paving are different divisions in Richmond.

Other Business:

Proposals:

Urchie Ellis proposed getting City Council to redo the asphalt swales bordering Cherokee Rd and elsewhere in the Southampton district.

Urchie Ellis proposed that the City Council augment the staff at the Pony Pasture Park in the summer and would like the SCA Board to go to City Council and speak on the issue.

John Cardwell proposed flushing out culverts by the Fire Dept.

KG said that City council is aware of infrastructure problems in Richmond. She volunteered to get an estimate on the redoing swales in the annexed section of Richmond.

DH suggested going through Dept. supervisors to increase staffing at Pony Pasture this summer.

The Meeting was adjourned with no more business to address.

