

Arlington Heights Civic Association
Minutes for January 27, 2010 Annual Meeting
Patrick Henry Elementary School Library, 7 p.m.
(Adopted April 13, 2010)

Attendees: Mary Crosby, Grady Foster, Sue Grabowski, Stephanie Halligan, Juliet Hiznay, David Jones, John Kaneshige, Lynn Kristianson, Sang W. Lee, Janet Presswood, Kimberly Sumner, Betty Siegel, Sara Snow, Emily Varanay, Stacey Whyte, Jay Wind

7:07 Juliet Hiznay (President) called the meeting to order. Annual dues (\$20) were collected from those present who had not yet paid. A motion to adopt the October 2009 draft Minutes was seconded and passed unanimously.

7:08 Election. Juliet Hiznay announced the Nominations Committee report prepared by Mike Sobola, who could not be present. Nominations were: Stacey Whyte for President, Sara Snow for First Vice President, Lisa Bongardt for Treasurer, and Juliet Hiznay for Secretary. Juliet Hiznay asked if anyone present was interested in volunteering for Second Vice-President. Kimberly Sumner nominated herself as Second Vice-President. A motion to approve the slate of candidates was seconded and passed unanimously.

[Newly elected President Stacey Whyte led for the balance of the meeting.]

7:15 Park Expenditures. Members discussed whether to authorize spending civic association funds raised for park improvement at Thomas Jefferson Park. There was a discussion about whether county funds would be available for the park. It was noted that such funds were not available, and that the county had invested significant funds already. Betty Siegel moved to authorize the Executive Committee authority to spend, but not to exceed \$2,500, for installing a stone edging around the flowerbed at the corner of Second Street and South Irving. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

7:30 Discussion regarding Policy on Conflicts of Interest & Representation in Other Civic Groups adopted by the Executive Committee on November 21, 2009. A question was asked whether the policy was developed as a result of a specific incident. It was noted that there was an incident where a representative of Arlington Heights for an organization took action that had not been authorized, and was not in the interest of the neighborhood, which spurred the policy review. A question was asked regarding whether the language in the policy would be too rigid for those representing the neighborhood on various civic groups. A question was raised about whether membership on the Board of Directors of the Columbia Pike Revitalization Organization amounted to representation of the neighborhood that could raise a conflict of interest. Juliet Hiznay clarified that a community representative on the CPRO Board was not actually a position representing the Arlington Heights neighborhood. It was noted that the language in the conflict policy extended only to those appointed to represent Arlington Heights. A concern was raised that more disclosures might be needed. Stacey Whyte suggested that the policy be distributed for comment on the Yahoo Group. Juliet Hiznay clarified that the Executive Committee had already adopted the policy, but

was interested in getting feedback from the membership and making any adjustments needed to the policy. (The policy is attached to these minutes).

7:45 Discussion regarding Proposed Changes to the Yahoo Group Rules recommended by the Executive Committee. A question was raised about whether it is good to restrict speech. It was noted that current moderation already restricted who could post. Juliet Hiznay moved to accept the proposed changes to the Yahoo Group Rules. The motion was seconded and approved with a single nay vote (the adopted changes are attached to these minutes).

8:05 Announcements/Questions/New Business: Juliet Hiznay announced that the first area to get window installation at Thomas Jefferson Middle School has been completed and that the replacement of the lower athletic field to synthetic turf is currently estimated for completion in March 2010. Stacey Whyte announced that Evergreene has begun at its work to build homes on the empty lot at Seventh Street South (at Glebe). Concerns were raised on how to protect the neighborhood sign at that corner from damage during construction.

A question was raised with regard to tax assessments rising on properties in the neighborhood.

A question was asked about the Irving Street Neighborhood Conservation Project. Juliet Hiznay clarified that the Irving Street project (Phase I) has been approved for funding by the NCAC and was no longer subject to review by the civic association. The only remaining question is whether there will be traffic calming. If Irving Street residents in the 0-100 blocks want traffic calming measures, they must petition it and get it approved by the Arlington County Traffic Calming Committee. The project budget includes funds for traffic calming measures. The special meeting that is tentatively scheduled for February 18, 2010 would address Phase II – a project meant to improve Arlington Boulevard in areas between Irving Street and Fillmore, but it is still under staff review.

A question was asked about the measurement equipment on South Highland Street. It was noted that any resident may ask the county to take speed measurements.

Stacey Whyte announced that the next Civic Association membership meeting is scheduled for April 13, 2010, but that a special meeting is tentatively scheduled for February 18 to discuss the Irving Street/Arlington Boulevard Neighborhood Conservation Project, if the staff design is ready.

There was no new business.

8:20 Stephanie Halligan won the drawing for the Mom's Pizza gift certificate.

8:20 Meeting adjourned

MINUTES DRAFTED BY JULIET HIZNAY, SECRETARY, AHCA