

April 18, 2024

## Community Citizens Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 6:02 p.m. by President Melanie Lott with Tarsha Taylor opening in prayer.

### **Old Business**

Motion to accept the minutes from last month's meeting was made by Frank McKnight with a second by JB Borden.

Tarsha Taylor brought the Community Citizens treasurer's report. Beverly Villeponteaux brought the report from the Cordesville Churches Association stating the amounts transferred and rolled into the Community Citizen's account. Frank McKnight made the motion to accept with JB Borden seconding.

Melanie brought an update on our question list submitted to Alison Simmons and Danny Thrower in January. She stated that they want a sit down meeting.

Melanie updated her info on mail issues from the March meeting, stating that the post office is without a postmaster right now, but Juan Dozier (district supervisor) who asked that problems with deliveries or the lack thereof be reported at 843-761-8455.

### **New Business**

Sgt Smith reported that there were only two calls in the Cordesville area that required a deputy's presence—one was harassment, the other trespassing. He stated that the newly established non-emergency community assistance program has fielded a number of calls freeing the deputies for more serious issues. He commended the community for their community involvement and encouraged all "if you see something, say something."

Willie Powell from the Basketball Association stated that now the County was involved there will be a concession stand and bathroom constructed at the "Cordesville Park" on Cane Gully Road. He also stated that they are getting the baseball field ready.

The Community VBS will be June 24-28 from 5-8:45 p.m. with classes for all ages including adults. Dinner will be served each evening. Right now there are openings for teachers and assistants for children ages 2-3; 4K, 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> grades, and 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> grade. Background checks for teachers and assistants are required. Beverly stated she had the necessary forms. Transportation is available but interested parties need to call 8439761-4710 so routes can be developed. Registration forms are available at the church, on the church website, and a link will be put on the Community website. VBS training will be Saturday, May 4 (5/4) with breakfast from 8:30 p.m.-9, with the meeting

from 9-10 a.m. May 19 is the National Day of Prayer for VBS at 5 p.m. at Cordesville Baptist. Flyers for VBS will be made available next month.

**Cordesville Cares** is the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday. Frank reported that they did weed-eating and clean up in the sign area. He also stated that Mr. Quigley had said the painting of the sign is in process. International House of Prayer is on the list. Mr. Powell offered paint.

**The Fundraiser** will be Saturday 4/27 from 11-2. Tickets were available for sale at \$10/dinner. The dinner will consist of pork BBQ sandwich, coleslaw, chips, and a drink. There will be homemade cakes/cookies available for sale.

Frank asked that the churches identify the veterans in their cemeteries and let him know as the desire is to honor all the vets in cemeteries on Memorial Day with flags on the grave sites. The request was received with a generous round of applause.

**Making it REAL** report was made by Melanie as Pam was unable to be in attendance. She stated that we were now serving 90/week. The largest routes are on Umbria and Hard Pinch so new/additional drivers are needed so routes can be split so people are not still waiting on their meal late in the afternoon and no longer hot.

Mr. Melvin stated that he will be ready to plant soon. If you have plants to donate, wonderful. If you want to plant favorites in the community garden—plant!

### **Congressional Candidate District 1**

Mac Deford, the Democratic candidate shared his background in the Coast Guard as search and rescue, graduating the Citadel and Charleston Law. He has served as General Counsel for the town of Mount Pleasant and most recently, town of Hilton Head. The issues he stated were of primary importance were as follows:

1. Lack of infrastructure, transit infrastructure and rural community transit where bus stops or reimbursement for travel are needed.
2. Affordable housing.
3. Stated he is solutions oriented,
4. Education—stated school choice hurts, infrastructure for schools and air quality, teacher salaries and Medicaid further stating that if the State doesn't fund, the government should help secure resources for these issues.
5. He stated there were two standards for funding—some ask and respondents ask how high, while others are ignored.
6. Democratic primary is 6/11.

### **Calendar highlights**

Monday 4/23 6 p.m. County Council meeting—need to be present to share septic concerns.

Berkeley County Chamber of Commerce—Elaine Morgan is talking of the Chamber helping provide laptops/network for the GED program. She is also working on summer programs for children.

The next meeting will be 5/16 at 6 p.m.

5/18 hot fish sandwich on Umbria Rd at 12—

July 6 Community cook out with fireworks being worked on—some logistical issues still to be ironed out.

JB suggested the Community Citizens donate \$100 for the purchase of seed for the garden, Frank made the 2<sup>nd</sup>.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:55 following prayer by Mother Gibbs.

Respectfully submitted,

Anne Turner, Secretary

### **Community members present**

Brian Fry, Ruth Fry, Melanie Lott, Charlie Lott, Anne Turner, Willie Powell, Charles Weston, Frank McKnight, Jimmy Smith, Melvin Johnson, Jerald Borden, Beverly Villeponteaux, Betty Richardson, Lo Harleston, Tarsha Taylor, Cynthia Mazyck, Anna Gibbs