

May 16, 2024

The meeting was called to order at 6:05 p.m. by Chair Melanie Lott who opened the meeting in prayer.

Old Business

1. The minutes of the April meeting were approved as presented on a motion from Pastor Jim Legendre and a 2nd from Beverly Villeponteaux.
2. There will be a County Variance Board review @ 6 p.m. on 5/21 as the people on Umbria are seeking a change to allow an “event center” to continue the rodeos.
3. The County Board Appeals board is hearing the 2nd reading of proposal from developer (Eastwood homes) for a conservation easement at Sportsman’s Retreat development. The board will hear from an expert on sewers/sewage on 6/10.
4. There will be a Community Independence Day celebration on Saturday, July 6. More details will be forthcoming. It will be held at the Roper-Davis field located at Dr. Evans and Umbria Roads.
5. It was reported that since we had Matt Deford speak as a candidate for District 1, Nancy Mace had been invoiced to speak but she was unable to and offered to send a representative. JB made the motion that if no candidate was willing/able then no delegate. Motion passed.
6. Although it is early, Tarsha recommended that we start donating candy/funds for Santa to distribute during the Christmas parade.

New Business

1. It was suggested that we invite the candidates after the primary to present their rationales on why we need to support them.
2. Sgt Smith reported that there were only 2 reports this past month—a trespass and a noise complaint. There were calls regarding traffic on 402 which were addressed. Cpl. Valentine was introduced. He has been in the Berkeley area since 1998. He will be patrolling Betheria, Witherbee, 402 and Dr. Evans on a regular basis.

Committee Updates

1. The community VBS will be 6/24-28 with classes for all ages. Adults interested in helping with children (teaching, assisting, working with food prep/serving) will need a background check. Contact Beverly Villeponteaux at 843-761-4710 (Cordesville Baptist Church office) for form or more info.
2. Cordesville Cares—2nd Saturday. Sign is still a work in progress
3. Education—4 active students seeking GED for improved jobs/opportunities/ set example for children

4. REAL meals—garden is underway, this past week served 92 meals with 5 meals being delivered in Moncks Corner to homeless.
5. Tarsha presented the financial report which was accepted after a motion by JB with a second from Frances Wright.

Guest speaker—Elaine Morgan of Berkeley Chamber of Commerce

She brought powerful information stating that in seeking zone changes, how long has the area been residential. Also stated that on the septic tank issues—DHEC doesn't have to come back to retest. Dorchester County recently passed an ordinance that developments of more than 10 septic tanks must go to county. She encouraged residents to be observant.

She informed us that the Chamber HUB is opening 5 centers that are community centered and will include resources for telehealth, hospital services, mental health, drug/alcohol, and SC works. Cordesville has 8 Chrome books. Each center will need 5 trained volunteers, defined times to be open, and volunteers scheduled, can use a church fellowship hall. Various resources will come on site but need day/week/evening and 5 volunteers. Currently opening HUB in Cainhoy, Sandridge, Alvin, Wassamassaw, Cross and Jedburg. Transportation and training are available.

In discussing Community desire for dedicated Community Center, Frances Wright asked about the ownership of the Fire Station. JB asserted that we need to own the property.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:10 with prayer by Betty Richardson. Hurricane preparedness guides were made available. Tarsha asked for volunteers for Christmas parade/party planning.

Respectfully submitted,

Anne Turner, Secretary

In attendance:

Mike Everett, Elaine Morgan, Frances Wright, Deloris Harleston, Anne Turner, Melanie & Charlie Lott, Latarsha Taylor, Lindsey Phillips, Melinda Alsop-Manuel, Betty J. Haynes, Ruth & Brian Fry, Jim & Johnna Legendre, Wanda Shems, Beverly Villeponteaux, Cpl. Gray Valentine BCSO, Melvin Johnson, Helen Williams