

A meeting of the Neighborhood Associations was held on **June 20, 2012 at 10:00 a.m.** at City Hall in the Planning Department's first floor conference room, 1911 Boundary Street. In attendance were the Neighborhood Association Representatives and City Staff.

### **PRESENTATION ON WASTE PRO RECYCLING PROGRAM**

Libby Anderson said Jim Berbigler unfortunately was not available to give his presentation today. He will give this presentation at the July 18 meeting. Ms. Anderson said Roni Abdella, City Building Official, will also give a presentation on Hurricane Post-Disaster Procedures.

### **NEWS FROM THE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION REPRESENTATIVES**

**The Bluff Rep** talked about the Bladen and Bay Street work being enormous but it seems the process is going well. He said the North Street residents are very sensitive to this. Donnie Beer said its better to do it all now. She said the plan shows it with paved bricks. Isiah Smalls said this is the ideal time to repair the old lines and brick pavers are proposed to be on the southern end. Ms. Anderson said the goal is to have roads open to traffic by Water Festival. Ms. Anderson mentioned the BJWSA Project that is on Bay, Church, and Craven Streets. This is to be completed by June 30.

**Hundred Pines/Ribaut Road Rep, Phil Hodges**, said their official name is now Hermitage Road Area Neighborhood Association. He said they had a meeting last month with about 80 people and interim officers were elected. Mr. Hodges spoke about the letter they wrote to OCI with their concerns. He said one issue that was quite important is the Ribaut Road 3 lane conversion. Ms. Anderson said once this letter is finalized, she would send it out to everyone on behalf of Mr. Hodges. She also mentioned that the sector maps are online at [www.beaufortcivicinvestment.org](http://www.beaufortcivicinvestment.org). Ms. Beer said the redesign of Ribaut Road is still being discussed by City Council and nothing has been written in stone. Mr. Hodges said the funding and time are the biggest issues. Ms. Beer suggested that one representative from each neighborhood take turns attending the Council meetings for more information. She said Council has their work sessions are every 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday at 5:00 pm and their regular meetings are every 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday at 7:00 pm. Terry Murray said as an association, we are trying to get more involved early on. Mr. Hodges said there also positive things in this as well. Ms. Anderson said she would send out the Council agendas as well as all of the other Planning agendas to this group.

**Islands of Beaufort Rep, Frank Mueller**, said in their community 1 new house has been built; two others are in the process; and there maybe one more but he's not sure yet.

**Mossy Oaks Rep, Pete Godbey**, said last month he received an e-mail that the United Way no loner handles disaster assistance, the Red Cross does. He also asked about the run-off fee increase and about the floodgates at the duck pond and on Federal Street. Mr. Smalls said the floodgate downtown was put on after it was mucked out and he is still working on the duck pond floodgate.

**Northwest Quadrant Rep, Christina Wilson,** talked about the drainage on Charles back to Craven and how there is not a storm drain at Prince and Duke. She as asked if there is a drainage plan. Mr. Smalls said this will be handled citywide, but it is a long process. Ms. Anderson said the Bladen Street Streetscape and Duke Street Streetscape both include drainage plans.

**Old Commons Rep, Maxine Lutz,** said their last neighborhood meeting was this week and they will not meet again until September. She said they are working on helping find duplicate poles in the area. The public asked if there are duplicate poles in other areas. Liza Hill said a list was submitted and 15 poles are being acted on by SCE&G. She offered her contact information. Ms. Hill said duplicate poles with lines are not SCE&G's but communications lines such as Hargray. The public also asked when the skirts would be put on the transmission poles. Ms. Hill has not heard anything yet and said she will send another e-mail. It was asked if an action list could be created to send out. Ms. Anderson said Liza Hill would be the liaison. Edie Rodgers said it seems we need the communication companies to do their part first. She stated that writing letters to the editor are very effective. Ms. Anderson said Paul Michau has taken the initiative on this already.

**Pigeon Point Rep, Donnie Beer,** said the park has been fenced off in one section due to new equipment not working correctly. She said the new equipment will be coming soon and then installed.

**The Point Rep, Michael Whitehead,** talked about the Form-Based Code activity. He also asked who do residents go to see for permits since Donna Alley is retiring. Ms. Anderson said she would be overseeing this as well as Liza Hill until Donna's replacement is hired.

**West End Rep, Ken Szarek,** thanked the Police Department for the speed trailer. He asked about the three empty houses in his area specifically the house on the corner of North Street. Dawn Boren said she spoke with the hired landscaper. She also said one of the three houses is in probate and violation letters were sent out to the other two. She will contact the realtor. Ms. Anderson said the house on the corner has a local owner and it is a shame they don't care about their property. Ms. Anderson and Ms. Boren will try to meet with the owner.

### **NEWS FROM CITY STAFF AND STRATEGIC PARTNERS**

**Waste Pro,** Isiah Smalls from Public Works spoke on behalf them. He apologized for not having the presentation today but Jim Berbigler is on vacation and their other representative is out sick. Mr. Smalls said the presentation would be scheduled for next month. He reminded everyone about leaf bagging.

**The Greenery,** Isiah Smalls from Public Works spoke on behalf them. He said they are in maintenance mode.

**Isiah Smalls, Public Works,** talked about their ongoing projects with the current Bladen Street Streetscape and upcoming Duke Street Streetscape. Ms. Lutz mentioned the garbage issue on the lot adjacent to Panini's. Mr. Smalls coordinate with Ms. Boren to look at this. Ms. Murray commented that she loves the look of the City. She has heard this from other citizens. Ms. Rodgers said Ribaut and Boundary medians are beautiful and thanked the City.

Mr. Smalls spoke about the bad playground equipment that was up brought earlier. He said it is extremely expensive and will be put back if the city is responsible for the installation. Ms. Beer said maybe we could get volunteers and split the cost.

**Lanier Parking, Lundy Baker,** reminded everyone that the parking hours are 10 am to 6 pm, Monday through Saturday, and free parking will remain during the "city" holidays. He said over the last month people have been complaining that parking is not being enforced. He also reminded everyone that during festival time a "Load Full" signs means the lot is full and please don't go in the lot looking for parking.

**Main Street Beaufort,** Libby Anderson said they LaNell could not be at the meeting today but she wanted everyone to remember the Farmer's Market every Wednesday from 3:00-7:00 at West & Port Republic.

**Dawn Boren, Codes Enforcement,** said she most of her violations have been grass related and asked everyone to remind their neighbors of keeping their lawns cut. She also reminded everyone to follow the burning rules since summer is coming with hot and dry air.

**Capt. John Robinson, Fire Department,** said the burn cycle is not until November. He said he had eight firefighters to a conference in Myrtle Beach. The Fire Department also had two suspicious fires, one on Greene Street, and one in Port Royal. He said between now and the middle of August, he will be having firefighter classes for city volunteers. He said now that summer is here he will be having summer activities coming up and will be working with hotels. It was asked by the public, what was the article in the paper about Port Royal and the City Fire Departments merging. Captain Robinson said this is more of a financial issue due to the budget.

**Libby Anderson, City Planning Department,** Libby Anderson mentioned Donna Alley's retirement reception on June 28 from 4:00-6:00 pm. She also said there will be a Form-Based Code Workshop on June 28 at 6:00 pm in Council Chambers and that applications will be available for the Steering Committee positions.

**Police Department, 1<sup>st</sup> Sergeant Cushman,** talked about driving and cell phone use and reminded everyone about "Hang up & Drive". He said we lose 1,000 people/year due to traffic issues and 100 of them are not wearing seatbelts. He said the intersections such as Ribaut/Bay and Ribaut/Allison are being monitored and if anyone sees something to please call the Police Department. He also mentioned that the recent robberies are being looked at closely. He said some are in the city and others are outside the city's jurisdiction. The Police Department just

graduated two officers from the Academy. He reminded everyone they can call the non-emergency number, 524-2777 24 hours for any jurisdiction. It was asked by the public if there are any cell phone laws. Cushman said not yet but it just a matter of time. It's been illegal on the military bases for a while. It was commented by the public that the Bank of America now has a drive-thru, so it is safer.

Donnie Beer reminded everyone that Hurricane Season is now thru November and to be ready. She said everyone should have a "grab and go" box with important items such as pictures of the interior and exterior of their house and all medications. She also important to have is water for each person, canned goods, etc. She mentioned that volunteers are greatly needed for the Red Cross and anyone interested can contact her or the Bluffton office.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 a.m.