

Admiral Heights Improvement Association
Board of Directors
January 10, 2024; Meeting Minutes

Board Attendees: Shivaugn Ahern, Jayme Brooks, Cindy Radulovich, Amy Skinner, Chris Sheesley, Stephen Holt, Jim Masterson, and Elizabeth Janney.

Board Absences: John Leupold, Liz Uehlinger, Matt Allen

A quorum being present, Ms. Ahern called the meeting to order at 7:54pm.

Approval of Minutes:

Upon motion duly made, seconded and unanimously carried, the minutes of the December 2023 Board Meeting were approved.

Treasurer's Report:

Mr. Leupold sent a 2023 end of year report to the board via email prior to the meeting for review. Mr. Leupold reports:

- Expenses were up in every category; this is to be expected given the current economic climate.
- AHIA closed the year with just under 200 members (197)
- AHIA ended with a slight surplus. This is a result of donations at social events that covered expenses and some members already paying their 2024 dues, boosting AHIA's income. Some of AHIA's extra funds could be used to divert to larger-scale capital improvements in the near future.

Upon motion duly made, seconded and unanimously carried, the Treasurer's Year End Report (2023) was approved.

At the end of January 2024, Ms. Ahern, Ms. Janney, and Mr. Leupold will be going to the local branch of our bank to change ownership of accounts.

Committee Reports:

Executive Committee:

A 2024 goal of the Executive Committee is to create an archive of organizational documents for AHIA. Mr. Sheesley offered to lead AHIA in creating a DropBox account. All board members will be able to view documents necessary for work to be completed.

Kayak Racks:

Ms. Uehlinger was unable to attend tonight's meeting but did put forth a request via email for a date finalization on the spring kayak rack clean up. Previous discussions and minutes have finalized the date of clean up to be the same day as GreenScape in the Spring (approximately

weekend of April 20-21).

Communications Committee:

Mr. Sheeley distributed a first draft of a 2024 communications calendar to the board via email for review. The board unanimously agreed that the calendar should be closely followed to distribute information and increase our calls for membership. The board would like to propose a revisit of the idea of a “Welcome Wagon” for new neighbors. The board’s 2024 goal is to welcome new neighbors quarterly (every 3 months) via a printed and signed welcome letter that will include a map of Admiral Heights. The map of AH should include AHIA’s waterfront owned properties and the location of free libraries throughout the neighborhood. It was proposed on the side of the map that we again offer advertising for local businesses; price TBD. The board also proposes to research the cost of magnets with QR codes for distribution. Finally, the board revisited the purchase of the communication cork boards. Now that AHIA has an approved 2024 budget and we are officially past the start of the new fiscal year, Mr. Sheeley has been tasked with purchasing the cork boards for use at the following three locations: Halsey, Heineman Park (Dewey Dock area), and Williams Drive property.

Grounds Committee:

Now that AHIA is officially in the new fiscal year, the Grounds Committee will re-engage with our contracted landscaping company to finalize off-season projects.

Social Committee:

No January Happy Hour

Ms. Radulovich would like to champion a “Bark and Brew” in Halsey Park for the spring to include donated coffee and dog items from local businesses. The board agrees that donations should include disposable waste bags to attach to our new cork board signs.

Neighborhood Safety Committee:

Ms. Ahern provided the neighborhood safety report via Mr. Allen who was unable to attend. Neighbors should continue to be vigilant and ensure that cars and homes are locked. There has been a recent concern with late night intoxication in parts of the neighborhood that led to an attempt at breaking and entering. The incident was reported to APD and circulated on the AH Facebook Page for neighborhood awareness.

Weems Creek Committee:

Ms. Ahern had a recent meeting with lead biologist for the Severn River Association (SRA), Ben Fertig, Ph.D. This year, SRA had a large influx of donations from neighbors who live along the Severn River. SRA has identified, through scientific research and assessments, that Weems Creek is a number one priority for 2024. SRA is maximizing funding to improve shoreline improvements in Weems Creek to reduce run-off and erosion, to create a living shoreline, and to resolve the concerns upstream from Admiral Heights. Dr. Fertig and Ms. Ahern discussed both community and privately owned properties. There are 8 confirmed neighbors in AH who are interested in an informational session with SRA that would discuss restoration in Weems

Creek and funds for the Severn Watershed.

Finalization:

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 9:47 PM.

The next meeting is scheduled for **Wednesday, February 21 at 7pm** at Ms. Janney's home (1708 Nimitz).

Respectfully submitted,

Jayne Brooks, Secretary