

Admiral Heights Improvement Association
General Membership Meeting hosted at Navy-Marine Corps Stadium
March 20, 2024
Meeting Minutes

Board Attendees: Shivaugn Ahern, Jayme Brooks, Liz Uehlinger, Cindy Radulovich, Amy Skinner, Chris Sheesley, Matt Allen, Elizabeth Robb, and Jim Masterson.

Absences: Elizabeth Robb, Jim Masterson, Stephen Holt, John Leupold

In addition to board members, approximately 35 members of the community were in attendance.

Call to order: 7:01pm

President Ahern welcomed the community and introduced board members in attendance.

President Ahern also introduced Alderwoman Karma O'Neill (City of Annapolis), and Ben Fertig, Ph.D (SRA) in attendance this evening.

President Ahern turns the floor over to Alderwoman O'Neill to provide City of Annapolis updates:

- Hillman Garage: The City is still working on a resolution for the errors with parking at Hillman Garage. The Transportation Committee is actively conducting meetings to discuss issues with the focus group. Alderwoman O'Neill reminds residents that Hillman Garage is going to have the highest rate due to proximity to downtown.
- Gas Leaf Blowers: Alderwoman O'Neill pushed for a delay in the ban of gas leaf blowers going into effect to allow for business owners to make a transition. Alderwoman O'Neill notes that there are more people who are in favor of the gas leaf blower ban than not.
- AirBnB/Renting: The City is working on closing loopholes so that neighbors can continue to enjoy the quiet neighborhoods they purchased their home in.
- WNBA Radio Lot: the developer that purchased the lot has two and half years to make a plan for the lot (2026 expiration). Several city representatives have written letters to the Sajack family (owners of the lot), to put the land in a trust and potentially make a dog park, playground area. The City of Annapolis would contribute funds to the project.
- Cedar Park Sidewalk: slated start time for construction is September 2024.
- Farragut Farmers Market: scheduled for June 23 - August 18 from 8:00-12:00 pm weekly on Sundays. The committee is currently looking for volunteers and vendors.
- Friends of the Stadium Path: looking for volunteers to help assist the project. Those interested are asked to please contact Nina Fisher. The next proposed goal is to replace the placards around the stadium to discuss native birds, plants, trees and edible berries.

- Comprehensive Plan: The City of Annapolis is welcoming ongoing discussion and input in regards to the Comprehensive Plan. The Comprehensive Plan is a roadmap on Annapolis change. Alderwoman O'Neill specifically notes that this plan does not take away homes and make duplexes. The bigger question is - how do we grow without changing the face of what Annapolis is and why we all love and choose to live here?

A neighbor asks about the new hotel that is quickly being erected on Taylor Ave and what impact that may have on our community. Alderwoman O'Neill confirms that the city plans to repave the area and add a flashing light (more information to come).

President Ahern then goes over important AHIA organizational updates:

- Current membership is twice what it was last year at this time.
- All board members have agreed to be placed on the ballot for reelection. Previously, half the board was turned over year by year which led to a lack of continuity and failure to complete turn-overs appropriately.
- AHIA has functioning committees: Weems Creek Committee, Grounds Committee, Social Committee, and Communications Committee. All committees are currently seeking volunteers. AHIA board members will send emails to roll out volunteer plans to those interested.

President Ahern turns the floor over to Dr. Fertig from Severn River Association (SRA):

Dr. Fertig notes that SRA has become a renowned environmental non-profit with full time paying jobs in the last few years. SRA is currently developing a Severn River action plan. Data has been collected from the last 20 years to see where the restoration needs are. Weems Creek is the number one priority for SRA. Improvements can and will include: stormwater management, living shorelines, and invasive species removal. Next phase of the plan is to present projects to reduce pollution specifically for stormwater ($\frac{1}{3}$ of sediment and nitrogen should be reduced). Dr. Fertig informs neighbors that there will be a Weems Creek meeting in a few weeks and SRA is hoping that all community neighborhoods along the creek will be present. For more information: <https://severnriver.org/>

President Ahern returns to AHIA business and presents plans for kayak rack maintenance: Board members and volunteers will be renumbering the racks, repairing broken shelves, and landscaping under the racks during and after Greenscape on April 20 (temporary removal of kayak racks required on or before April 19). All kayak rack renters have received emails and hand delivered letters with direction and further information. Kayak rack annual fees have increased to \$75 from \$45 in previous years. Kayak rack renters must also be AHIA members in good

standing. A member noted that it may be beneficial to share contact information amongst kayak rack owners for sharing of supplies/boats.

Events and Volunteer Opportunities - AHIA has planned all the remaining 2024 events for the calendar year:

- March 23: Egg Hunt-Studio 39
- April 20: Greenscape – Dewey Dock
- May 4: Spring Plant Sale – Halsey Park
- May 4: AH Community Yard Sale
- July 4: Admiral Heights Bike Parade
- September 21: AH Navy Tailgate
- October 26: Fall Fest, Halsey Park & Fall Yard Sale
- December TBD: Santa Run & Gift Collection

Upon motion duly made, seconded, and unanimously carried with none opposed, the minutes of the October 2023 General Membership Meeting were approved. Draft minutes have been posted on AHIA website and can be found shortly after each meeting here: <https://www.admiralheights.org/bylaws-and-documents>

The meeting moved to discuss the Treasurer’s Report. The Year End Financial Report is posted to the AHIA website and was shared via email prior to the Membership Meeting.

John Leupold, AHIA Treasurer & Elizabeth Robb, incoming Treasurer present the following information via President Ahern:

- 2023 closed with a budget surplus of \$79
- 2024 began with the agreed upon 1-year of operating reserves in the operating account.
- 2024 dues received are in-line with budget expectations for the first quarter.
- 2024 events will be used to generate financial support and increase membership.
- We need 180 more members to join or renew by December to meet our 2024 revenue goals

There being no further updates, the meeting turned to the primary order of business which was the election of the 2024-2025 board of directors. President Ahern provided an update on how to vote. By-laws allow nominees to be added to the ballot from the floor of the general membership meeting. Previous year’s officers are automatically reelected for the following year by terms of by-laws. On April 9, at the next board of directors meeting, the board will vote for the executive committee/officers. Neighbors are instructed to choose 8 additional directors and deposit your ballot in the bin on your way out the door.

There being no further business before the board and no questions from the membership, the meeting adjourned at 7:42pm.