

Center Square Association minutes for meeting held on Thursday July 16, 2015

I. Meeting was called to order at 7:04 pm

II. Introductions were made

Chris Spencer, City of Albany's Director of Planning did a presentation on Re:Zone Albany. The zoning laws are over 50 years old. Now that there is a comprehensive plan (2030 Plan), zoning issues needed to be reviewed. The website RezoneAlbany.com has a great deal of information. You can also sign up for email alerts on that website.

Treasurer John Quinn gave a report on finances and the income from the House and Garden Tour. 350 pre-sale tickets were sold and 200 day of tickets were sold. The total monies received as \$9255. Expenses were \$1263 for a net income of \$7992. The CSA share of this (1/3 HAF; 2/3 CSA) is \$5328. The May 2015 account balance was \$14229; the July balance is \$19425

The minutes of the May 21st, 2015 meeting were approved.

Councilman Richard Conti spoke about the red light cameras going live. The first two will be at Shaker/N. Blvd. and Washington Avenue at Quail Street. Those will be live on Monday July 20th. Others will go up soon. For the first 10 days, only warning tickets will be issued. The City of Albany website/Police Department will have information on the red light camera system.

On July 7, 2015, Acting Chief Brendan Cox appeared before the Common Council. At the July 20th meeting there will be a vote regarding appointing him Chief of Police. If approved, he will be sworn in during the week of the 20th.

The Madison Avenue Project (traffic study) is moving forward. On July 29th, from 6-8 pm at the College of St. Rose, there will be a meeting concerning this project.

Interviews are being conducted for the position of Director of Codes.

City leash laws requires dogs to be on leashes on city streets, not in parks. A universal leash law may be looked at by the Common Council. CSA President Jackie Ring spoke about the problems with dogs in Hudson Jay Park.

County Legislator Chris Higgins spoke about the charter revisions. Some changes were kept and some rejected. It goes to vote in November, The downsizing of the legislature was voted down. The study to install solar panels on county office building was also voted down.

Officer Bret Phillips informed the group that there were 19 incidents in the HP/CS area in the last month. Some windows were broken in a few areas. Clare said there was a complaint of a slow response to one of the window breaks. Officer Phillips explained that calls are prioritized and if no one is injured or in danger, it may take a little longer to get to that call.

National Night Out is August 4, 2015. Hudson Park has been doing a great deal of the work. The grill from the city will be there. All those who attend, are encouraged to bring a dish to share.

The Hudson/Jay Park Initiative - Adopt a Piece of the Planet in our Neighborhood was discussed. Volunteers were solicited to adopt an area of the park and maintain it throughout the season,

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 pm.