**ACoN Minutes**
July 28, 2015
6:30 p.m., Municipal Bldg, Room 204

Present:
Gary Yount, President Phillip Lockard John Klimm, City Manager
Ann Dicks, Vice President Donna Fanning Larry Wood, *Aiken Standard*
Diane Saunders, Treasurer James Matthews Roger Brock
Beth Copenhaver, Secretary Bill Busser Shelby Saunders
Sgt. Mary Frantz, Aiken County Sheriff’s Office
Sgt. Jennifer Bickel, Aiken Public Safety

The meeting was opened by President Yount at 6:30 p.m. He distributed the agenda and minutes. Everyone was asked to introduce himself/herself and tell what neighborhood he/she was representing. Then he introduced the new Aiken City Manager, Mr. John Klimm, and asked him to speak to us.

Mr. Klimm gave information about his background and said that he and his wife fell in love with Aiken when they visited. He talked about how he wants to build stronger relationships personally and professionally with people and organizations. He said that citizens do care to get involved but are often busy working two jobs, taking care of family obligations, etc. He stressed that he wants to hear from organizations such as ACoN because he can only be effective by listening and building those relationships. He also said that his office intends to do a random-sample survey so that citizens can give input on a set of questions of interest to the Aiken community. He mentioned how we can more effectively use Channel 4 to communicate what is happening in the City of Aiken.

At Mr. Klimm’s request, each ACoN member present mentioned briefly any neighborhood concerns or items they wished Mr. Klimm to be aware of.

President Yount asked the law enforcement officers present to give their updates. Sgt. Jennifer Bickel updated the group about the upcoming Safety Awareness event scheduled for September 19, 2015, from 10 until 2 p.m. at the Municipal Building. The group reviewed the suggested vendors to be contacted, as well as made suggestions of additional speakers/vendors/ organizations to be contacted. Sgt. Mary Frantz (Aiken County Sheriff’s Office) gave general comments regarding public safety and handed out information from the FBI “Active Shooter” training that was held at Millbrook Baptist Church.

The meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m. **The next ACoN meeting will be Sept. 22, 2015, at 6:30 p.m. at the Municipal Building, 214 Park Avenue SW.**