**ACoN Minutes**
July 25, 2017
6:30 p.m., Municipal Bldg., First floor conference room

Present:
Gary Yount, President James Matthews Sgt. Mary Frantz
Beth Copenhaver, Secretary Bill Busser Ryan Bland
Ann Dicks, V-President Roger Brock Tim Coakley
Diane Saunders, Treasurer Mary Yarborough Sgt. Dawn Drasher
Alex L. Chew Rocky Napier Laura Bagwell
Michele O’Shaughnessy

President Gary Yount opened the meeting at 6:30 p.m. and asked everyone to introduce himself/herself. Mr. Yount then handed out a calendar of upcoming events.

President Yount asked Sgt. Frantz to give comments since she could not stay long. Sgt. Frantz talked about Operation Recovery and distributed handouts.

During the Community Roundtable, President Yount invited all attendees to briefly share ideas/neighborhood concerns.

The minutes from the Mar. 28, 2017, meeting were distributed and approved as written. The treasurer’s report was disseminated, and Diane Saunders spoke briefly about the current balance of $390.52. The treasurer’s report was then approved.

President Yount asked Beth Copenhaver to talk about the changes to ACoN’s bylaws that were proposed at the March 28th meeting. The two changes regarding bi-monthly meetings and allowing the president to appoint a sergeant-at-arms were approved.

President Yount asked Beth Copenhaver to report on costs and donations from the ADPS Open House. Mrs. Copenhaver gave out a spreadsheet that showed $164.43 in expenses for serving food at the ADPS Open House on May 20, 2017. She said that two homeowners’ associations and seven ACoN members generously donated a total of $326.42. President Yount explained that ADPS has asked ACoN to again serve, as well as provide all food and supplies, for the 2018 ADPS Open House. After some discussion regarding 1) only providing food for law enforcement (ADPS, ACSO, and Highway Patrol) or 2) providing food for the community (as was done the past 2 years), it was decided that this issue will be voted upon at the September 26, 2017, ACoN meeting. At the September meeting, we will also vote on whether ACoN will set up a tent/table at the annual Unity Day at Perry Park.

President Yount talked about the June City Council work session where nuisance properties was discussed. Beth Copenhaver, Rocky Napier, and Alex Chew also attended that work session. Mr. Yount said that Courtney Clyburn-Pope, City Solicitor, is organizing a meeting that will bring in folks from Greenville, Rock Hill, and Clemson to talk about how their communities have successfully dealt with nuisance properties. He said he talked with Courtney and she said this meeting will probably be in August or September. It was also discussed that since several City Council positions will have new council members as of November, ACoN must be diligent in seeing that this issue is not dropped.

President Yount asked Laura Bagwell to discuss the Richland Avenue West concerns. Laura told everyone about neighbors’ concerns (both city and county) caused by payday lenders, motels used for criminal enterprise, etc. She said that the Aiken Standard is doing an article on this and that the neighborhoods’ residents are signing petitions. Mr. Brock also added that the City Planning Dept. is aware of these issues and is supportive.

President Yount asked Michele O’Shaughnessy, chair of the fundraising committee, to talk about fundraising, as well as ACoN shirts. Michele distributed a handout of fundraising possibilities, such as grants, grocery and restaurant incentives, etc. Then Michele showed polo and tee shirts (and gave prices) that could be ordered and paid for by interested members. Both the fundraising and the shirts will be voted upon at the September meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m. **The next meeting of 2017 will be Tuesday, September 26, 2017, at 6:30 p.m.**