**ACoN Minutes**
Mar. 28, 2017
6:30 p.m., Municipal Bldg., First floor conference room

Present:
Gary Yount, President James Matthews Sgt. Mary Frantz
Beth Copenhaver, Secretary Martha Perry Marya Moultrie
Roger Brock James Braxton Tim Coakley
Bill Busser Sgt. Matt Comer

President Gary Yount opened the meeting at 6:30 p.m. and asked everyone to introduce himself/herself. Mr. Yount stated that Vice-President Dicks was ill and that Treasurer Saunders was with her ill mother.

The minutes from the Jan. 24, 2016, meeting were distributed and approved as written.

President Yount welcomed our special guests from the City of Aiken (Tim Coakley, Marya Moultrie, Sgt. Matt Comer, and Sgt. Mary Frantz) and asked if they had information to share. 1) Sgt. Mary Frantz gave dates for Special Olympics’ events, sponsored by the Aiken County Sheriff's Department, at Red Lobster and Fatz Restaurants, as well as Midland Valley High School. 2) Sgt. Matt Comer, ADPS, gave dates for events such as the Earth Day “People Chase”, as well as the “Drug Takeback” at TLC Pharmacy on Silver Bluff Road. 3) Tim Coakley said that the “dial-a-dumpster” program has been phased out; however, ACoN neighborhood presidents/leaders could still request one for a one/two-day *neighborhood* clean-up. 4) Marya Moultrie reminded everyone to give her a call regarding zoning if you have renovation plans (new decks, etc.). She also asked ACoN to update her if we receive new neighborhood contacts.

Secretary Copenhaver distributed suggested changes to the bylaws to accommodate a sergeant-at-arms position being added to ACoN, as well as to update the bylaws to reflect *bi-monthly* meetings (instead of monthly meetings). She said that, according to the bylaws, we will give members 30 days to consider and then we will vote on the bylaw changes at the May ACoN meeting.

President Yount gave Roger Brock the floor to list the goals of his Neighborhood Watch Committee. Mr. Brock and Mr. Bill Busser co-chair this committee. Their goals are the following: 1) Survey to determine which neighborhoods have an active neighborhood/community/crime watch. Determine which neighborhoods have an interest in training new neighborhood leaders for this purpose. 2) Continue to build a strong relationship with ADPS and the Aiken County Sheriff’s Dept. Consider a meeting bringing together neighborhood/community/crime watch leaders from city neighborhoods. Sgt. Frantz suggested that county watch groups be included if a meeting is arranged.

In Mrs. Dicks’ absence, President Yount gave an update on the Landlord/Property Concerns Committee. Mr. Yount said that their committee met but that the invited landlords did not attend as agreed.

In the Roundtable discussion, these topics were mentioned: 1) landlords often not living in our community; 2) the benefit of the “neighborhood university” that was offered at one time; opinions on the proposed parking garage; 4-H summer camp being offered to other Aiken city neighborhoods (June 6-8); grass fires caused by people burning in the city (from fire pits); privacy issues from drones.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m. **The third meeting of 2017 will be Tuesday, May 23, 2017, at 6:30 p.m.**