**ACoN Minutes**
May 26, 2015
6:30 p.m., Municipal Bldg, Room 204

Present:
Gary Yount, President Phillip Lockard Mary Yarborough
Ann Dicks, Vice President Mary Flora James Matthews
Diane Saunders, Treasurer Rev. Brendolyn Jenkins-Boseman
Beth Copenhaver, Secretary
Sgt. Mary Frantz, Aiken County Sheriff’s Office
Cpl. Rick Brown, Aiken Public Safety

The meeting was opened by President Yount at 6:30 p.m. He distributed the minutes and asked that those in attendance review the minutes from March 24, 2015. A motion was made and seconded to accept the minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

Diane Saunders distributed the treasurer’s report showing a balance of $907.61. Disbursements were shown for food for the May law enforcement appreciation luncheon, as well as for the association’s post office box. A motion was made and seconded to accept the treasurer’s report. The motion passed unanimously.

President Yount asked the law enforcement officers present to give their reviews of the May 16th appreciation luncheon. Sgt. Mary Frantz (Aiken County Sheriff’s Office) and Cpl. Rick Brown (ADPS) gave general comments thanking ACoN for the luncheon. Cpl. Brown also suggested that future events be advertised also on Facebook.

President Yount asked Rev. Boseman to give comments about the focus group held today (May 26); Rev. Boseman said the communication shared by ADPS regarding the status of hiring officers, body cameras, etc., was helpful and positive.

Under Items for Consideration, Sgt. Frantz reported about the upcoming community event “Touch-a-Truck” scheduled for July 25, 2015 (9 a.m. to 1 p.m.) at O’Dell Weeks. She mentioned certain “hot spots” where the Sheriff’s Department had been concentrating its efforts and setting up checkpoints; she encouraged ACoN to email her any locations of concern.

Cpl. Brown mentioned the problem of “donut holes” (where residents had opted out of joining the city) causing problems (where some city ordinances cannot be enforced or where the county must be called instead of ADPS). The group discussed the noise ordinances and what can be done. After discussion, Beth Copenhaver made a motion that ACoN set up a meeting with either the city and/or county council members (or the appropriate department) to discuss if additional ordinances are needed to protect neighborhoods from non-resident home owners/landlords who are abdicating responsibilities for their properties. James Matthews seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

President Yount told the group about Shelby Saunders’ mother passing away. He said that ACoN was donating $25 to the Alzheimer’s Association in her memory and that any individuals who wished to contribute should give their donations to Diane (who, as ACoN treasurer, will send that donation).

Diane discussed the Safety Awareness Day scheduled for September 2015. She will talk with Capt. Turno about September 19 specifically and will suggest the event’s hours be 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Sgt. Frantz said that she would be willing to present on “scams”; the group also discussed inviting vendors, such as ADS, Carver, Dixie, etc. It was suggested that we advertise for additional vendors, have displays of surveillance cameras, etc.

President Yount briefly stated that we want to engage ALL neighborhoods in ACoN and that we want to have an ongoing conversation regarding outreach to other neighborhoods.

President Yount also stated that he is delaying naming the nominating committee until July (for November election of ACoN officers).

Final announcements/comments: The Aiken Cares – Community Assistance Expo is scheduled for June 13th. Phillip Lockard wanted members to know that Bill Gassman is at GRU for medical procedures. James Matthews said that he has the banner that was used at the May 16th appreciation luncheon.

The meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m. **The next ACoN meeting will be July 28, 2015, at 6:30 p.m. at the Municipal Building, 214 Park Avenue SW.**