

Antioch Hills Homes Association Annual Meeting Minutes 2018

The Antioch Hills Homes Association Annual Meeting was held on Thursday, April 19, 2018 at the Merriam City Hall Community Room. The Meet & Greet was held from 6:30-7:00 p.m. The Meeting called to order by President Connie Allen at 7:00 p.m.

All members of the Board were present: Connie Allen, Colleen Boeding, Shana Casner, Kevin Schneier, Jim Smith, Nancy Steele, and Jean Teel.

Reports:

Annual Meeting Minutes – 2017

The Minutes of the AHHA Annual Meeting 2017 were approved by a voice vote. The motion was made by Mary Smith and seconded by Tami Wilson.

Treasurer's Report.

Nancy Steel, Treasurer, reported that annual dues will remain at \$200 .

Earlier this spring, Waste Management (WM) fees went up by 2% as permitted by our contract. In addition, WM had been under-counting the homes serviced so a correction was made. However, we were able to absorb those additional costs, as well as include an anticipated 2% trash increase next spring, without increasing dues at this time.

Our trash contract auto-renews Jan 1st. This fall we will have an opportunity to renegotiate. We are considering our alternatives and will look more closely at this toward the end of the summer.

Our reserve fund, which is invested in an interest-bearing account, is currently \$29,447.50. Unused funds from this fiscal year will be added to that at the end of April. It is recommended that we keep at least one year's dues in reserve, The additional funds are available for unexpected expenses that may arise.

AHHA Phone & Email Directory.

Jean Teel and Connie Allen reported that the Directory is being proofread now. It will be emailed to residents. Those with no email will receive a hard copy.

AHHA Website: antiochhills.org.

This site gives the name and contact information of Board Members, Minutes of previous Annual Meetings, Bylaws, Declarations, Restrictions, Communication Policy, etc. It's an excellent reference of the Association's important documents.

AHHA Facebook page.

This is our informal information-sharing, photo sharing, etc. It's a great place to ask neighbors for references for work to be done on or in our homes. One must live in or own a home in Antioch Hills request membership. After signing into FB, type the following in the upper left hand box: *Antioch Hills Homes Association (AHHA) Merriam, KS*

AHHA Garage Sale Information. – Friday and Saturday, June 8-9, 2018.

- Signs will be placed on street corners on Friday and Saturday only.
- Each household must get its own permit from the City.
merriam.org / 913 322-5500
- The sale will be announced on Nextdoor.com, Craig's List, and Facebook.
- Let Connie Allen know if you are having a garage sale so a sign can be placed on appropriate streets. (913-742-9390 / callen891@gmail.com)

Old Business. There was none.

New Business.

The **AHHA Communication Policy** was introduced. This document explains how the Association will use electronic means (email) to reach residents and owners. The resident/owner needs to be sure that the AHHA has contact information. This document helps us to follow state guidelines.

Board Elections.

Four positions were up for election. The four present Board members agreed to run again. Their terms will be up for renewal in 2020. Thanks to those willing to help our association: Connie Allen, Shana Casner, Kevin Schneier, and Jim Smith. AHHA Secretary, Jean Teel, said she is resigning from the Board due to family health issues. Please consider running for the one year remaining of this term. It's worthwhile, interesting, fulfilling and fun.

Door Prize Winners.

David Geiss and David Parker were the winners of \$25 reduction of the Annual Dues. Congratulations to them.

Guests.

Our guests provided us with worthwhile interesting information concerning our neighborhood, community, and city. We thank them for taking their time to meet with us.

Merriam Police Chief Mike Daniels and his staff want to build relationships with the city to reduce crime. In schools, the police work with staff and students on things such as stranger danger. They have lunch with the students so they learn more about keeping our neighborhoods safe and help to provide Christmas gifts to those in need. They hold the Torch Run down Merriam Drive to the Cinemark Theater where officers bag popcorn and give the profits to Special Olympics.

In Merriam, there were no arsons in 2017. There were 5 aggravated robberies, 538 thefts, 112 auto thefts but only one car stolen last year. Chief Daniels' remark on this is "Please keep your car doors locked."

The DDACTS model is still working well. DDACTS is *Data-Driven Approaches to Crime and Traffic Safety*. This is an area where crime and traffic accidents intertwine. In Merriam, this is the area from SM Parkway to Johnson Drive and from I-35 to Antioch. This is an area well patrolled. One hotel in the area had a great many problems and now has its own DDACTS zone which is closed patrolled. DDACTS has helped.

Shawnee Mission parkway is the leading accident location with 40,000 cars using the roadway daily. Most of the accidents were caused by people running into the car ahead of them from following too closely. Most of the accidents at intersections were at 75th and Antioch.

I-35 had 490 accidents in 2017 in a two-mile stretch, especially north of W 75th as I-35 narrows.

More officers are on site at the Merriam Town Center to help reduce crime.

There was one murder on Mastin St. where it was decided to be self-defense.

In Antioch Hills, there were 13 reports of crime last year: 6 were actual crimes but the rest were to check on a neighbor to be sure he/she was OK; others were juveniles running away.

The recently-renovated police station is much more practical and works much better in answering the different needs of the department. Four new officers were hired.

John Blessing, Municipal Account Manager, Waste Management described how Waste Management acquired Deffenbaugh in 2015. In a change of personnel, John will be working with municipal accounts while Mike Torno will work with Homes Associations. A part of Waste Management's mission is to give substantial amounts to charity as they want to be a good community partner. They use 80 trucks for residential trash pickups. They use compressed natural gas which has a fraction of emissions and leaves a reduced carbon footprint.

The Johnson County landfill owned by WM has developed a win/win situation. Landfills burn gasses which make an odor. WM now harvests that gas, pumps it out where it goes to a gas partner who cleans it to produce natural gas. This gas is then used in the WM trucks. Now when WM buys new trucks, they don't replace with diesel trucks but with those which operate with natural gas.

Recycling was a conception which was thought to make money but need is down now. Certain types of materials are gathered, cleaned, separated, bundled up and sold to manufacturers. One of these receivers is the Ford Claycomo plant. The largest recycler in the world is China. The KC market of recyclable contains 15% e-waste. This is far from China's demands for only ½ percent e-waste. This can be fixed with consumers being careful with their recycling. For example, a pizza box containing oil can contaminate an entire bundle. Waxy milk cartons can be recycled but need to be rinsed thoroughly first so the contents don't sour and ruin an entire shipment.

John's last thought on recycling: "When in doubt, leave it out, check it out!" Good advice for all of us.

David Easley, Merriam Neighborhood Services Manager (a part of Merriam Community Development) discussed the revised regulations for home businesses. There are two types: Type 1, for example, includes businesses such as sales. Type 2 would include a business such as working from a computer. There are no requirements for these. Merriam is stepping back from more severe restrictions. The changes are positive. New forms and applications are being processed. Up-to-date information can be found on merriam.org.

Day care is monitored through the state and not by the City.

There will be parking restrictions so business parking will have to be off street. This is not a police department issue. They will not give a citation if the vehicle is legally parked on the street. Problems will be handled through Community Development so David will be the one to call (913-322-5526 / davide@merriam.org). With a home business, the parking has to be addressed at the time of the application.

If a business needs to be licensed, Community Development can help, for example, with business cards, etc. The business can put its email address on a vehicle to show it is a business. If storage is left in a yard and it can be seen, the city can deal with it. Watch merriam.org for up-to-date information.

If parked vehicles block visibility, for example, David Easley's office is the one to contact.

City Council members, Chris Evans Hands and Nancy Hupp, along with David talked about the grant funds for neighborhood improvement projects. There is a neighborhood island grant where funds can be given for upkeep, planting, and flowers. One can adopt an island. Merriam's website, merriam.org, has a lot of information on these matters.

Nancy and Chris reminded us of the need for volunteers for the Turkey Creek Festival. Call City Hall for further information. (913 322-5500).

Adjournment.

With no further business, President Connie Allen adjourned the meeting at 8:30 p.m.