



MINUTES OF THE SYBRAND PARK CIVIC ASSOCIATION ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Date: Saturday: 22nd July 2023
Venue: Star College, Sybrand Park
Attendance: 30 persons
The meeting began promptly at 14:05.

Welcome & Apologies:

Imtiaz Adams, the Chairperson, opened the meeting by extending a warm welcome to everyone in attendance. He proceeded to read out apologies from several members who were unable to attend. Special thoughts were shared for Councillor Mark Kleinschmidt, who is currently recuperating from a recent stroke. His continuous commitment and active role in the community were acknowledged and appreciated.

Address By Councillor Mark Kleinschmidt

Despite his health condition, remains an influential figure in our community. He implored the attendees to actively participate in the Neighbourhood Watch, a community-driven initiative aimed at reducing crime and promoting safety. Kleinschmidt praised the unity of Sybrand Park and the ongoing efforts of its residents to make the area a better place to live.

In an uplifting announcement, Kleinschmidt mentioned that the city council has set aside an amount of R200,000 for the upgrade of Prieska Road Park. To utilise this fund effectively, SP Civic Association representatives will coordinate with Gerhardus Lomborg for the park's makeover, an initiative widely applauded by all present. He warned against illegal tree planting activities in the park and advised contacting Jan Bothas for any tree related concerns.

Neighbourhood Watch

The Chairperson's representative, Eron Louis, addressed the audience, emphasizing the Watch's role in crime prevention and public safety. Despite the various challenges they face, including the current state of the train station and the broken fences along highways, they remain committed to serving the community. She shared a heartening story of how they recently recovered a resident's vehicle, which was hijacked more than 16 years ago. Despite the victory, the sombre news of a young boy's murder in neighbouring Garlandale served as a stark reminder of the continuous fight against crime.

Treasurer's Report:

Imtiaz Ahmed, standing in for Shahieda Antvorskov, the treasurer, presented a summary of the financial status. As of 30th September 2022, the current account balance stood at 7,568.56, and the savings account balance was at R28,501.55, amounting to a total of R36,070.11. It was noted that the primary source of income is the levies paid by residents, a modest sum of R100 per annum per household. Residents were reminded to pay their dues, and the audited financial statements were said to be available in the next 7 days.

Chairman's Report: ...

Chairman's Report:

Chairman Imtiaz Adams acknowledged and thanked the entire Exco for their commendable work, calling out individual contributions. Richard was praised for his networking efforts and liaison with the City of Cape Town, Fuad for his diligent secretarial work, and James for his excellent communication skills and the creation of an impressive website for the neighbourhood. Following the acknowledgments, Imtiaz proceeded to read his Chairman's report, a comprehensive review of the past year's work and future plans.

Annual General Meeting July 22, 2023: CHAIRPERSON REPORT HIGHLIGHTS

The atmosphere at the Annual General Meeting of the Sybrand Park Civic Association on July 22, 2023, was filled with warmth and camaraderie as the Chairperson welcomed guests and residents. It was a gathering of individuals who shared a common goal: to improve and nurture the vibrant community of Sybrand Park.

In the opening remarks, the Chairperson expressed heartfelt gratitude to the collective Executive Committee (ExCo) for their dedicated efforts and tireless commitment throughout the year. Each member played a crucial role in various activities and initiatives, as detailed in the comprehensive report presented.

An essential theme emphasized during the report was "civic engagement," a term defined as actively working to make a difference in the civic life of one's community. The Chairperson proudly claimed that the ExCo exemplified civic engagement, investing knowledge, skills, values, and motivation to create positive change. Honesty and transparency were core principles upheld, even amidst the numerous challenges faced by the community of Sybrand Park.

Trust emerged as a significant theme. The Chairperson shared the hope that the community would place their trust in the ExCo even more, as it would lead to better decision-making and effective resolution of various issues. Building trust fosters a healthier relationship between the community and the organization, leading to greater satisfaction with the overall performance.

The Chairperson made it clear that civic engagement was not limited to the ExCo alone. Any individual or group activity aimed at addressing public concerns and improving the community's quality could be seen as civic engagement. In this sense, every resident of Sybrand Park could contribute to making a difference.

The report highlighted specific accomplishments over the past year. One notable achievement was the ExCo's direct involvement in presenting motivations to the relevant authorities concerning the unfeasibility of building developments on the Rondebosch Golf Club. Through these efforts, the committee protected public values and advocated for the betterment of the community.

Security remained a primary concern, and the ExCo hosted meetings to address pertinent security issues. Representatives from various organizations, including the City of Cape Town, law enforcement, and PRASA, participated in these crucial gatherings. The presence and active engagement of residents added to the strength of these discussions. Water and sanitation issues were also addressed through a meeting following heavy rains that caused flooding and damage in the area. Expert assessments were conducted, and an action plan was devised to resolve the problems raised.

Other areas of focus included electricity issues, traffic challenges, and the allocation of funds for a much-anticipated park upgrade. The ExCo tirelessly engaged with relevant departments and authorities to bring about positive changes in these aspects.

The Chairperson acknowledged ...

The Chairperson acknowledged the contributions of the Principal of Star College, who actively cooperated in easing traffic congestion around the school, resulting in a safer environment for all. However, the issue of taxis causing disruptions remained a challenge, and stricter law enforcement was sought to curb the issue.

A highlight in the upcoming events was the Spring/Summer Fair, which promised to be an exciting opportunity for the community to come together, showcase home industries, and strengthen bonds.

Despite the accomplishments, the Chairperson humbly acknowledged the challenges that lay ahead, especially with regard to failing infrastructure and crime. A call to support the Neighbourhood Watch (NW) in their efforts to maintain security was made, emphasizing the importance of vigilance.

The Chairperson extended heartfelt gratitude to the outgoing ExCo members for their unwavering dedication to serving the community. The voluntary work they performed played a significant role in the community's growth and well-being. Gratitude was also expressed towards regular supporters, the Ward, and the Councillor, who continuously motivated the ExCo to offer their best.

In conclusion, the Chairperson's report instilled a sense of pride and responsibility among the attendees. Together, they embraced the challenges and looked forward to a united effort in shaping a brighter future for Sybrand Park. With civic engagement at the core, the community stood ready to make a difference and ensure that Sybrand Park remained a safe, pleasant, and flourishing place to call home.

Open Floor for Questions:

During the question session, Annemarie Merkle voiced concern about cars disregarding the stop sign on Lyndale Road during the morning rush when parents drop off their children at school. A resident echoed the sentiment, adding that speeding cars along Eike Road pose a danger to the community's safety.

Election of Executive Committee for 2023/2024:

Under the supervision of Cllr M. Kleinschmidt, as the Electoral Officer, the ExCo 2022/2023 was officially dissolved, paving the way for the nomination of new members onto ExCo 2023/2024.

It was moved that the existing Executive be re-elected with the addition of Aydin Inal and Alastair McLean, who were warmly welcomed by all present. Ms. Wisaal Latief was also nominated in her absence [she sent along a note indicating her willingness to serve on the ExCo].

Executive Committee members: 2023 – 2024 are as follows:

Adams, Imtiaz
Antvorskop, Shahieda
Du Toit, Fuad
George, James
Hill, Richard
Hoffman, Claire
Inal, Aydin
Johnson, Belinda
Latief, Wisaal
McClain, Alan
Melly, Patrick
Minnaar, Keith
Mohamed, Zivia

The Office bearers / Executive of the ExCo will be nominated on Tuesday, 25th July 2023.

Meeting Adjournment: ...

Meeting Adjournment:

The meeting concluded at 15h37, following a fruitful discussion and a productive exchange of ideas and plans for the community's future. The commitment and enthusiasm of the attendees were palpable, indicating a promising year ahead for the Sybrand Park Civic Association.

Reminders:

Residents are urged to pay their annual subscription of R100.00 per household. Banking details can be found on the website. Please use the head-of-household name and street address as reference.

Residents are requested to provide their name and contact details, including mobile number and email, for efficient communication. The Association affirms its commitment to the Protection of Personal Information Act, acting responsibly in the collection, processing, storage, and sharing of residents' personal information.

Minutes compiled by: **Mr. James George**

Signed: **Mr. Imtiaz A. Adams**



Date: 03 August 2023