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CCN Meeting July 24, 2025

Officers Present- Kay Patterson, Adam Nagler, Kenneth Tolson, Pat Brown, Harrison Greenlaw

The Columbia Council of Neighborhoods meeting was called to order by the president, Kay Patterson. The participants were welcomed and asked to review minutes received at the sign-in table. There was no financial report presented at this time. Board members for the 2025-2027 service years were presented. Ms. Patterson briefly thanked the audience for electing her as president for this service term. She assured everyone she would put forth her best efforts to help the organization provide communication, service and resources to the participating neighborhoods.

Speakers

Mr. Derek McDaniel- Energy Conservation Program Manager from Dominion Energy

Mr. McDaniel introduced to the audience a program for reducing your heating bill. This program will include home visits to determine your heating efficiency. The program is currently scheduled for designated areas that are 20% below the poverty level. The service will be free for homes that meet the criteria in the designated zones. If your home was built in the 60s or 70s your energy efficiency probably needs to be checked. People who do not live in the currently designated areas are encouraged to call the office at 803.217.4714 for additional information and the possibility of participation. The service is offered to home owners but if you rent or live in an apartment you must have the owner's permission before participating in the program.

Ms. Leigh DeForth- Comprehensive Planner from Columbia Planning and Development Services

Ms. DeForth wanted citizens to know that specific roads and corridors in Columbia will be designated for study to improve traffic flow and safety improvements. Neighbors were asked to be on the look out for information in the Columbia City news information emails and media outlets concerning community input sessions for a variety of areas in the City beginning in August. In October a report of input sessions will be presented to the citizens. This program will be funded by federal grants.

Announcements

1. The August 28th CCN meeting will be held at Hampton Park, 1117 Brandon Ave, 29209 at 6:00pm
2. Immediate Past President Harrison Greenlaw made the announcement that neighborhoods are being asked to nominate Neighborhood Volunteers of the Year, Neighborhood of the Year and Neighborhood Project/Event of the Year. He stated that the deadline for entries had been extended and definite deadlines would be announced at our next meeting.
3. The Print Building will not be available to the public until December due to renovations to the building.
4. Wiley Kennedy Foundation will host a town hall meeting with Representative James Clyburn on July 27. The public is invited.
5. Business Opportunity Workshop on August 14 at the Busby Community Center. The workshop will focus on Marketing and Social Media Usage.
6. Trevon Fordham, Director of Office of Neighborhood Safety and Engagement made brief statements to the group. He stated that Kimberley Goethe would make signs for the Stop the Violence campaign available to people in the audience at the end of the meeting. Ms. Goethe asked the audience to take one sign per neighborhood and call their office if you wanted additional signs.
7. The City of Columbia is partnering with Sister Care to collect toiletry items from August 1-October 25. The public can drop off toiletry items at the following locations:
 - City Hall, 1737 Main Street
 - City of Columbia Payment Center, 3000 Harden Street
 - Columbia Richland Fire Department Headquarters, 1800 Laurel Street
 - Hyatt Park, 950 Jackson Avenue
 - Greenvue Park, 6700 David Street
 - MLK Park, 2300 Greene Street
 - Woodland Park, 6500 Olde Knight Parkway
 - All Good Books, 734 Harden Street
 - Sunrise Artisan Bath and Body, 710 Saluda Ave
 - Hawthorne Taylor Pharmacy, 1520-A Taylor Street
 - Mast General Store, 1601 Main Street
 - Vestique, 631 Harden Street
 - Sweet GGs Bakery, 613 Harden Street
8. Councilwoman Tina Herbert presented a progress report on City Council information. She then answered questions from the audience.

A motion for adjournment was made and the meeting was adjourned to a fellowship activity with the meeting attendees.

Minutes transcribed by the secretary, Pat Brown