

**Harbour View Citizens Association
Minutes of General Meeting Held August 15, 2022
via Google Meet**

***** Call to Order & Welcome *****

The meeting was called to order at 3:11 pm by President Hall. Thirteen (13) persons were present at the start and warm welcome was extended to all.

***** Prayer *****

Prayer was offered by Morene Clarke

***** Apologies *****

The following are the apologies that were tendered:

For absence:

- Charlene Sharpe
- Liverpool *****
- Stacey McKenzie
- Garth Daniels
- Karlene M. Black

***** Family Matters *****

Birthdays

- Sereta Harris – August 11 (*centenarian*)
- Althea Blissett – August 18

Wedding Anniversary

There were no announced wedding anniversaries for June.

Passing

- Sister of Beryl Urquhart – August 1
- Rev. Barrington Lane

***** Reading, Correction and Confirmation of Minutes *****

No minutes

***** Updates *****

President Hall provided the following as updates:

- **Flag raising ceremony:**

The flag raising ceremony went very well despite some minor glitches and the rain. Over 100 persons were in attendance. The fun day was not as supported as initially expected. However, those who came had a good time.

➤ **Vending at the roundabout:**

Subsequent to a media briefing by the Mayor regarding the erection of temporary stall in the space, members of the Executive met with KSAMC. We informed them that the community in general, did not want any stalls to be erected in that area. KSAMC in response to our suggestion for the use of Jamaica Gate advised that the planned temporary setup was to beautify the area for the Independence celebrations and that indeed the permanent set up is slated for Jamaica Gate.

A meeting was also held with a few of the vendors to explain our position on the vending issue. We respectfully disagreed on some points so the meeting was quite amicable.

Letters have been written and we have spoken to anyone who will listen concerning the matter. The promise from the MP, Mrs. Juliet Holness is that she will push for getting the vendors relocated in a permanent space.

In response to an invitation for comments, the following were highlighted:

- Sharon Williams said she is happy about the vendors moving to a more permanent space but is concerned that if it is across on the other side heading towards the airport, there is the sewage plant that from time to time has a stench that emanates from it which will affect the vendors and buyers. She also asked if the move was only for the vendors at the roundabout or for those on Seashore Place as well.

Madame President indicated that the issue was brought up in the meeting with Mayor Williams and assurance was given that he, with the help of NWC and KSAMC, deal with the matter. It will be a win-win situation as even the mosquitos will be dealt with. In regards to the vendors on Seashore Place, Councillor Clue has been having discussions with them in trying to find a way to deal with it. So, suggestions are welcome.

The following are the comments/suggestions that were forwarded:

- Since a place has been identified; put all the vendors there instead of having some on one side and some on the other side. The space is big enough to hold everyone.
- It might be difficult for the senior citizens to get to the other side of the road. As such a few vendors could be allowed to operate in a very structured manner with formal rules that will be signed. The rules that are established by the shopping centre management could be applied.
- If we are going to really build a community, efforts should be made to rid the community of all the aspects of illegality and it can't be that we are moving some vendors and leaving some vendors as it would defeat the entire purpose.

In response, President Hall reiterated that she had personally made the suggestion to put all the vendors in the space to Mayor Williams but he was against it. He indicated that he didn't want produce being sold over there. He was thinking of keeping fruits and the food items etc. separate. However, she believes that if you put one section where the produce is and a fruit section and then you have the food, it can work as well. If there is an issue with the seniors gaining access to the vendors, a solution will be found.

A nice farmers market, set up with proper stalls, bathroom facility, proper electricity, and parking with adequate space would be perfect. The place would have to be monitored as with anything to make sure that it is being kept because it is the gateway to the city and everybody coming from the airport.

➤ **The community centre:**

Requests have been received for a return to face-to-face meetings. Therefore, efforts are being made to determine what is needed to facilitate this. One of the major challenges is that the Community Centre has been locked for some time and is in need of repairs. KSAMC has to formally turn the Centre over to the community. In so doing, they have asked for a project proposal that outlines what needs to be done.

Three of the major issues are that the roof leaks which causes a mold problem, there is no electricity and there is no water. The Project's Committee has done a proposal which has been sent to KSAC for the renovations and expansion. The estimate is approximately \$9 million. After the work is done, the Centre could be used as a profit-making space for the Association.

The community center is one of the places that we would probably have to start our face-to-face meetings. Failing that would mean we use Harbour View school. So, we want to deal with the Community Center if it is even a short-term basis. We have approached China Harbour to seek assistance for the perimeter fence and the roof. When we do go back to face-to-face, provision will be made to stream the meetings to facilitate those who are in the diaspora or are unable to attend in person. An assessment of the tools necessary to facilitate the streaming will be done and the necessary acquisitions made.

➤ **Dues:**

Persons are being encouraged to settle outstanding dues which remain \$100 per month.

➤ **Unoccupied houses in the community:**

It has been brought to the attention of the Association that there are some empty houses in the community that are attracting squatters, undesirables and criminal elements. The decision coming out of an Executive meeting is to compile a listing of those premises and try to make contact with the owners. As such, residents are being asked to assist by taking note of any house that has been unoccupied for a while and reporting same to the Association.

***** Any Other Business *****

The following are items that were discussed in this segment of the meeting:

- The report from the engineering regarding the gully is still outstanding. The bottom half has been cleaned but no efforts have been made to do anywhere else.
- An update re the blocked drain at the roundabout was requested.
- The infrequent garbage collection remains an issue.

President Hall promised to continue to make representation and pursue the issue with the aim of having them resolved.

***** Adjournment *****

With thanks and blessings from the President to all in attendance, the meeting was adjourned at 4:54 pm on a motion moved by Sharon Williams and seconded by Heather Prendergast.