

WORA Board Meeting
August 18th
Michael E Busch Annapolis Library

Meeting Minutes

8 board members were present. 2 community members were present.

Call to Order

The meeting started at 5:15pm. A quorum was confirmed and prior meeting minutes were approved.

Officer Reports

President, Tom Kriek reported that has been steadily working on the website and hopes to soft launch on 9/1. This officer also reported that he has been recruiting volunteers for various committees and has been meeting with board members and committee chairs to develop plans. WORA and ECA representatives met with City Manager Yolanda Lewis and Transportation Director Marcus Moore on August 25th.

No vice president report.

No treasurer report.

No secretary report.

Committee Reports

Finance Committee Chairs Mike Sullivan and Tom Berger reported that they completed the first-month financial review for FY2026-2027 and July dues were recorded.

Bylaws Committee Chairs Anna Boehk and Tom Berger reported that bylaws will be distributed to members at the September 22nd meeting and will be voted on in the November meeting. Board member John Thorpe Richards made a motion to proceed with the incorporation of a new residents association and it was unanimously approved, beginning the 501(c)4 process.

Advocacy Committee Chairs Sharon Kennedy and John Richards reported that they completed their goals of reviewing and responding to the City's "Zoning Unlocked" report and as a result, Chief of Comprehensive Planning Eric Leshinsky extended the comment deadline. These officers intend to create a membership survey to identify the top three WORA advocacy issues to focus and streamline committee efforts.

Communications Committee Chair Ron Gunzberger reported that WORA's social media has shown a strong percentage increase in engagement and views. This officer is assisting on website development and leading social media campaign strategy and implementation.

Member Services Committee Chairs Anna Boehk and Bill Bray reported that their current focus is expanding volunteer participation through an ambassador program, which will be introduced at the September meeting. These officers hope to collaborate with the social committee to focus on member retention and hope to utilize the ambassador program for member growth.

Social Committee Chair Sandy Scott reported that plans are underway for the September membership meeting, which will be hosted at Ram's Head. The board unanimously approved spending \$450 on the Ram's Head room fee for the meeting. Committee members created the Dock Street Together campaign, which encourages WORA residents to support Dock Street businesses during the month of September to offset loss of business from the construction at City Dock.

No Nominating committee report.

New Business

- The next board meeting was scheduled for 5:30pm on September 15th, hosted at Sandy's house.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:30pm.

Following the meeting, Chief of Comprehensive Planning Eric Leshinsky presented the City's "Zoning Unlocked" report and answered questions from the audience. Upwards of 100 community members and WORA members attended the event.