

RCHHC Meeting Minutes, 09/10/2025, 7pm Devin Chapman home

Attendees:

Larry Williamson	Victoria Williamson
Gail Papula	Larry Papula
William Ledgerton	Hannah Ledgerton
Philip Aschliman	Sandy Broadwill
Michael Broadwill	Dave Datko
Rachael Datko	Steve Rasmussen
Devin Chapman	

A. WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS: Steve Rasmussen, RCHHC Chair

We usually have Trey Irby, City Neighborhood Services, but he might be attending an ADU workshop.

B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: from 07/09/2025 meeting

Minutes Approved by Motion, 2nd and voice vote.

C. OLD BUSINESS

1. Neighborhood Porch Fest/Studio Stroll

October 11 from Noon to 8PM. Victoria asked if there was a decision about a potluck at the end of the porch fest. Devin said he has not gotten to that and will check with the planning folks for a decision. He will keep us informed.

Devin shared that there was an overwhelming response and especially excited that Asheville Second Line will lead a street parade. After Porch Fest concludes, there will be an improv comedy show next door to Devin's house. If you are on Facebook, join the Horney Heights Facebook group for updates, likewise the RCHHC website will be updated with the schedule and the plans.

2. Bylaws revision: Vote on Bylaws, Article 3- Membership wording amendment, final approval

- A. A discussion was conducted and most people voiced keeping it as is.

A vote by acclamation was unanimous for passing the motion of keeping Article 3 as it had been written.

3. Neighborhood survey: The survey is closed now. The results are posted in graphs on the web site.

- A. 55 members responded. There was a “glitch” in question 1 which asked what street you live on. That means the results in that question are meaningless. See results [here](#). The top issue of all is Affordability!

Victoria reiterated that these results will be used to guide the “Plan on a Page” committee to complete the City’s Neighborhood Plan.

You can review the results at the link above.

D. NEW BUSINESS:

1. Affordability discussion (for Neighborhood Planning)

Trey Irby sent an email to our Chairman, Steve, that there is a virtual workshop for ADUs actually happening now. There will also be an in-person workshop on September 18 (see our events tab on the web site for details). The City is exploring ways to streamline the permitting process of converting backyard buildings to ADU (Accessory Dwelling Units). What exactly does “streamlining” mean? Hopefully it will be laid out at the open house. They are also pitching it as creating more “affordable housing” in neighborhoods. Steve expressed concerns about these regulation changes. Are the standards going to be lowered in defining a “livable space”?

William Ledgerton shared that he is a planner for Buncombe County in Community Development. He oversees Mountain Mobility and works with affordable housing group. Also, he wanted to clarify that ADUs are designed to put more houses on lots that can be either attached or separate from the main house. They are hoping to shorten the time for approval without changing zoning. ADUs must be rented 30 days or longer. Short term rentals can be available in certain zoning areas such as Haywood Rd and Patton Rd.

It was decided to discuss this further in the Plan on a Page Committee. Michael suggested that we use a google meets group, or Discord, or possibly a Google Group. Victoria will investigate Google Group.

Larry W. brought up in previous meetings a discussion to create a group in our NA to help plant trees around the neighborhood. Wiley Paxton is the neighbor that has contacts for obtaining trees. Steve acknowledged the request and agreed to add to the next meeting as an agenda item

Advisory Committee membership- It was explained that the Bylaws allow up to 9 persons being selected by the Officers. This will be added to the next meeting’s agenda. Any person interested to join the Advisory Committee may make this known to an Officer.

E. COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. Plan on a Page Committee

- a. Steve explained that Paper streets are street segments laid out on a plat but no one owns them. Although the City has a Right of way and practically anyone can do almost anything with the paper street. Several exist in this community. There was a visit by RiverLink to study the stormwater issues from Dunn to Rhododendron Creek. RiverLink thought there was already work that was done appropriately. Larry P explained what he learned from the RiverLink document that was shared with the neighbors on the Paper Street. The document provided by RiverLink has recommendations that are now on our web site in the Documents tab.

Is a paper street considered a public right of way? Larry P thought it was a utility right of way. Per Steve, the City of Durham have been developing plans for their Paper streets. Larry P suggested that there be cooperation between the neighbors bordering the paper streets.

Durham has encouraged creating “pocket parks” or walkways for people to get to shortcuts, especially walking to schools or during disasters when neighborhood roads might be blocked.

Philip expressed a desire to support “walkability” as to allow children walking to Herring School to be able to use the paper streets by building foot bridges over the creek or steps down banks to shorten the walk. He gave an example of a family that lives very close as the “crow flies” but must walk twice as far to get to school. One idea is to use “Plan on the Page” to discourage the city to privatize Paper Streets then the right of way is blocked.

- a. The “Paper Streets” map overlay link will be shared on our website or [here](#).

2. C.A.N. committee- nothing to report.

3. School Committee- Victoria reported from Amanda Wilde (Advisory Committee member and School Committee leader).

New Principal- Dr. Frank. Philip said he has met her, and he believes she should be great for the school.

At Herring, indoor construction is finished. Outdoor updates are next. Victoria has asked Amanda when we can ask the principal about opening the playground to the neighborhood. Amanda said she wanted to wait until the new principal settled in to broach the subject.

Victoria shared the Herring Peace Garden newsletter. The newsletter is available on our web page along with the FEAST Fall Fund Drive link. Victoria added to the “Events” tab on our web site the following: Garden Committee meeting, Gather and Garden, and Fall Garden Party.

Philip announced that there will be the biggest “Bike Bus” at 7:45 from Malvern Hills Park to Herring School via Sulphur Springs on September 17th. Traffic might be blocked a short time getting out of the neighborhood. Consider finding an alternate way out of the neighborhood on this date. Also, on

September 27th at Noon, a parade commemorating the anniversary of Helene, also a potluck and party. See the events tab on our web page and click on the entry for more detail.

The meeting adjourned at 8:15. The next meeting is scheduled for November 12. Location TBD