

Minutes for General Meeting

October 10, 2024

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by the president of the association, Adam Mastrangelo. The number of attendees was 66. After a brief welcome, he reminded attendees to sign in at the back table and offered snacks and drinks to all. He then introduced the acting board members: Adam Mastrangelo (President), Dave Harrison (Vice President), Teresa Mastrangelo (Communications Officer), Kathy Merkwon (Treasurer), and Janet Kubik (Secretary). After a brief safety briefing in the event of an emergency, Adam turned the meeting over to Teresa Mastrangelo.

Teresa Mastrangelo introduced the three mayoral candidates: David Bowers (Republican), Stephanie Moon-Reynolds (Independent), and Joe Cobb (Democrat). Then, three questions were asked of each candidate; and, each candidate had a minute to two to respond.

Question One. Why should *you* be elected mayor of Roanoke City?

Question Two. (Preface) Mass Zoning has been a very contentious issue across Roanoke City and work has been in progress since 2019. Yet, many citizens have felt that the City has not done enough to inform them of what the changes actually mean.

(Question) What do you consider to be the most effective means of community engagement on critical topics like what is happening with the Zoning reform?

Question Three. (Preface) Census data from 2023 says Roanoke's population was ~ 97K (~ 2.8% decline since 2020 and then flat to 2010). There were ~43K households in the City of Roanoke (~2.3 persons per household). The UVA Weldon Cooper Center projects that Roanoke will see its school enrollment fall by 4% over the next four years.

(Question) How do we reverse that trend of a declining population in the City of Roanoke?

Next, Teresa Mastrangelo gave each of the three candidates' poster board and a marker to record their one- or two-word answers to the following questions:

Question One. What is the single biggest challenge facing Roanoke City?

(Answers) Moon-Reynolds: Finance; Cobb: Fentanyl; Bowers: Rezoning

Question Two. If resources were unlimited, what would be your top priority?

(Answers) Bowers: Public Safety; Moon-Reynolds: Youth; Cobb: Work Force

Question Three. In one word or a phrase, describe the legacy you wish to leave as mayor?

(Answers) Cobb: Inclusive; Moon-Reynolds: Left better than found; Bowers: Thrive

Next, Teresa Mastrangelo asked the audience if they had any questions for the candidates. The Ground Rules were as follows: Please (1) state your name and what road you live on (2) ask a question ... don't make a statement and (3) all questions asked must be addressed so that all three candidates can respond to it. Refrain from asking any questions directed to a single candidate (those questions should be asked after the event). There was time for only three questions.

Question One. Anthony. Why is City Council not leveraging the resources available or making the best uses of the resources available in the City of Roanoke?

Question Two. Tim. What can City Council do to help Parks and Recreation maintain their facilities with a declining budget?

Question Three. DeShea. What, if anything, are you planning to do to lower our property taxes?

At the conclusion of the meeting, Teresa Mastrangelo thanked everyone for attending, and said that if audience members had further concerns or questions, the three candidates were available for additional conversation. She also reminded everyone that the next meeting would be held on November 14, 2024. At that meeting, the members will vote on the GDNA board. In addition, someone from the Real Estate Valuation Department will be present to explain how property value is assessed in the City of Roanoke. Lastly, Adam Mastrangelo mentioned that there will be a general discussion with the members about items to be addressed in 2025.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:07 P.M.

NOTE: Attached is the Treasurer's report submitted by Kathy Merkwan.

Respectfully submitted,
Janet H. Kubik
Secretary, GDNA

Greater Deyerle Neighborhood Association

Roanoke, VA 24018

10/10/24

Treasurer's Report Greater Deyerle Neighborhood Association 1 September 2024 to 30 September 2024

Beginning Balance	7552.62
Income from Dues	+160.00
Expenses For Meeting Room	<u>- 50.00</u>
Current Balance	7662.62

Respectfully submitted by
Kathy Merkwan