

# Grove Park - Sunset Mountain Neighborhood Association

## Board Meeting

**Date:** Apr 8, 2025 7:00 PM EDT

**Location:** 11 Howland Rd , home of Phil & Chris Page

**Members present:** Stephen Harsnett Philip Page Lindsey Poli Suzanne Escovitz Alan Escovitz  
Michael Fisher Todd Dunnuck Jayne Hollerbaugh

**Meeting called to order by:** Stephen Harsnett at 7:05 PM

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### I. Guest Speaker – Officer Isaiah Senyak, Asheville Police Department

- A. Officer Senyak noted that the neighborhood is generally very safe.
- B. He prefers interactive sessions over presenting analytics and is happy to tailor his visits to the needs of the group (e.g., Q&A, crime prevention tips, home security assessments for residents).
- C. Response time varies based on staffing and priority level. The department currently faces a 30% staffing shortage.
- D. Residents are encouraged to report all concerns—even minor ones.
- E. Discussion highlights:
  - Speeding on Macon and Charlotte raised by S. Escovitz
  - Non-emergency number and new AI system “Violet” discussed
  - Officer Senyak is open to speaking at a future neighborhood-wide meeting
  - Will follow up with safety tips for the GPSMNA Facebook page

### II. Consent Agenda

- A. Annual Meeting Minutes
  - Review and approval of previous meeting minutes

**Motion to approve: T. Dunnuck; Seconded: J. Hollerbaugh. Approved.**

- B. Treasurer’s Report
  - P. Page questioned current bank balance; S. Escovitz explained goal is to maintain 3–4 years of savings to support projects like park maintenance.
  - Website donation bug (“Other” field auto-filled) has been fixed.
  - Greening Project donations are tracked separately for earmarked use.
  - L.A. Schwietz suggested a new donation message: “If parks are worth \$9 a month to you, consider donating \$100.”
  - New QR-coded signs to encourage membership are planned to go up.

**Motion to approve: M. Fisher; Seconded: P. Page. Approved.**

### III. Griffing Rose Garden Update

- A. \$5000 Neighborhood Matching Grant secured. Requirements include:
  - 80 volunteer hours from the community (signed form and sign-in sheets required)
  - Materials to acquire before 30 day deadline: 5 trees, 40–50 roses, soil, mulch, sitting boulders
  - Irrigation system repair must be completed before planting begins
- B. Planning the event:
  - Volunteers needed; Google Form sign-up planned
  - Proposed: Two workdays, provide refreshments
  - S. Harsnett coordinating flyer design with L. Poli and J. Hollerbaugh
  - S. Escovitz to connect with Sprinkle Creek

### V. Website & Email Updates

- A. New domain name: [www.historicgrovepark.org](http://www.historicgrovepark.org) redirects to existing site.
- B. Leo Boczar retained for \$150/month to update site content and provide support.
  - Updates include board member emails, events, and meeting minutes
  - Leo will assist board members having issues with new Outlook email accounts

### VI. Tree Canopy Replenishment Program

- A. Program delayed from April 1 launch; revised goal is Earth Day (April 22).
- B. Issues with approvals from city representatives.
- C. Revised planting guidelines:
  - Trees must be planted on private property: within 10 ft of sidewalk or 15 ft of road
  - Not in public right-of-way / tree lawn
  - Up to \$150 reimbursement for 8–10 ft trees; rebate after installation only
  - 2 trees per household limit
  - Landscaping contractor will handle installation
  - 20% Reems Creek discount available — voids warranty
  - P. Page offered to oversee application approvals (“tree czar”)
- D. S. Harsnett to publish program guidelines
  - J. Hollerbaugh to design promotion plan (ideas: flyers, door hangers, signage) and support membership recruitment

**Motion to approve: M. Fisher; Seconded: P. Page. Approved.**

### VII. Tour of Homes

- A. Planning is behind schedule; reminder sent last week by S. Harsnett
- B. Volunteers and homeowner commitments still needed
- C. No advertising can begin until tour homes are confirmed

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**Next meeting scheduled for: TBD**

**Meeting adjourned at 9:15 PM**

**Minutes submitted by:** Lindsey Poli