

Membership Meeting Minutes
Aurora Highlands Civic Association
July 9, 2025, at Aurora Hills Center and via Zoom

Opening of Meeting

President Rachel Hicks opened the meeting at 7:10 p.m. with a welcome to the membership and an overview of the agenda. Due to the severe thunderstorm that hit the area just before the meeting, Rachel had advised the membership to stay home and connect virtually. Rachel was at the rec center just in case anyone did not receive the message.

Minutes Approval

The draft minutes for the June 2025 regular meeting were approved.

President's Updates and Discussion from the Membership

- **Newsletter Photos** – Thanks for the photo submissions, please keep them coming!
- **Spring/Summer Fair** – We had a decent turnout for the rescheduled fair on June 28, despite the brutal heat. A good time was had by all.
- **Water Treatment Plant** – Our representative, Paul Guttridge, reported that he continues to push for a complaint tracking system.
- **“Park” at 23rd St and Eads** – Results of the County’s engagement are in, winning name is 23rd Street Plaza and most of the comments reflect the ongoing conversation among our membership about how the entire project is a waste of time and scarce tax revenues. A letter from AHCA is pending.
- **Adaptive Reuse Project** – JBG Smith proposes to convert 2100 Crystal Drive to 195 2/3 bedroom apartments and 2200 Crystal Drive to a 344-room hotel. The County is moving the project quickly, it goes to the County Board on July 19. AHCA sent in a letter expressing concerns with PUDO, parking, and lack of public input into the process (echoing and expanding on the concerns of Crystal City Civic Association).
- **Melwood Financing** – Virginia Housing Board met in Richmond on June 17 and approved the LIHTC financing. An AHCA delegation raised our concerns with the project and noted that the nearby Crystal House 6 senior project did not make the cut. Following the public testimony there was a lively discussion between the Board members and the staff regarding the pending historic district designation. Staff noted that the possible need for a redesign in light of a historic designation was included in the considerations.
- **RiverHouse Site Plan Review Committee** – Met in late June and will meet again on July 28 to continue the review of the 4.1 site plan application. AHCA has a letter in draft to the County expressing our concerns.

Meeting adjourned at 7:33 p.m.

Nicholas J. Giacobbe, Jr.
Recording Secretary