

**MINUTES**  
**Board of Director's Meeting**  
**7:30PM Wednesday, September 20, 2006**  
**St. John's Lutheran Church**

**Call to Order, Recognition of Guests** - Bruce MacGregor, President, called the meeting to order. Guests in Attendance included: Margaret Martin – resident; Don Walters – HPC committee; Lois Berthaume – Resident and AIEV Board; Ebony Barley - Anne Fauver's Office; Tom Cross – Resident; Sally Sears – Resident and AIEV Board.

**Secretary's Report (approval of minutes)** – Walter Saunders presented the minutes from the August 16<sup>th</sup> meeting. The minutes were approved.

**Treasurer's Report:** Rolf Grun was absent

**Presentation by Georgia Power Company** – David Purcell Michael Graham with Georgia Power Company presented an update of a project, which began two years ago. Power lines in much of Druid Hills are placed in the back yards of residences. The power corridors have become degraded over the years. All the poles were surveyed for condition and interference with trees. This affected 908 customers. The company really appreciates the support it received from the Association and homeowners. The project was completed six months ago although the process will be ongoing to make sure the project doesn't return to its previous condition. This has increased safety for the community and Georgia Power employees. It also improved access, which in turn limits the amount of time it takes to restore power when lost.

David Purcell then presented a new project. Georgia Power Company will be upgrading the transmission lines from the Moreland Power Station up Briarcliff to North Decatur and then on to the Scottdale substation. This is required because of load increase. The distribution lines (those running into the neighborhood) will be reconfigured from vertical placement to horizontal placement. There will be some traffic disruption.

**Communications Vice President's Report -**

Communications Guidelines – Pam Terry presented draft guidelines for communications for the Civic Association. There are seven guidelines:

1. The target audience for DHCA communication is the Druid Hills community, a broad range of individuals who do not necessarily share the same views on neighborhood issues as the DHCA board.

2. It is very important to keep DHCA communications simple and objective by sticking to the facts and/or adopted or voted upon guidelines/position papers.
3. DHCA communications should be accessible and distributed free-of-charge to all Druid Hills residents.
4. DHCA communications should pertain to and/or provide benefit to the Druid Hills neighborhood.
5. The web site should use links from other sites as much as possible to eliminate the need for the DHCA to update information. Suggested links would include governmental agencies and departments, local schools, and non-profit groups and organizations.
6. The web site and alert should be free of all advertising so as not to compete with the DH News and DHCA Tour of Homes which both need the advertising and sponsorship revenue.
7. The VP for Communications, or his/her designee, will approve all communications' content for the DH News, DHCA web site and eLert. The DHCA Executive Director will implement the changes to the web site and eLert.

A motion was made and seconded for adoption of the guidelines. Motion carried.

Pam also reported that today's eLert was distributed by the Website. All subscribers were input by division. This now gives us the ability to send out targeted emails.

### **Administrative Vice President's Report –**

Membership Committee – Becky Evans reported that the committee has prepared labels for the welcome packets.

Druid Hills Tour of Homes – An organizational meeting was held today. Barbara Vogel is the event co-chair, Thomas Winn will be the operations co chair and Lisa Hill will be the revenue co-chair. We still need a volunteer to chair our corporate sponsors and friends.

#### Community and Lifestyles:

Druid Hills Day – Chad Henderson reported that Druid Hills Day will be November 5<sup>th</sup> in Dellwood Park. This year the committee has a budget and is very excited. Next month at the October meeting the committee will be recruiting volunteers.

Druid Hills Parent Group – The committee is open to suggestions as to the name. This will be a part of the Civic Association. Holly Simmons is doing

most of the work on this. It was presented to the Executive Committee last week. We would like to form an Ad hoc Committee tonight with a view to making it a formal part of the Civic Association at the annual meeting. Holly moved from Virginia Highlands where there is a strong parent's association. She is looking to form this type of group here. There was a sign-up sheet at the 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade and about 60 people expressed interest. It looked like a lot of the new families moving into the neighborhood are not members of the DHCA so this could be a great tool to get new members. Membership in the parents group would require membership in the Civic Association.

A motion was made and seconded to adopt the Parent's Group as an Ad Hoc committee with the intention of adopting the committee as a free standing committee at the annual meeting. Motion passed

Public Safety – Greg Robisch reported that we are still safe. He received two notices of car break-ins. There was a report of an armed robbery of a woman's car at the Publix parking lot.

### **First Vice President's Report –**

Transportation – Kirk Larson was absent. The county is updating their transportation plan and we need to stay on top of this. Sue Fox has resigned as co-chair.

#### Land Use/Planning/Zoning

Emory Village – Bruce reports that Ed Henderson has spoken with Davis Fox. Ed had forwarded the Association's questions to Davis who is going to get back to him. Once we have those answers, the sub-committee will meet with AIEV. Lois Berthaume reported on the current state of Emory Village. Saba is now serving breakfast. A new breakfast space is going to be opening in the Cedar Tree space. A new ice cream shop is going to open in the Coldstone Space. Emory has budgeted money for planning a new bookstore space on North Oxford facing the village.

Green Space – We need to bring Peavine Watershed Alliance into the discussion.

Comprehensive Development Plan – We need a point person to follow the County's Plan.

### **Historic Preservation Update**

DeKalb – Status of HPC Appointments – no new news. Kathie Gannon is trying to get the three open positions filled.

COA Summary –

Steve Misner reported at the Monday HPC Meeting Developments on Vickers and Hummingbird were proposed on 50' non-confirming lots. These COAs were turned down. Granting of those applications would have certainly have led to development of more 50' lots. Most likely an appeal will be filed to the BOC and maybe litigation. Cynthia Tauxe recused herself on any vote on these issues because she has an interest in the properties.

Bruce MacGregor reported that at that same hearing, a COA was proposed on Durand Drive for demolition of a burned down house and the development of three lots. This was denied. On the corner of Emory Circle and North Decatur Road there was an attempt to divide an existing lot. The new lot was a substandard lot. The argument was made that this substandard lot was more in keeping with the lots on Emory Circle. The HPC denied this based on the fact that the existing lot was in keeping with the historic platting pattern of North Decatur Road.

Margaret Martin reported that a lot is for sale on Coventry that looks like a potential flag lot. Natalie DiSantis will be the point person on this.

Atlanta - Changes to Landmark District – we have submitted changes in the ordinance to the City of Atlanta.

NPU Voting restrictions – Camara Jones was absent.

Revisions to Atlanta Zoning Ordinance – do we need a point person?

Moreland/Ponce Corridor – Craig Matakis will be the point person.

### **President's Report – (Status/Update) – Bruce MacGregor**

**BOC proposal for appointees of the Planning Commission and Zoning Board of Appeals to serve at the pleasure of appointer.** (Oppose: for Action) This proposal would change the term of office for the PC and ZBOA board members to serve as long as the appointer desires. The board is concerned by about the ramifications of this proposal.

A motion was made and seconded to oppose this proposed ordinance. Motion carried. Bruce will write a letter to the county.

**Burbanck Property** – Bruce MacGregor reported that Emory University has purchased this property. We had expected to be at the closing to receive our percentage of ownership. Bruce read a letter from Mike Mandl of Emory promising to convey partial ownership when a plan for the use of the property has been determined.

Bruce believes that all will work out. Bruce will have an informal discussion with Mike Mandl.

**Clifton Community Partnership** – Bruce MacGregor reports that this body is in negotiation to contract with an urban design firm to design the environment around the campus. Bruce expects that the Burbank property will fall under this group. Rolf mentioned that he is concerned about Emory redesigning the neighborhood.

**Howard School Redevelopment** – Need Subcommittee from the City to address this. (APS postponed till October) Alida and Joanna Stroud are already working on this.

**Old Business:**

**NEW BUSINESS –**

Lullwater Roundabout – A meeting will be held with the county about the safety of the traffic circle. The county has seen the pictures of the latest drive-thru and agreed to pay for the damage.

The meeting was adjourned.