

**MINUTES**  
**Druid Hills Civic Association**  
**Board of Directors Meeting**  
**7:30PM Wednesday, October 17, 2007**  
**St. John's Lutheran Church**

**Call to Order, Recognition of Guests: Bruce MacGregor**, President, called the meeting to order and welcomed members and guests. Guests included Commissioner **Jeff Rader**, **Ted Daniel**, and **Margaret Lesesne**.

**Secretary's Report (approval of minutes): Dick Shuey**, Secretary, presented the minutes of the September 19, 2007 meeting. The minutes were approved.

**Lot Merger Legislation: Jeff Rader** reviewed the reason for the legislation. He is seeking to extend the moratorium while they continue to try to work it out (see August and September minutes).

**Emory Village Liquor Licenses: Jeff Rader** explained a conflict that has arisen between the zoning overlay, under which liquor sales (pouring licenses) are a permitted use, and an overarching county ordinance that prohibits liquor sales within 100 feet of a church. Although at least two establishments are grandfathered, and another lies outside the protected area, the owner of the former Park Bench is seeking a blanket exception to the ordinance for the entire Emory Village, for beer, wine, and distilled spirits. DHCA is being encouraged to support the exception and work with the property owner. When asked whether a beer and wine license might suffice, as opposed to a license to pour distilled spirits, Commissioner Rader responded that there is no distinction in the code other than the cost of the license, and that there is no difference between a bar and a restaurant in DeKalb County. He asked DHCA to work on trying to determine the sensitivities of the community.

**Bar Closing Legislation: Commissioner Rader's** proposal to move closing time from 4 a.m. to 2 a.m. has proven to be very controversial, and was deferred by the BOC for one month.

**Action: Bruce MacGregor** reported that the Executive Committee recommends that the DHCA support the proposed legislation on lot mergers and earlier bar closing times. Approved.

**Peavine Park aka Daniel Park Proposal (see September minutes): Margaret Lesesne** has been designated by the Daniel family to be the project's Executive Director responsible for fund raising and day to day management. She stated they will need to raise \$200,000 by March 2008 and \$800,000, including a \$400,000 match by the County, by sometime in the next year in order for the project to succeed. If these goals are not met, contributions and pledges will be returned to the donors. After some discussion about the expediency of using an existing 501(c)(3) corporation vs. setting up a new one

for this purpose, the board approved a motion to match contributions from members of the community up to \$30,000.00, at \$15,000.00 per year over a two year period.

**Burbanck Park: Becky Evans** reported that the house had been demolished using \$25,000.00 that DHCA released from Park Pride, which included DHCA's \$5,000.00 contribution. The Burbanck Park fund raising committee is having a fund raising party on November 17<sup>th</sup>. DHCA is awaiting a budget and an enforceable commitment from Emory to keep it a park in perpetuity before it engages in any further fund raising activities.

**County Noise Ordinance: Rob Vicevich** reported on a case in which the Recorder's Court found the County noise ordinance to be "unconstitutional" and unenforceable. Inasmuch as the ordinance is important to the entire neighborhood, the Executive Committee recommends that we ask the County to appeal the decision. Approved.

**Membership: Thea Roeser** will meet with Merl Reed to look at the DHCA data base and see what can be done with it.

The neighborhood yard sale was a success; it netted nearly \$1600.00, of which \$400.00 will go to parks. We plan to do it again next year.

The next revenue producing project in the planning stage is a Druid Hills cook book. The membership committee is also planning a purely service project (no revenue), helping neighbors make rain barrels.

**Druid Hills Day, Sunday, November 4<sup>th</sup> from 1 to 4 in Dellwood Park: Chad Henderson** reported on planned activities, and acknowledged that a rain barrel demonstration would be a good added attraction. There will also be activities for kids, live music, games, food, drinks, popcorn, cotton candy and snacks. Information tables will be provided for the Tour, Burbanck Park, CCCP, etc.

**Administrative Vice President's Report: Thomas Winn** reported that "White Books" are ready for Board Members who need them.

The Tour will be a Centennial celebration for the neighborhood. They need a Tour secretary who is familiar with Excel, mail merges, etc.

**Communications Vice President: Elise Riley** volunteered to send out an e-lert for a Tour secretary and membership committee members. There will also be an e-lert concerning Emory testing its new sirens for tornado warnings and other emergencies.

**Treasurer's Report: Clarke Weeks** reported that we are "still solvent."

**New/Old Business: Commissioner Rader** has announced that the County is going through another Historic Designation process.

The meeting adjourned at 10:04 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard Shuey, Secretary