

MINUTES
Board of Director's Meeting
7:30PM Wednesday, April 11, 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 members of the Atlanta School Board and Atlanta Public Schools who attended to make a presentation to the Board.

Secretary's Report (approval of minutes). Dick Shuey, Secretary, presented the minutes of the March 21, 2007 meeting. The minutes were approved.

President's Report. The nominating Committee recommended the following Board members for membership on the Executive Committee:

Rob Benfield

Rolf Grun

Chad Polazzo

Joanna Stroud

Judy Yates

The Nominating Committee's recommendations were approved by acclamation.

The Nominating Committee also recommended Chris Leeth and Mary Emma McConaughy to fill vacancies on the Board, however it did not specify which vacancy each of them was to fill. The matter was deferred for clarification.

First Vice President's Report - Land Use/Zoning Update.

Howard School. Representatives from Atlanta Public Schools, architects Perkins & Wills, and the Atlanta School Board presented a briefing on the acquisition of the Howard School for a new public elementary school to accommodate overflow from Morningside Elementary and prospective overflow from Mary Lynn Elementary. When improvements are completed the school will comprise 25 classrooms for 450 students.

Plans call for using a nearby church's gym and parking lot, with a connecting path to the campus. The architects are seeking a "canopy look" for the campus, plus provisions for storm water retention, including run-off from adjacent property. They are also evaluating LEED certification for their construction, and expressed the opinion that they are required to follow zoning regulations because they are in an historic district.

School hours will be from 8:00 am to 2:30 or 3:00 pm. Provisions will be made to stack busses and cars on the campus, off Ponce De Leon Avenue. The school will open this fall with overflow kindergarten students from Morningside Elementary, who will be placed for a period of one year in four temporary portable classrooms. Eventually, Druid Hills' City of Atlanta students will attend the new school instead of Mary Lynn.

Board members expressed concerns with potential school bus and car parking on Springdale; setting time restrictions for evening events; the proposed glassed-in commons

area, which does not appear to be consistent with the historic district; and whether anticipated growth will result in adding-on to the school in the future..

Emory Village. Commissioners Rader and Gannon have made changes to the proposed zoning overlay that will require it to go back to the Community Council on April 18th and the Planning Commission on May 8th, before it can be considered again by the Board of Commissioners in May 22nd.

Clifton Road Mixed Use Project. Land use and rezoning applications were deferred by the Board of Commissioners until their May 22nd meeting.

Briarcliff Apartments. The Board of Zoning Appeals approved variances sought by Emory for its proposed apartments for foreign graduate students near Sage Hill. DHCA did not oppose the requested variances. DHCA is continuing to seek Emory's agreement to provide for no net loss of tree canopy on the property.

DeKalb County Comprehensive Plan. The proposed new Plan has a number of innovations, such as redesignating the R-75 zoning classification, common in Druid Hills, to "rural residential." DHCA needs a point person and team to study the new plan and make recommendations.

DeKalb County Transportation Plan. The proposed new Plan has been put back to the Board of Commissioners' May 22nd meeting. Mac Platt has a copy of the plan, which provides for certain road "improvements" in the Druid Hills neighborhood.

Chelsea Heights. Steven Misner reported that no new COA applications have been filed. Three lawsuits on five lots are continuing, challenging the DeKalb Historic District; DHCA has not intervened, but may need to file an amicus brief at some point. In the meantime, Dale Jaeger is starting to draft a special character area for Chelsea Heights for presentation to the Historic Preservation Commission. The neighborhood has raised \$9500 to defray expenses.

Transportation Committee Report. Ron Faust reported that the Transportation Committee met and is soliciting input on traffic and transportation priorities in the neighborhood, e.g., eliminating as much through traffic as possible. Ron noted that Emory has been proactive with shuttles, Marta passes, and free parking for car pools, which has eliminated 1,000 vehicles. More cooperation is needed from the CDC in this regard.

Administrative Vice President's Report.

Home and Garden Tour. Becky Evans encouraged everyone to park on the Briarcliff campus and take Cliff around the tour. Becky also reviewed the homes on tour; reminded everyone of the Gala on April 18th; and said she had tour signs for Board members who would take them, and that they could still use more docents. Becky emphasized that the Home and Garden Tour is the DHCA's only fund raiser, and is a

community builder. Becky also reminded everyone of the Burbank Park dedication on the last day of the tour, which is Earth Day.

Joanna Stroud reviewed the Artist Market arrangements. They are up to 40 artists this year from 21 last year, including those from Callanwolde. Joanna encouraged all to attend the opening reception on April 19th.

Membership Committee. Thea Roeser is seeking committee members.

Communication Vice President's Report.

Newsletter Distribution. Ellen Nemhauser reported that they have encountered a problem with distribution via commercial establishments. Some are now charging \$25 per location per month, and requiring that we have a sign by our stack of newsletters. Ellen requested that Board members ask their local merchants to accept DHCA newsletters at their establishments for their customers.

Treasurer's Report. Clarke Weeks reported that the Association still has money. Consideration of the budget was postponed until the May Board meeting. In the meantime, the Clarke, Bruce MacGregor, Alida Silverman will meet to revise the draft budget that was distributed at the March meeting.

New Business. Bruce MacGregor reminded everyone that attendance at the Board meetings is expected, and that Board members can be removed if they accumulate three unexcused absences. Each Board member is also expected to serve on at least one committee and to volunteer to work on the annual Home and Garden Tour.

Next Board Meeting. The next regularly scheduled Board meeting will be on May 16, 2007 at a location to be announced.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 9:08 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Richard Shuey, Secretary