

MINUTES
Druid Hills Civic Association
Board of Directors Meeting
7:30PM Wednesday, February 13, 2008
Emory's 1784 N. Decatur Road Building

Call to Order, Recognition of Guests: **Bruce MacGregor**, President, called the meeting to order, welcomed members and guests, including **Lynn Hart**, a resident of Lullwater Estates.

Secretary's Report (approval of minutes): Minutes of the January 16, 2008 meeting were approved.

Administrative Vice President's Report

Nominating Committee chair Mac Platt reported that they considered over 50 nominees for 11 slots on the Board of Directors. The recommended slate, which includes broad representation from the various divisions, has been posted on the website since February 5th and was e-mailed to those who are on the e-mail list. The slate was approved by acclamation for presentation to the general membership at the annual meeting.

Ron Foust has been appointed the new Division Chair for Division 8.

The **Annual Meeting** on Sunday, February 17th will include a slide show on the Tour of Homes and Gardens and Artist Market; the Year in Review; presentation of Hogan's Hero's awards; and presentations on Aging in Place, the proposed Druid Hills Conservancy, and the Druid Hills Master Plan.

Tour of Homes and Gardens & Artist Market: **Barbara Vogel** covered details of the Tour slide show for the annual meeting, and reported that they have secured lots of sponsors. The theme will be "100 years since incorporation of Druid Hills." ,M The Tour is a "triple threat": raising money, showcasing the neighborhood, and building community.

Board Training will be conducted for new board members in March.

First Vice President's Report

Proposed Amendment to Alcohol Ordinance for Emory Village (See October and November 2007 Minutes for background): **John Hudson** reported that he met with Stuart Meddin and told him that the community would not accept his proposal to exempt the entire Emory Village Overlay District from the County ordinance that separates churches and schools from establishments that sell alcoholic beverages. Meddin

subsequently floated a new proposal that includes provisions requiring 60% food sales and closing at 2:00 a.m.

The DHCA will conduct a community meeting on March 13th to provide information concerning the proposal and to seek feedback from residents. A letter announcing the meeting and providing links to the overlay and Meddin's proposal will be sent to all Druid Hills residents. Commissioner Rader has asked for community input, and the letter requests residents to communicate on this issue.

Druid Hills Foundation (or Conservancy): A committee chaired by **Doug Grimm** was formed to explore the advisability of establishing a 501(c)(3) corporation to acquire and maintain parks in the neighborhood. Consideration will be given to related issues including a mission, governance, administration, and budget.

Aging in Place proposal: Resident **Lynn Hart** reported that a group of residents in Lullwater Estates has been studying the concept of a Naturally Occurring Retirement Community ("NORC") and how it might be adopted as a support system for older residents of Druid Hills who would rather stay in their homes than move to retirement communities. It would need a name and would be patterned after the Beacon Hill model. It could be incorporated as a 501(c)(3), would hire an executive director to coordinate services; interested residents would pay to belong and receive services.

The board approved a motion to establish an Aging in Place Subcommittee under the Community & Lifestyle Committee, with **Lynn Hart** as the subcommittee chair. She will initiate the project by supplying an article for *The Druid Hills News* and providing a presentation with written materials at the annual meeting.

CCP (Clifton Corridor Partnership) Design Guidelines: **Dick Spangler** reported on the *Comments on the CCP Design Guidelines* submitted by the Land Use, Planning and Zoning Committee, and provided copies for the board members to review. One of the greatest concerns with the Guidelines is a bias towards urban development without acknowledging that Druid Hills is vulnerable to urban pressure. CCP's incentive is to urbanize to provide housing for Emory and other Clifton Corridor workers. There is a basic difference in agendas: ours is to preserve, while theirs is to grow a support base for their businesses.

Note: The N. Decatur Road houses that have been acquired by Emory are not being used by professors, as advertised. Some have been occupied by students, who have caused a ruckus. Also, Emory West was left out of the CCP study, and should be included. It was also noted that Emory people are now parking on neighborhood streets and taking Cliff to the campus.

A motion to adopt the *Comments* as the Board's position was approved, whereupon a member again suggested that we should request an area-wide DRI (Development of Regional Impact) study by the ARC (Atlanta Regional Commission) for the entire project. After some discussion as to whether or not such action was possible, a motion to request an area-wide DRI was approved with one abstention.

Sage Hill Graduate Student Housing: **Bruce Macgregor** reported that it appears that the lot is being clear cut. He has raised the issue with Emory U.

Emory Village: Construction of the round-about has been delayed, and is now expected to run from September 2008-August 2009.

Emory U. is conducting a meeting with representative of surrounding civic associations on February 27th concerning the **campus edge** with the neighborhoods.

Chelsea Heights: Steven Misner reported that another draft of the Character Area for Chelsea Heights has been prepared and is to be circulated among county officials and the neighborhood for comment. Steven believes that the newly passed DeKalb County lot merger ordinance will address many of the concerns the Neighborhood had, anyway.

Treasurer's Report: Clarke Weeks reported that there is money in the bank. They are working on a budget, but it is not quite ready. The association has done extremely well.

The meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard Shuey, Secretary