

MINUTES
Board of Directors Meeting
Druid Hills Civic Association
7:30 pm Wednesday, January 21, 2009
St. John's Lutheran Church

Call to Order, Recognition of Guests: **Jim Morawetz**, President, called the meeting to order and welcomed members and guests. Guests included **Kirk Elifson**, incoming president of OLPA, and **John Raevori**.

Secretary's Report (approval of minutes): The minutes of the December 17, 2008 meeting were approved as changed.

Land Use and Historic Preservation

Proposed Assisted Living Development at Ponce de Leon and N. Parkwood Road: Met with and informed the developer that the civic association is opposed to the development because it is in the historic district. The developer has filed an application for comments, as opposed to a COA or seeking rezoning. It is believed that they are looking for another location.

Amendments to Stream Buffer Ordinance: Now contractors will have to go to the BOC for approval of variances; it is going in the right direction, although the State and County are still exempt. It will be considered again.

Hummingbird Development in Chelsea Heights: The developer is proceeding with tree removal and initial construction of one of the three homes he was given permission to build. It appears the developer was able to move the underground piping of a stream that ran across the property in order to build the third home on the property

The latest draft of the **Chelsea Heights Guidelines** will be published throughout the neighborhood and on the DHCA website and then be voted on at the February 17th meeting of the DeKalb Historic Preservation Commission. The new guidelines focus on mass, scale and size versus architectural details. Pre-1946 houses will still be governed by the general Druid Hills guidelines. There was discussion about the neighborhood's desire to have the Chelsea Heights Guidelines apply *in lieu of* the general Guidelines rather than *in addition to* the general Guidelines.

Status of New Power Lines on E. Lake: Several DHCA representatives and others met with Commissioner Evans of GDOT concerning the placement of poles in the sidewalk (further from the street) on E. Lake because it is a state highway subject to a requirement for offsetting poles for safety reasons. Poles are still next to the road on Parkwood and Ridgecrest because they are not state highways. A solution may be to move the highway designation from E. Lake to another street.

Property on Westminster Way in Emory Grove may still be under contract with the DCSS. It appears the School System is now trying to sell the house, however, rather than tear it down to use the land.

Haygood Triangle: Plans for rerouting and widening Haygood Drive were presented at a neighborhood meeting in November. The DHCA has not taken a position with regard to the proposal, however, nor does it know whether the affected neighbors and DHHS are in favor of it or opposed to it. It is also unclear what the “process” is for the DHCA and the neighbors to get involved.

Parks and Greenspace

Maintenance of Lullwater Roundabout: The biggest problem has been run-throughs. **Joanna Stroud** is currently trying to find a landscaping company that will maintain it in exchange for a sign. The board approved a motion to spend up to \$500.00 to maintain the roundabout in the meantime.

OLPA: Jim Morawetz recounted the meeting that he and other members of the executive committee had with **Kirk Elifson** and other OLPA officers, and the presentation of DHCA’s \$10,000.00 check comprising the final installment of DHCA’s \$100,000.00 pledge for maintenance of the Olmsted Linear Parks. The two groups will have further discussions regarding the nature of DHCA’s continuing support and a DHCA seat on OLPA’s board.

Tour of Homes & Artist Market

Tammy Ellerbe reported that the Tour is ready. **Joanna Stroud** reported that she is still seeking artists.

Communications

Druid Hills News: A decision was made to go to go to commission sales to try to increase advertising. Members are encouraged to get businesses they deal with to become advertisers.

A proposal to go to three issues per year from four was deferred until after the tour, when we will know whether our financial situation will allow us to continue to cover the shortfall in advertising revenue.

Governance

The board approved the president’s appointment of **Tammy Ellerbe** to fill a vacancy in the Class of 2009 on the Board.

The **Annual Meeting** is scheduled for Sunday, February 8th at Fernbank; **Thomas Winn** has graciously stepped forward to put it together in the absence of an admin vp. Any organization needs a table in the lobby should contact Thomas.

Alida Silverman will present an award on behalf of the DHCA to outgoing OLPA president **Tally Sweat**

The meeting adjourned at 9:38 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard Shuey, Secretary