

D-R-A-F-T

MINUTES

**Board of Directors Meeting
Druid Hills Civic Association
7:30 pm Wednesday, March 18, 2009
1784 N. Decatur Rd., Emory**

Call to Order, Recognition of Guests: President Dick Shuey called the meeting to order and welcomed members and guests, including representatives of Senator Kasim Reed.

Secretary's Report: The minutes of the Feb. 18, 2009 meeting were approved.

The following DHCA appointments were approved:

Executive Committee: Bruce MacGregor, Thea Roeser, Nill Toulme, Judy Yates.

Division Chairs: Sean Rikken (Div. 4), Elise Riley (co-chair Div. 5)

Election of Directors to fill vacancies:

Class of 2010 Jeremy Turner (Div. 2), Mike Lancaster (Div. 6)

Class of 2009 John Hudson (Div. 1)

Division Reports

2: Bob Ballou: Div. 2 held two meetings/year on crime watch and utilized an e-mail notification list. With attendance of 40, their organization could be a model for other divisions.

4: Thea Roeser: Parking issues addressed by gathering 70% approval to residential parking (this must be done street by street). Officer Turner & commissioners assisted in reducing construction traffic problems.

7: Becky Evans: Neighborhood Watch signs put up.

8: Ron Faust: Dealing with DHHS students loitering in neighborhood parks. Have hired officer patrols but principal is not cooperating.

9: Steve Misner: Neighborhood generated Chelsea Heights Design Guidelines accepted by HPC With no opposition. First house in Hummingbird Way development started just before deadline passed. Need to see if second & third house permits or certificates of appropriateness expired.

Tour and Artist Market

Tammy Ellerbe: \$7700 raised by patrons & friends (more than last year) plus \$54K in sponsor Support in a poor economy indicates success of organization. 4-color printing is already being distributed. Still need volunteers for 4 hour docent shifts!

Joanna Stroud: Josh Horn's 4 color printing contribution is of highest quality. Artists market is full and requests keep coming in.

Will contribute kitchen work at St. John's Lutheran church to show appreciation for facility.

Membership

Thea Roeser: David Hill is automating membership process on the website.

DHCA Recyclable shopping bag was presented which will be on sale at the Artists' Market for \$5. Board agreed to order 600 bags for \$1800.

Thomas Winn will help Thea set up DHCA gift bag for new residents. Division chairs will customize contents.

Elliot Kyle suggested sending registration forms with Fall Newspaper. The concept of

utilizing the Fall issue to focus on membership was supported by board and will be presented to Mary Angela Whyte for feasibility.

Land Use and Historic Preservation

Bruce MacGregor presented updates on the following:

1. Nunan Property: Mr. Buckler is appealing the Feb. 17 HPC denial of his lot subdivision to the BOC to be heard on March 24 and is soliciting support from BOC members outside Districts 2 & 6. Rob Benfield and Susan Garrett submitted material supporting the HPC denial.

The DHCA needs to find a paid attorney to replace Susan Garrett.

2. The Holiday Inn Express is seeking a 7 story variance for a Hampton Inn on N. Decatur. The proposed development is outside our neighborhood but inside our area of influence so the DHCA is cooperating with Clairmont Heights and Medlock Area associations and meeting with the owners on March 23. The neighborhood associations agree that the two lots should be combined to limit curb cuts and heights should be limited to the existing Holiday Inn height.

3. Re-Write of DeKalb Co. Zoning Ordinance to support the new Comprehensive Development Plan can be viewed at www.co.dekalb.ga.us/planning/zoningCod.html. The Project Manager is Daniel Cohen who lives in Chelsea Heights. The DHCA participates in a Citizens Task Force and seeks to address the large but narrow lots in DH. Next presentation is at 6:30 pm on April 16 at the Maloof Building.

4. There exists a South Fork Conservancy with a goal of promoting pedestrian access along the Peavine Creek from Piedmont through Zonolite to Emory.

5. We need more members on Land Use Committee.

Public Safety:

Jeremy Turner has volunteered to be the public safety coordinator.

A plan of action will be developed which will include a method of communicating current events in the neighborhood. Safety issues that affect walkers to Fernbank ES include speeders and the poor sidewalk on Vickers.

Transportation:

Ron Faust is new transportation committee chair and he will continue the work that Max Platt started.

1. Radar guns are not expensive and can be used to gather data by residents.
2. Need to have uniform 25 mph speed limit in neighborhood. Can ticket if less than 10 mph over limit in historic districts as well as in school zone if clearly marked.
3. Resident only parking on individual streets will continue to be supported by DHCA with how-to information, but individual streets must apply.
4. New cross walk signs needed near Fernbank ES.
5. Question to be answered with future discussion: To what extent do we want the Transportation Committee to support public transportation proposals? Need to review past positions and address lack of initiatives by CDC & Emory Hospital.
6. Senator Reed (visitor) spoke about current proposals in the state house to raise money for local transportation.

New NE Elementary School

Alida Silverman spoke of an opportunity to have a DH representative on the Naming Committee of the new NE Elementary School in Fulton County. The board was asked to approve having a letter from DHCA supporting Frederick Law Olmsted ES as name for school with Druid Hills ES as a backup position.

Communications

Doug Grimm spoke of advantages as well as risks of connecting DHCA with various neighborhood email watch lists.

Meeting adjourned at 9:10.

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