

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

President Dick Shuey opened the meeting by welcoming the following guests:  
Ceasar Mitchell running for Atlanta City Council President.  
Michael Julian Bond running for Atlanta City Council.

September MINUTES were approved.

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

Jim Morawetz handed out a proposed budget to be considered. The summary includes figures for the 2009 Fiscal year, the first half of the 2010 fiscal year and a projected budget for the 2011 Fiscal Year. The House Tour and Artists' Market were down about \$14k while the DH News gained about \$14k.

Approval of the budget will be voted on next month.

**YARDSALE PROCEEDS CONTRIBUTION**

Elliott Kyle: The Medlock Park was severely damaged with this year's floods. It was proposed to contribute the money raised from the \$25 fee for the annual yard sale to the DHYS.

COMMENT: This kind of support of the community is good PR that can help with recruiting new members if effectively communicated.

A Proposal to donate \$2500 to the DHYS was approved unanimously.

**GREENING DRUID HILLS PROPOSAL**

Dick Shuey: We have had a month to consider the Proposal made last month by Tom Cross for the community to create a base line data set of local energy consumption. This local volunteer effort will not cost anything and is a grassroots initiative.

A motion for the DHCA to support this project and to include a link on the DHCA Website carried unanimously.

**BURBANK PARK PROPOSAL**

Becky Evans: Heavy construction at the new Burbank Park was completed with the removal of the existing house foundation and the addition of six granite benches. There will be a celebration on Oct. 31 at the park for everyone in community. A Request was made to the executive committee to support Friends of Burbank Park through Park Pride for plantings. Emory, the owner of the land, will maintain the park with cutting grass and blowing leaves.

A proposal was made to add a \$1000 per year donation as a line item to the budget. This donation will be a Supplemental Landscape Fund added to the existing greenspace budget for roundabout island plantings. As a line item, the amount actually donated will be dependent on invoices. The motion was approved without dissent.

**OAKDALE TREES PROJECT**

Sean Riggins reported that the neighborhood is prepared to plant 43 shade trees on Oakdale 6' to 8' from the road. A Volunteer Tree Planting party with Trees Atlanta and neighborhood volunteers

will be centered at St. John's Church. Neighbors have already contributed the fees required for the trees through Trees Atlanta (1/2 price at \$65). A proposal was made to donate four trees to St. John's church (\$260) and to support Trees Atlanta with \$500 Membership. Both contributions were approved without opposition.

Joanna Stroud volunteered to look into the most appropriate ways to support St. John's. Last year the need for painting and caulking exterior windows was noted. Also, St. John's still has some of the original wiring which needs to be updated.

### **HISTORIC DISTRICTS POSTERS**

Alida Silverman Showed the Atlanta Historic and Landmark Neighborhood Districts poster, whose purpose is to educate the public about the historic areas of the city. DHCA has 200 posters we can sell for \$10 or give as gifts to Fernbank, OLPA, some realtors. A motion was made to let Alida distribute the posters in any way she feels is appropriate, and the motion was approved.

### **GOVERNANCE**

Dick Shuey noted that the DHCA has several openings.

A motion was approved to appoint Tom Cross to fill one opening.

### **DIVISION REPORTS**

**Division 1:** Martha Hall spoke for Barbara Vogal: An elderly Lionsgate resident was accosted by a woman and there was a rapid response.

The Lullwater Garden Club continues to maintain the park.

Joanna Stroud spoke about the new Springdale School problems. The good news is that an agreement was reached with the Druid Hills Methodist Church to renovate their gym which will be used by the school as an assembly space. However, this doubles the required parking requirements and they are 54 parking spaces short. A COA was given to the school even though there are no parking spaces for parents. The church is willing to share parking but first wants a clear statement from city about the required parking. No plans or certificates of appropriateness for plantings have been submitted and carpool plans are not approved. The School Board does not appear to be following city requirements for approval on many levels.

**Division 2:** Bob Ballou: Division 2 is studying sidewalk crossings and has subdivided itself into four sections. Three sections have crime watch organizations and have held meetings. The division has had DOT remove old signs that are no longer relevant.

**Division 5:** Bruce MacGregor: There is a concern that students living in houses in large numbers are creating disturbances in the neighborhoods close to the university.

**Division 6:** Elliot Kyle: Reports that the recent flooding resulted in unpleasant sewage problems.

**Division 8:** Ron Foust: reported on a sidewalk repair.

There are significant traffic problems on Clifton Rd. between Oxford and Ridgewood Dr. Crosswalks and a reconfiguration of the island at the Oxford intersection are needed to reduce ambiguity of the turn north onto Clifton from Oxford.

Ron gave a detailed account of the many complaints and frustrations with the COA process for Emory Grove, especially concerning siding and window issues. Because the Emory Grove neighborhood is designated as "minimalist," the Historic Commission has the power to prevent

residents from upgrading their homes even in appropriate ways. The present process does not work and Emory Grove applicants feel blindsided by the DHCA Historic Committee and the Historic Commission which come across as adversaries of Emory Grove that deter their property values. Neighborhood responses are 20 to 1 against COA process. Guidelines have been changed by the Commission without public comment and the process does not allow appeals with presentations. DISCUSSION centered on what can be done to allow a character area to define appropriate guidelines for itself.

OLD BUSINESS:

The 2010 Tour has many open positions

The annual Halloween Pot Luck will be held again

Meeting adjourned at 10:00 pm

Ken Gibson