

DRUID HILLS CIVIC ASSOCIATION, INC.
Board Meeting
Wed., Feb. 18, 2015; 7:30 p.m.
Frazer Center, 1815 S. Ponce De Leon Ave., Atlanta

IN ATTENDANCE

Officers: J Critz, C Hamilton, C Vandenberg, C Keenan, K Taylor, K Gibson

B MacGregor, D Shuey, J Heerin

Chairs: A Wallace, R Vicevich, M St. Louis, S. Thornton, R Foust, V Biesel

2014: E Lindsay, T Whitman

2015: B Evans, F Finegan, S Montgomery, C Waterbury

2016: J Hart, D Winston

Guests: Chris Liggett (incoming board member), Stuart Silverman (incoming board member), Crystal Munoz (legislative Aide to Stacy Abrams), Andrew Hutton (local builder), Marcia Pearson (member).

President Justin Critz opened his last full Board meeting as president.

The January 21, 2015 Minutes were approved.

Community Wildlife Habitat

Claudia Keenan and Anne Wallace will invite a local representative to talk about the advantages of being certified as a Community Wildlife Habitat through the National Wildlife Foundation.

(website <http://www.nwf.org/How-to-Help/Garden-for-Wildlife/Community-Habitats.aspx>)

Some concerns of possible restrictions to residents were expressed and it was suggested that this may be an excellent project for Division Chairs to initiate.

Three Grants

The DHCA continues to support of our local schools after providing grants for Paideia and DHHS last month. Three additional grants of \$500 were proposed for the following:

1. Druid Hills Middle School for landscaping benches
2. SPARK for their auction
3. The Frazer Center for their annual fundraising event in the garden to support education.

A Motion to fund all three grants passed without opposition.

Insurance Non-Renewal

Due to our Loss History, our current insurance will not be renewed. The DHCA needs to replace our insurance policy and all will be informed as we evaluate our options.

Committee Reports

Historic Preservation Committee

Commissioner Kathie Gannon needs to appoint a member of the (unincorporated) DeKalb Historic Preservation Committee and is asking the DHCA for a candidate.

Jon Hart is considering this commitment.

Cityhood Committee

There is no new news as we await decisions from the State Legislature

Communications Committee

Announcements soliciting support for the House and Garden Tour have been made.

Land Use Committee

The COA for an accessory structure at 1680 East Clifton that was previously approved and appealed has now been voided. Linda Dunlavy is representing the neighbors and has asked for a letter of support from the DHCA, which Justin will write. Another DHCA representative will need to be at next Monday's HPC meeting at 7:00 in person to present the letter. Jon Hart may be able to attend. Residents are also needed to be present to support our neighbors.

Bruce MacGregor reported that the Citizens Task Force is looking for more support for their recommendations on the DeKalb County Zoning Code Update. Specific recommendations concern set backs, which neighbors are eligible to appeal decisions, additional criteria for accessory units, height limitations of adjacent O&I property, and clarifying coverage of paved areas. The Task Force is requesting a nine-week delay before voting on the ordinance which is needed for communicating the proposal and receiving feedback. A final version without any more changes needs to be posted on the web and distributed to libraries for the public to review and comment on to the Commissioners and Planning Department.

Teenage boys are using the vacant house at 817 Lullwater as a hangout as documented by neighbors' photographs. The property, which is not visible from the street, needs to be made secure before someone gets hurt.

Several incidents of vandalism of mailboxes have been documented on Springdale.

Transportation Committee

Bruce MacGregor reported for Kathy Oglesby that Marta responded to our concerns about the light rail proposals and would like to meet with the DHCA in late February or early March. We need to follow up with this.

The Transportation Committee met with Betty Willis and the Clifton Community Partnership to express our interest in a Community Improvement District (CID). Since the group taxes members with commercial interests to make improvements, the DHCA will not have a vote in CID initiatives.

Membership and Community Committee

Sally Montgomery reported that 4000 letters seeking DHCA memberships were mailed and the committee is in the process of picking up the responses. Chad Henderson updates the database and reports 150 new members.

Ad Hoc Governance Committee to Revise the Bylaws

The bylaws will continue to be revised and updated and Dick Shuey has agreed to head this committee. He requests as many past members as possible to remain on the committee.

Division Reports

Division 6: A notice of a COA application has been posted at 1260 Briarcliff (Emory West Campus).

A welcome will be sent out to new members to attend the next board meeting.

Kathy Vandenberg, our new 2015 President, presented a card to Justin Critz and appreciation of members for his service and leadership during the past 2 years was amply expressed.

The February DHCA Board meeting adjourned at 8:17 pm.