

DRUID HILLS CIVIC ASSOCIATION, INC. Board Meeting
Wed., October 18, 2017 @ 7:30 pm
Location: St. John's

IN ATTENDANCE

Officers: A Wallace, L Van Gelderen, H Handley, F Putney, T McGuigan, K Gibson
Past Pres./Ex-Officio: C Vandenberg, , B MacGregor, R Graham,
Div Chairs: Y Weatherly, M Saint Louis, R Nelson, S Thornton, S Mathias, R Foust, V Biesel
2017: K Eisterhold, C Liggett, P Mitchell, J Morawetz
2018: B Evans, R Hughes, C Waterbury
2019: R Atkins, E Riley, A Silverman, D Winston
Guests: Sue Sullivan, Dean Rogers (Atlanta Boy Choir), Sachin Varghese (State House Candidate)

Guest Speaker

Sachin Varghese is a democratic candidate for House District 89 which includes the portion of Druid Hills within Atlanta's city limits and is a position vacated by Stacy Abrams. Sachin is a former public school teacher and is now a housing justice lawyer who has lived in East Atlanta for 10 years. More information concerning the candidate and the November 7 election at: sachin@sachinforgeorgia.com

Anne Wallace called the October Board meeting to order and the September Minutes were approved unanimously.

Announcements

Becky Evans reported that the Emory Village Open Streets Festival will be on October 29 from 2:00 to 6:00 pm. There will be a Halloween Parade with treats on South Oxford Rd. a dog costume contest at 3:00, the Bubbleman, games, continuous music, a climbing wall and the Puppet Theatre. The DHCA and the South Fork Conservancy will be present and Volunteers for setting up and manning a table for the tour and memberships are needed.

Chris Liggett reported that the next Trees Atlanta Planting will be on December 2nd in Divisions 3 and 6. Thirty potential sites have been identified but a minimum of 50 are needed in those 2 divisions. Because of the limited numbers in those two divisions, tree plantings in Division 7 will be considered. This tree planting completes the entire neighborhood.

Kit Eisterhold will host the Board Holiday Party at his house on December 16 at 6:00. Sign up online and bring a side dish.

Fran Putney, Sue Sullivan and David Winston will begin filming the DH History Documentary for the 2018 anniversary year on November 6 at the OLPA House. Over twenty neighbors have signed up to have their memories and stories captured. Sue is accepting new people to contact and she has a "Druid Hills History" Facebook page that is growing rapidly with 500 followers.

Treasurer's Report

The DHCA/OLPA "Picnic in the Park" held on September 24, 2017 was a success with over 300 in attendance. OLPA and the DHCA each spent \$1200 which is less than what was budgeted.

The Hartford Business Liability Insurance Renewal was paid for \$1234.00.

Donation Requests:

The Freedom Park Conservancy: requested \$2K and the EC recommendation is for a \$1K donation. In the past, each neighborhood was expected to contribute \$1K each year.

A Motion to make a \$1K donation this year and to make it an annual donation passed unanimously.

Callanwolde requested a \$2500 donation to make the Gallery more accessible to public. The EC recommends a \$500 donation. Callanwolde has been a strong supporter of the tour in the past but has not been as helpful in recent years. A request to communicate an expectation to support our House and Garden Tour to organizations that accept donations was made.

A Motion to invite Callanwolde to make a presentation to the board passed with 1 opposed.

Callanwolde will be contacted by Anne Wallace.

Atlanta Police Foundation has requested a donation to their Zone Six Toy Drive which includes our Atlanta portion of the DHCA.

A Motion to donate \$250 to the Atlanta Police Foundation passed without opposition.

Division Reports

Division 2: Yvette Weatherly reported that MARTA is gathering information from the public about what they do and do not like for their East Lake Road Station Study.

Yvette Weatherly reported that the Division Halloween Party will be on October 29.

Division 7 (The Featured Division of the Month): Steven Mathias and Sandra Thornton described their division that is bounded by North Decatur, Briarcliff and Old Briarcliff that will be affected by the annexation of Emory to Atlanta as well as the Minerva developments. Division 7 conducts informational meetings with Emory, Atlanta, and Minerva and is instigating a Neighborhood Watch program working with Al Fowler, the DeKalb County Police Department Public Education Specialist. Division 7 held a block party last Sunday and is hosting the Holiday Party in December.

Division 8: Ron Foust reported that the Mural Project at Emory Presbyterian Church was approved. MARTA's light rail project appears to be currently on hold.

Committee Reports

2018 Tour: Ryan Graham reported that most volunteer positions are filled but a Group Recruitment co-chair to work with Harriet Lane is needed. Sharon Day and Lisa Harper in PR are looking for a co-chair. The tour will need up to 400 docents on Friday through Sunday, April 20-22, more than previous years.

Ryan Graham and Anne Wallace met with Emory staff at the Rose Library to discuss the DHCA archives exhibit that will be held on the main level for three days during the tour. Materials from the archives will be exhibited on wall panels and glass cases. Emory is doing this at their own expense and will give us the panels as a gift after the tour.

Membership: Steven Mathias reported that the year-long "Love your Neighborhood" Campaign kicks off November 1 for recruiting new members. New residents are given a welcome bag after a two-

month delay between move-in and contact. Thirteen percent of these new residents become members of the DHCA. Division chairs will be given welcome bags in November to distribute to new residents of August and September. Copies of the DH News will be added to the bags and we are hoping to get coupons from local businesses.

LDPC & Transportation: Alida Silverman reported that there is consensus within the joint committees that the main safety issue on Ponce is speed and identified seven steps to address this safety concern. Chris Liggett asked if those empowered to address the proposed steps have been identified and contacted. Alida asked if the support from the board for each of the seven identified steps could be determined with a show of hands and the following informational votes were taken:

- 1) Enforcement of speed limits by the city and county: 23 for / none opposed.
- 2) Rumble Strips: 7 for / 10 opposed.
- 3) Additional Signage along Ponce: 15 for / 3 opposed.
- 4) Speed Monitor Signs as currently on the By-Way: 15 for / 5 opposed.
- 5) Neighborhood Identification Signage: 16 for / 1 opposed.
- 6) Pedestrian Scramble, especially near the Paideia and SPARK schools: 8 for / 12 against
- 7) Road Diet such as two lanes with middle turn lane: 4 for / 15 opposed.

Transportation: – Van Biesel reported that GDOT plans to reconfigure traffic lights and crosswalks on Ponce using levered arms rather than wires are in the final design stage.

OLPA is scheduled to meet with GDOT with similar concerns about preserving the linear parks. The study is also moving into the design stage for addressing erosion and drainage problems along Deepdene in DeKalb County. There are concerns that trees in the right of way may be at risk if under-ground drainage is installed.

A traffic study collecting data between Briarcliff and Lullwater on North Decatur is also needed. Share Druid Hills is a group working with DeKalb County to develop an App that will flag issues on sidewalks and collect data for DeKalb County.

The next “Walk Druid Hills” activity is on October 28.

A joint effort by Path and Emory is developing a biking & walking trail that will connect the main campus with the Clairmont campus, Mason Mill and Toco Hills.

DeKalb Land Use & HPC: Kit Eisterhold reported that our opposition to development plans of 1787 E. Clifton concerned topography and floodplain issues. The HPC voted for denial.

There is interest in determining the best ways to communicate to new owners and potential homeowners about the historic district and the existence of the HPC and COA's.

At a rental house on Burlington Road an inspector told the developer that he would need to pave his front yard to have parking on the front yard.

The November 7 vote in Unincorporated Dekalb has not been very well publicized. On the ballot is a question for a half penny sales tax for repaving, and a question for continuing a freeze on property tax for existing property owners.

The October Board meeting adjourned at 9:45