

DRUID HILLS CIVIC ASSOCIATION, INC.
Board Meeting
Wed., February 21, 2018 @ 7:30 pm
Location: The Frazer Center
Host: Yvette Weatherly

IN ATTENDANCE

Officers: A Wallace, R Graham, F Putney, K Gibson

Past Pres./Ex-Officio: K Vandenberg, B MacGregor, D Shuey, J Richardson, C Sleeth

Div Chairs: J Critz, Y Weatherly, A Ballard, R Nelson, S Thornton, S Mathias, V Biesel, S Misner
2018:

2019: R Atkins, H Lane, A Silverman

2020: K Eisterhold, C Liggett, S Sullivan

Guests: Jennifer Moore (new 2018 Board Member, Thea Roeser (new 2018 Board Member),
Darin Engle (New Div 6 Chair), Beryl Bergquist

Welcome

President Anne Wallace opened the February Board Meeting with introductions of all members as there are a substantial number of new members on the board. Ryan Graham, Fran Putney, and Ken Gibson introduced themselves as part of a new "2018 Getting to Know You" feature.

Announcements

Anne Wallace reported that she has received thank you letters for our donations to Callanwolde, the Atlanta Police Foundation, and Fernbank Elementary School.

Board members were reminded of the following responsibilities: to serve on at least one committee, to author an article for the DH News, to serve at least one Tour docent shift, and to attend a minimum of half the Board meetings each year.

Committee Reports

Finance Committee: Due to changes with our current investment company, The DHCA needs to move our investment account. It was proposed that our treasurer, Tom McGuigan (a CPA with commercial accounts) and Andrew Keenan (a financial advisor) should investigate options and make recommendations to the board for a transfer of funds. A suggestion was made to include John Geigerich, who has agreed to be the DHCA treasurer next year, in the group.

A Motion to form a group made up of Tom McGuigan, Andrew Keenan, and John Geigerich to make recommendations for the transfer of our funds passed without opposition.

Governance Committee: Chris Liggett handed out the Governance Committee Recommendations that were approved at the January Board Meeting. Some concerns were expressed that the emphasis on efficiency may restrict discussion and addressing new issues that come up unexpectedly. The 10 minute limit pertains to presentations and not follow-up discussions, and the limit may be extended by the presiding officer.

The committee announced that Renee Nelson was appointed as the fifth of five nominations to the Executive Committee by the president.

The committee recommended the following appointments which were all approved without opposition:

Jennifer Moore and Thea Roeser to the 2018 term Board Membership,

Darin Engle to chair Division 6, and

Carol Sleeth to serve as the DHCA NPU-N representative (replacing Jim Heerin).

Biographical Information of the approved members is included as an addendum to the minutes.

A Motion to reinstate the public safety Committee was approved without opposition, and Thea Roeser will head the reinstated committee.

2018 Home and Garden Tour: Ryan Graham gave an update on the 50th Anniversary House Tour on April 20- 22 with the Gala at the Fraser Center on April 13. Information is on our Website at <http://druidhillstour.org/> Sponsorships are down so please encourage others to get gala tickets by becoming a friend or patron online. Currently we have 51% of the docents needed so members need to sign up to be docents and get friends and neighbors to also volunteer. Harriet Lane has sent an email to division chairs suggesting staffing a shift at one house. Groups that we have supported are also being contacted. The Shuttle service is significantly more expensive than in the past and Ryan requested anyone with connections to shuttle services to contact him.

The tour committee is working with OLPA and Emory Village. The DH History film by David Winston will premiere at Paideia on Saturday, April 21. Jennie Richardson reported that the Lullwater Garden Club will have their annual plant sale during the tour.

Membership Committee: Steven Mathias initiated a "Valentine Campaign" from February 1 to the 14th which raised \$1200 while only spending \$270. The campaign includes a raffle with a \$100 gift certificate. Currently membership is down by 58 members due to some non-renewals as well as members moving.

Sue Sullivan is helping Steven Mathias with distributing welcome bags and has added walking tour information and the latest DH News to the bags. She is a new board member that has helped with research for the Tour's History film and she has a facebook page featuring DH History.

A Motion to approve the January minutes passed without opposition.

Transprotation Committee: Van Biesel reported on a grant issued by DeKalb county for the RFP (Request for Proposals) "Clifton Corridor Bicycle and Pedestrian Sub Area Connectivity Study." This proposal started as a bicycle study by Bike Emory in an area within a two mile radius of Emory, but now also includes pedestrian concerns. Emory is the only Atlanta university not connected to other universities and Druid Hills is only a part of the area of study. Although DeKalb County is leading this, the study itself will only generate data and recommendations that are non-binding. Other agencies involved such as the Clifton Corridor Transportation Management Association (CCTMA) and the Atlanta Regional Commission (ARC) will also fund the study but any actions will be up to government entities including Decatur, DeKalb and Atlanta.

The study needs input from the community and DHCA can be a community advisory partner along with DeKalb County Schools, Mason Mills, Woodland Hills, GDOT, CSX railroad, and many other interested partners and neighborhoods. This is an opportunity to say what our residents want.

Van also gave information on Bicycle use: Only 1% of bicyclists ride as cars and 8% ride regularly on the roads. 91% only ride off the roads, so this last cohort of bicyclists who will not ride unless there is a safe route is the focus of the study.

The options of bicycle routes include the following:

Sharrows are painted arrows on the road that make drivers aware that cyclists share the road.

However all roads are sharrow lanes since cyclists already legally share the road. Cyclists generally do not advocate for sharrows due to safety concerns. Also, the 91% of cyclists are not comfortable using them. Decatur removed their sharrows after five years.

Biker lanes are 3-4 foot lanes reserved for bikes and can be protected by a berm

Cycle tracks are two-way bike lanes separated from traffic. (example: at Georgia Tech connecting North Ave.)

Dedicated bike roads are lanes with significant spacing from traffic.

Discussion followed as many feel bike connections are important but are also concerned about effects on the historic landscapes in Druid Hills. Some City of Atlanta members are concerned that the Atlanta urban design commission and school system were not included in the stakeholders section which Van will communicate with the County transportation planner. Bike connections are going to happen but will not necessarily go through Druid Hills if DH does not want them, but

consequences of saying no include more traffic and fewer bicyclists. Anne Wallace needs to know what the board wants if she is to represent the DHCA as a powerful stakeholder that can influence plans.

The Transportation Committee is meeting on March 7 at 7:00 pm at the Emory Health Sciences Research Building (HSRB) to consider traffic safety on Ponce and at N Decatur Rd intersections, the status of MARTA light rail, and the Clifton Corridor Bike Connectivity Study.

The February DHCA Board meeting adjourned at 9:20.

Addendum: Governance Committee Board Member Recommendations Biographical Information

Jennifer Moore has lived in Druid Hills for the past 13 years and has served on TMCA, DBA, DHAA, and DHCA boards working on city-hood initiatives. She has volunteered for the Home and Garden Tours and organized many community activities. She has always been an active volunteer serving on state boards (League of Women Voters, VP), (National Assoc. of Social Workers, President), (TREES Atlanta), and school activities at Fernbank, the Friends School, and DHHS. Jennifer is a marathon runner, yoga instructor, and avid reader. She and her husband have a son and two daughters and loves to travel the world.

Thea Roeser has been a resident of DH since 1984. Her first home was on Oxford Road and their two children attended Fernbank and DHHS. She now lives on Chelsea Circle with her husband, John. She started her 45th year with Delta Air Lines flying the Flight Leader position. She is a former DHCA Board member and chaired the Membership Committee when it initiated the annual neighborhood yard sale. Thea was actively involved in DHHS activities and led two different campaigns to preserve Emory Village from over-development. Thea believes strongly in protecting DH from increasing crime that is dangerous to our residents and also impacts property values.

Carol Sleeth has volunteered to serve as our NPU-N representative. Carol served as DHCA's representative during the '90s and worked her way up to chair the NPU-N. She comes highly recommended by Alida Silverman and others.

Darin Engle has been a DH resident on University Drive for 16 years. He is employed at Turner where he manages a team of Systems Engineers in the Technology Operations group. He is married with a four-year old daughter who starts kindergarten at Springdale Park Elementary next year. Darin is an avid cyclist and long-time member of the Southern Off-Road Bicycling Association. He enjoys the outdoors and contributes to the South Fork Conservancy.