

**DRUID HILLS CIVIC ASSOCIATION, INC.**  
**Board Meeting**  
**Wed., May 16, 2018 @ 7:30 pm**  
**Hosted by: Harriett Lane**  
**Location: The Frazer Center**

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**IN ATTENDANCE**

Officers: A Wallace, A Keenan, R Graham, F Putney, K Gibson  
Past Pres./Ex-Officio: C Vandenberg, B MacGregor, J Richardson, C Sleeth  
Div Chairs: J Critz, S Day, Y Weatherly, M St. Louis, R Nelson, D. Engle, S Thornton, S Mathias, V Biesel, S Misner.  
2018.: R Hughes, M Walters, C Waterbury  
2019: R Atkins, H Lane, P Moise, E Riley, A Silverman  
2020: K Eisterhold, J Giegerich, S Sullivan, L Van Gelderen  
Guests: Travis Blalock, Doug Rollins.

President Anne Wallace called the May Board meeting to order and the April minutes were approved.

**Guest Presentation**

Ellen Meshnick, the Neighborhood Watch Chair ([neighborhoodwatch@druidhills.org](mailto:neighborhoodwatch@druidhills.org)) who has initiated Neighborhood Watch activities in all nine DHCA zones, presented reasons to enhance this program in our community. A list of our Watch Captains who represent one third of our residences on 23 streets was distributed. Residents should communicate with neighbors when going out of town and all are encouraged to call their police department when there is suspicious activity so there is a record.

Major Nicole Rutland and Officer Al Fowler of the DeKalb Police Department were introduced who enthusiastically support the Neighborhood Watch programs. Residents can be a big help to their police departments when they call 911 for current and serious crimes and suspicions. They handed out a safety tips brochure as well as a Telephone Resource List which includes numbers of various precincts (NorthCentral: 770-724-7616), a Crime Stoppers Tip Hotline (404-577-8477), Drug Hotline (404-297-3344) and many other services. Response times depend on the seriousness of a crime as well as traffic and time of day. To prevent car break-ins it is best to lock the car after making sure there is nothing inside.

Question were asked about the Flock Security Program and the officers responded that their reputation and data are very good and that getting license plates data is an effective tool.

Neighborhood Watch signs come from the county and are placed at the entrance to a street, often under a speed limit sign. Flock signs are not from the county and are placed separately.

**Announcements:**

Volunteers & ideas are needed for the Committee planning our 2018 "Picnic in the Park" which is scheduled for September 23. Anne & Steven Mathias are meeting with our partners at OLPA this week. Last year was successful and we hope to increase participation this year.

Fran Putney announced that the June edition of the DH News is under control. New articles for publication in the September edition should be submitted to Susan Baker or Fran Putney by August. It

is the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the DHCA so a focus on information relevant to our founding is welcome. The original November 1938 documents establishing the civic association is included in the current exhibit at Emory's Woodruff Library through July 31. When the exhibit comes down, DHCA will be given the panels. Emory's staff have done a great job putting the exhibit together and all are encouraged to express our appreciation to them.

Anne reminded everyone about the Board Training Session on Sunday, June 10 at 1-4pm. The session will be held at the Keller Williams Intown office, 621 North Ave NE, Suite C50, 30308. Six minutes topics include Finances, Director Responsibilities (Phil Moise), Home and Garden Tour (Ryan Graham), LDPC (Jan Jones), Public Safety (Thea Roeser), and the DeKalb Historic Preservation Committee.

Anne handed out a resolution to initiate a Flock Security Program in Division 1 (The Resolution is included as an addendum to the minutes). The pilot program and funding for it has been presented and discussed often since January but a decision will need to be made soon for installation to take place before the holiday season. Discussion reviewed the Flock System and Alida expressed questions about alternatives. A motion to approve the resolution was made and seconded. Phil Moise recommended adding clarification for Board approval concerning distribution of data (included in the addendum). The amended Resolution passed with 24 ayes and 5 nays.

### **Committee Reports**

2018 Tour: Ryan Graham reported on an exceptional tour this year which grossed over \$80K. Attendance was excellent. Busy days normally have 500 visits. On Saturday two houses had over 750 visits! There were no incidents of damage or injuries. Ryan expressed appreciation for board participants; we did not need to close any sections of the home and garden tours even though 100 more docents than usual were required. There were fewer sponsorships this year which conforms with what has been experienced throughout Atlanta. The Gala was successful at the Fraser Gardens and their support is much appreciated!

Appreciation was expressed for Ryan who has participated in the tour for 7 years and led as the chair for five years!

Anne reported that Ryan is now the DHCA Administrative VP and will focus on establishing a 501(c)3 organization. The Board has already passed a resolution to pursue the new entity in addition to our existing 501(c)4 organization. The new entity will allow tax benefits to donors. Officers will be meeting with other local groups that have already done this and will meet with the IRS before developing formal procedures. A possible name is the "Druid Hills Neighborhood Investment Fund" but other suggestions made to Ryan are welcome.

2019 Tour: Anne announced a new project and focus for the 2019 Tour by restoring the historic Twittens in Druid Hills (See the Spring 2014 edition of the DH News, "Touring the Twittens" by Laretta Miller and Jennifer Richardson).

Co-Chairs of the Twitten Restoration project are Chris Liggett, Board member retired from U.S. Forestry Service, and Jon Hart, Landscape Architect, and member of DeKalb HPC. The immediate goal is to report in July on costs and materials needed to make the twittens safe for the Tour and maintenance afterwards. DeKalb County owns the twittens and members have talked about

maintenance with the county in areas that need serious work. Some property owners already work on maintaining parts of the paths. There are twittens north and south of N Decatur as well as in Emory Grove.

The May DHCA Board meeting adjourned at 8:50.

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**Addendum:** May 16, 2018 Resolution of the DHCA re Flock Security Program

WHEREAS, outgoing Atlanta City Councilman Alex Wan designated a grant of \$25,000.00 (twenty-five thousand dollars) to the Druid Hills Civic Association to be used for the benefit and security of his constituents living in the City of Atlanta portion of Druid Hills, and

WHEREAS, the DHCA is interested in exploring new and different proposals for insuring the peace and security of the residents of the Druid Hills neighborhood,

The Board of the DHCA hereby resolves as follows:

The President of the DHCA is empowered to enter into a contract with Flock Group, Inc. (“Flock”) for the installation and maintenance of a camera security system on such terms and conditions as are mutually agreeable to the President and Flock, provided, however, that the expenditure for such a system shall not exceed the amount of the initial \$25,000 grant; and

The Public Safety Committee or a duly appointed Ad Hoc Committee shall meet and formulate a list of Policies governing the use and distribution of information provided by the camera security system to be presented to the Board for its approval. Said Committee shall also undertake to inform each DH resident household within the City of Atlanta of the initiation of the security system program and the