

DRUID HILLS CIVIC ASSOCIATION, INC

Board of Directors Meeting

St John's Lutheran Church

Wednesday, June 17, 2015, 7:30 PM

IN ATTENDANCE

Officers: C Vandenberg, J Critz, F Finegan, C Keenan, K Taylor

Past Presidents: B MacGregor, D Shuey

Ex-Officio: J Heerin, J Richardson, D Frymire

Chairs: A Wallace, R Vicevich, M St. Louis, E Riley, D Parrington, V Biesel

2015: S Montgomery, E Riley, L Sones, C Waterbury

2016: A Howell, J Markham, P Moise, K Oglesby, T Winn, D Winston

2017: R Benfield, K Eisterhold, T McGuigan, P Mitchell, J Morawetz, S Silverman

Guest: Honora Handley

President Cathy Vandenberg opened the meeting and the May 20, 2015 DHCA Board Minutes were approved.

New Business

Trees Atlanta NeighborWoods Program

Arboguard and Trees Atlanta are enthusiastic about continuing last year's efforts to plant shade trees in front yards to increase the tree canopy in our neighborhood. The \$200 cost of each tree planted will be split between Trees Atlanta, the DHCA and Druid Hills homeowners. For each tree, Trees Atlanta will pay \$100; the DHCA will pay \$50, up to \$100 per household, for trees for DHCA members; the Druid Hills homeowners will pay \$50 if a member of the DHCA and \$100 if not a member of the DHCA. If a DHCA member wants to purchase more than 2 trees for his/her front yard, s/he will pay the full \$100 for each additional tree. Divisions 5 and 8 have expressed an interest in participating in the tree planting and efforts are underway to plant trees in those neighborhoods on Saturday, November 7. A Motion to approve the Arboguard/Trees Atlanta program with limits of \$1500 for approximately 30 trees and two trees per household for members of the DHCA carried.

Olmsted Plein Air Invitational

Justin reported the Olmsted Linear Park Alliance netted \$37,000 from this successful fund raising event in April 2015.

Committee Reports

Ad Hoc Governance-Revision of Bylaws

Dick Shuey reported the committee is continuing to review the changes proposed by last year's committee. In addition, Phil Moise is reviewing the bylaws for compliance with the Georgia Nonprofit Corporation Code as well as to ensure the DHCA is following "best practices" for our association. Sally Montgomery commented that the Bylaws that address the association's boundaries will need to be amended if her neighborhood, Edmund Park, is annexed into the City of Atlanta. Edmund Park is to the north of East Rock Springs Road and to the west of Briarcliff Road. The neighborhood is filing a petition with the City of Atlanta for annexation and the process of validating the petition will take 3 to 6 months. The neighborhood children will be eligible to attend Morningside Elementary School. Sally will continue to update the Board on the annexation process.

Communications Committee

Claudia Keenan reported that she has asked Jenny McGuigan to come to the September Board meeting to present some recommended changes to the DHCA website.

The website for the Ansley Park Civic Association has some features Jenny will present to the Board. Jennie Richardson reported that she and Claudia are editing the November issue of the DH News. Articles for the publication are due October 1 and writers are still needed. Jennie reminded everyone to send copy for the print news to her at JJRichar@bellsouth.net and to send Claudia (commvp@druidhills.org) news and events to post to the DHCA website and to include in eNews.

Transportation Committee

Kathy Oglesby reported that ten of the committee members met June 16 and discussed their concerns for the neighborhood which include the Clifton Corridor light rail project, the integration of bicycle and pedestrian elements into transportation plans and continued congestion and increased volume of traffic. The committee will continue to work on these issues with other concerned agencies in the neighborhood. A discussion ensued about the timing of the traffic lights and proposed stop signs to slow traffic on North Decatur Road. Kathy encouraged Board members to e-mail her at transportation@druidhills.org as she has a contact at DeKalb County on traffic light issues.

Membership and Community Committee

Sally Montgomery reported she is updating the welcome packets and will provide them to the division chairs at the July meeting so they can give to new neighbors. Frances Finegan reported the planning for the July 4th parade is going well and that it will proceed rain or shine at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, July 4. Anne Wallace reported she will be coordinating the National Wildlife Certification Program for our neighborhood. She emphasized that this is a great opportunity to meet neighbors and that she is looking for a core group of six leaders to assist with the project. Anne plans to provide information packets to the division chairs so they can encourage participation within their divisions.

Nominating Committee

Mike St. Louis reported he and his committee members are looking forward to nominating two more people to the Board to replace two members who recently resigned. A discussion ensued about having a database of our membership that all Board members would be able to access. Cathy commented the Executive Committee can consider other options to our current membership database after Jenny McGuigan presents to the Board as Jenny may have an option for a membership database.

Land Use Committee

Bruce MacGregor reported that efforts to subdivide lots on Harvard Road, Ridgewood Road, and North Decatur Road were denied. (Please see the May minutes for more details on these lots.) He also commented that the Board of Commissioners had voted to defer the Zoning Code Update until their meeting on July 16. Cathy Vandenberg thanked Bruce for all the work he has done on behalf of the neighborhood; other Board members expressed gratitude for his service.

Briarcliff Mansion.

Cathy invited individual Board members to form a committee if they are interested in working with Emory to develop a plan for the Mansion. A discussion ensued about the entities that have been asked to invest in the property but no entity has expressed an interest in renovating the Mansion. Emory has expressed an interest in working with any group that is interested in renovating the Mansion for a use that is compatible with its vision for the property.

A Motion to Go Into Executive Session Passed.

The regular Board meeting resumed with Division Reports

Division Reports

Division 2: Anne Wallace reported the new Fernbank Elementary School will open over the Thanksgiving break and not this August as had originally been scheduled.

Division 4: Mike St. Louis reported he has received favorable responses and interest in the wildlife certification project.

Division 5: Elise Riley commented she is looking forward to receiving the welcome packets for her new neighbors.

Division 6: Danielle Parrington commented she is also looking forward to receiving the welcome packets for the new neighbors in her division.

The June 17, 2015 Board Meeting adjourned at 9:30 pm.

Next Meeting: Jul. 15, Wednesday, 7:30 p.m. St. John's Lutheran Church; 1410 Ponce De Leon Ave., Atlanta