

DRUID HILLS CIVIC ASSOCIATION, INC.
Board Meeting
Wednesday, February 15, 2017 @ 7:30 p.m.
Hosted by: Justin Critz
Location: St. John's Lutheran Church

IN ATTENDANCE

Officers: A Wallace, H Handley, T McGuigan, K Gibson
Past Presidents & Ex-Officio: C Vandenberg, J Heerin, J Richardson, B MacGregor
Div Chairs: J Critz, S Day, Y Weatherly, M St. Louis, J Waddy, S Thornton, S Mathias,
V Biesel, S Misner
2017: B Aitkenhead, R Benfield, K Eisterhold, C Liggett, P Mitchell, C Tankersley
2018: L Teunis, C Waterbury
2019: R Atkins, E Franze, H Lane, E Riley, A Silverman, D Winston
Guests: Jessica Frankel (Legislative aid to Georgia House Minority Leader Stacy Abrams), Michael Terry.

The President Called the meeting to order, welcomed new members of the board, announced that the March Board Meeting will be held at the Frazer Center, and passed around the sign-up sheet for hosting future meetings.

The January board minutes were approved.

A Motion from the floor to approve the following nominees for board positions passed without opposition:

Standing Committee Chairpersons to be nominated annually and approved by the Board (Bylaws Sec. 5.4.1 (E))

FINANCE: Tom McGuigan
COMMUNICATIONS: Fran Putney
DEKALB LAND USE & HISTORIC PRESERVATION: Kit Eisterhold
LANDMARK DISTRICT PRESERVATION: _____
TOUR OF HOMES & GARDENS: Ryan Graham
TRANSPORTATION: Van Biesel
PUBLIC SAFETY: Bill Aitkenhead

Executive Committee members nominated by the President and approved by the Board (Bylaws Sec. 6.1.1)

Steven Mathias
Justin Critz
Kit Eisterhold
Steven Misner
Phil Moise

Phil Moise will participate in the new Governance Committee, which includes nominating responsibilities. However, a chair and other volunteers are still needed.

A Class of 2017 vacancy exists. Alida Silverman nominated John Giegerich and Van Biesel has nominated Tim Stevens. Anne Wallace will contact the nominees.

Featured Division of the Month

Yvette Weatherly, Division 2 Chair, described the boundaries of her division, which includes the St. Elias Atiochian Orthodox Church and the Episcopal Church of the Epiphany, both adjacent to Deepdene Park. The four parks in Division 2 are the Azalea Park, which will be replanted in the spring, Parkwood Park, which is undergoing five years of restoration by the neighbors, and Deepdene and Dellwood segments of the Olmsted Linear Park, which are cared for by DeKalb County and OLPA. There are bird watching tours as well as the March 18-19 "Talk in the Park" events held here. More information can be found at the OLPA website: <http://atlantaolmstedpark.org/events/> Division 2 is looking for a Division Co-Chair.

The DH News

Jennie Richardson reported that the DH News is due to arrive April 1 but Managing Editor Susan Baker still needs information about the DH Home and Garden Tour and the Lullwater Apartments development before the March 1 deadline.

Jennie attended the "Historic Preservation Leadership Course" held by the Georgia Trust in January and February.

Committee Reports

The new Annexation Study Committee will hold their first meeting on Thursday, February 23 from 5:30-7:00 at the home of Renee Nelson, 526 Emory Circle on the corner of N. Decatur Rd. The committee seeks information but does not advocate positions. All interested in participating should contact President Anne Wallace.

2017 Tour Committee: Ryan Graham reported that the 2017 tour hours are from 1:00-5:00 on Friday, April 21 and from 10:00-5:00 on Saturday and Sunday. There will be a Makers Market and live music at Emory Village and a CDC museum tour as well as the Lullwater Garden Club plant sale. Board members are required to be a docent for at least one shift and should also encourage friends to participate.

Gala tickets will be on sale for \$75 for the first time if limited spots are open. Friends receive two Gala tickets for \$250 and Patrons receive 4 Gala tickets and their names in the DH News for \$350. The Handleys, whose house rose from the ashes of a fire, arranged with the Tour Committee to give tour tickets to the 83 firemen who put out the fire.

Membership and Community Committee: Steven Mathias & Larissa Teunis reported that our Wild Apricot web presence helps keep accurate records and makes it easier to pay online & get information. Currently, there are 496 paid members and 130 members that have not yet renewed. The committee will follow up with those non-renewed members that still live in Druid Hills. Welcome bags for new residents are here for Division Chairs to pick up and deliver. Seventeen of the last 120 move-ins have become members which is a significant return. The committee hopes divisions will plan year-round activities to help with social unity as well as recruitment.

DeKalb Land Use & Historic Preservation Committee: Bruce MacGregor reported on 2 proposed developments:

1) Our proposed 90-day moratorium to resolve issues related to the 2.2 acre Minerva development under the Fox5 Broadcasting tower on Old Briarcliff Road was rejected by the developers. Our District 2 Commissioner did not believe the Board of Commissioners would vote for a county-wide moratorium related to restrictions on building under broadcasting towers that we believe were contained in the former zoning ordinance but were inadvertently left out of the new codes adopted in 2016. A County staff member stated such restrictions were not in the former zoning ordinance. Minerva plans to build 24 "stacked flat" condominiums in two 3-story buildings on the Office-Institutional (O-I) zoned site adjacent to Peavine Creek in the Druid Hills Historic District. The Comprehensive Plan designation for the entire Fox5 area recently changed from Town Center to

Traditional Neighborhood, which does not change the underlying zoning but limits what can be built within that zoning. The Minerva proposal complies with the 12 unit/acre limits of the “Traditional Neighborhood” designation. The adjacent Old Briarcliff neighborhood of Briarpark Court lies outside the DHHD, but is pursuing inclusion in the Historic District. The nearby neighborhood on the West side of Briarcliff is also considering whether or not to seek inclusion in the DHHD.

2) The proposed Lullwater Apartments redevelopment plans by the Tribridge Company would double the number of units from 44 to 85 and significantly impact the Peavine floodplain and stream buffers. The site contains floodwalls and berms built without permits, which artificially reduce the FEMA floodplain limits. Dekalb County is currently reviewing the redevelopment plans and the floodplain designation.

Members interested in Land Use issues are welcome to join this committee.

Landmark District Preservation Committee: Alida Silverman previewed some of the tasks the Committee will pursue in 2017. Working with the Transportation Committee, on-sites at City intersections in the GDOT Road Safety Audit have been completed. The redevelopment of the Druid Hills Methodist Church property at 1200 Ponce will begin. Next door to the church, Green Gables has been sold to an attorney who has applied for a special use permit, which will be an action item for the board next month. 1368 Ponce de Leon (next to Alpha Delta Pi) will be for sale this Spring and has considerable interest from realtors. The home next to Jackson Hills Baptist Church on South Ponce has been sold to Philip Clark, the developer of the Vilenah Lane/Dan Johnson Road properties. The “Tamas” property at 1715 South Ponce that received a COA last fall will likely be renovated.

Transportation Committee: Van Biesel reported that there are traffic issues on every street – the Committee’s next meeting is on March 7.

Anne Wallace received & read an email from Sally Sears who praised our Walk Druid Hills tours that are led every second Saturday of the month.

Division Reports

Division 9: Steven Misner reported that over 20 residents showed up for the Chelsea Heights Meeting at Fernbank ES to discuss positive and negative aspects of the Chelsea Heights Special Character Area designation. Limitations on painting brick sidings and replacing windows with synthetic materials are two concerns. There were also complaints about looming houses appearing in the neighborhood. Division 9 will seek advice from David Cullison on possible changes that could address these issues.

Adjourn to Executive Session

A Motion to go into Executive Session passed without opposition, and the February Board Meeting adjourned at the end of the Executive Session at 9:20.