

DRUID HILLS CIVIC ASSOCIATION, INC.
Board Meeting
Wed., October 17, 2018@ 7:30 pm
Hosted by: Sandra Thornton
Location: The Frazer Center

IN ATTENDANCE

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

Past Pres./Ex-Officio: B MacGregor, C Vandenberg

Div Chairs: S Day, Y Weatherly, M St. Louis, D Engle, S Thornton,
S Mathias, R Foust, V Biesel, S Misner.

2018: R Hughes, T Roeser, C Waterbury

2019: A Silverman, D Winston

2020: K Eisterhold J Giegerich, J Jones, C Liggett, S Sullivan, L VanGelderen.

Guests: Matt & Carrie Stoddard, Travis Blalock (NPU Alt.), David Payne (Emory),
Betty Willis (Emory), Robin Morey (Emory).

President Anne Wallace called the October Board meeting to order and the September minutes were approved.

Guest Presentation from Emory University:

David Payne, Emory's Director of Operations, introduced himself and Betty Willis, Senior Associate VP - Government and Community Affairs, and Robin Morey, Emory's new VP and Chief Planning Officer coming from Georgetown University. Robin Morey then gave a presentation on the process being taken by Emory to develop a 20-year master plan for the university. The projector for the presentation was not working but a youtube video of another presentation is accessible at

Emory.sasaki.com

Emory is reaching out to our community to communicate their main initiatives and goals. They are currently focused on the process of planning more than the plan itself which will be developed later. The process starts by identifying Emory's Needs which support President Claire Sterk's Strategic Plan, and affects housing, academics, and research. The second step is to translate these needs to the physical footprint that includes transportation and facilities infrastructures as well as sustainability and historic preservation considerations. Finally fiscal planning takes place to make the plan a reality. Historic photos show that some early campus features such as the quad have a significant impact 100 years later and Emory expects new plans to have a positive effect 100 years in the future if done right. Because Emory now has a very large footprint in Atlanta's mid-town area and affects so many in the region, the process needs to be open, responsive, and transparent during the discovery phase. A Boston firm that is very data driven is conducting surveys from surrounding communities to ensure the plans engage with Atlanta and promote stewardship. The survey, which includes an interactive mapping tool, can be accessed at <http://comap.sasaki.com/emory-community>

Questions followed and issues were discussed. On campus housing is at 64% and needs to increase especially for graduate students that cannot afford to live close by or commute long distances. University plans are being coordinated with Emory Healthcare. Historic areas such as the quad are significant spaces and are not to be altered. Emory's attitude toward their neighbors is addressed at the regular meetings with the community led by Betty Willis and David Payne. Input

from the community through the interactive mapping tool will be encouraged to identify and mitigate negative impacts. Emory is investing their own personnel so hired consultants will not control the process. The time horizon will be over 20 years based on a 10 year fiscal plan. A more detailed plan of the process will be clear by next summer.

Announcements:

Flock Update:

All Flock security cameras are installed and working. Anne and Justin have access to footage whenever a police report is made. There is an alert if any cameras are not functioning. Alida asked if we will get notices when reports are made and was told we will get feedback on the effectiveness of the system. Thea mentioned that Cornell Drive is looking into installing cameras independently.

Calendar Updates:

Because Thanksgiving is during the third week in November, the Executive Committee will meet on November 7 and the next Board meeting will be on November 14. The Annual meeting will take place at Fernbank Museum on Sunday, January 20, 2019.

Clifton Corridor Bike/Pedestrian Study Update:

Kit Eisterhold, Van Biesel & Anne attended the second stakeholders meeting on October 2. Eleven streets in a two mile radius from Emory were evaluated for seven types of pedestrian and bike accesses depending on conditions such as amount of traffic, speed limits, intersections, on-street parking and size of right of way. The routes considered include Briarcliff, Clairmont, Clifton, Lavista, the ByWay, Lullwater, Springdale, Oakdale, Oxford, and Houston Mill. North Decatur was not considered because MARTA would override their plans but N Decatur needs to be improved now. Bruce MacGregor reminded us that Emory's stated reason for buying houses on the north side of N Decatur is for an east access bike path and for graduate student housing. Next, there will be a public meeting in November. Funding for the study is being administered by DeKalb County but consultants were hired to conduct the study.

School Redistricting:

Yvette Weatherly reported on the Druid Hills Cluster Redistricting taking place October through February. The first of three rounds of public meetings took place October 1 and the next rounds are on October 25 and on November 28 at the Druid Hills Middle School at 7:00 PM. The five Elementary Schools in our cluster include Fernbank, Briar Vista, Avondale, Laurel Ridge and McLendon. Thea reminded us that it is important for families with children to know about this since schools can unify and divide neighborhoods as well as affect property values.

Committee Reports:

Parent Network: Ginger Anne Hughes and Emily Webb are heading the network and will have a table at the Emory Village Open Streets fair. A suggestion was made to add information about the Parent Network to the welcome bags for new residents.

Governance Committee:

Chris Liggett reviewed the timeline for nominations to the 2019 slate for DHCA board members. Some nominations have been made but a few more are needed.

Emory Village Open Streets:

Steven Mathias reported that there will be new performers and new events at the fair on October 28 from 2-6 PM. Pumpkin carving starts at 4:30 and a rubber duck race in the Peavine Creek beside Panera starts at 5:00. Bike lane options considered in the Clifton Corridor Study will be on display.

Membership

The membership campaign starts Nov 1. Last year we had a record number of 609 memberships but so far we only have 483 memberships in 2018. This may be because there was no direct mailing this year. After November 1 memberships paid will be for 2019.

Home and Garden Tour:

Ryan Graham reported that we are behind in home selections. Only 2 or 3 houses have been selected after many requests, but he is optimistic that neighbors will step up.

City of Atlanta LDPC:

Jan Jones reported that the empty lot on Lullwater had a newer mid 20th century house that was condemned and had to be torn down. Now most of the entire lot is in the new FEMA Floodplain so a new construction would need to be moved closer to the street and cannot meet the historic setback requirement. Atlanta is trying to work with the architect so a new house will not stand out from neighbors but this is difficult due to all the restrictions. Across the street there is a major renovation taking place where all permits have been approved.

Montessori In Town acquired the Atlanta Boys Choir building and will be returning the house to its original color. Some concerns were expressed whether this will affect traffic patterns on Fairview.

DeKalb Land Use:

The HPC approved the Darden Building renovation next to Emory Village which is owned by Matt and Carrie Stoddard.

The HPC is in favor of the proposed round-a-bouts to calm traffic on N Decatur. Mike St. Louis reported that there are no cost estimates but SPLOST funds will be sought.

Transportation Committee:

Anne gave an update on the GDOT projects on Ponce. A cover letter, resolution and copy of the judge's order of 1992 and other legal documents protecting the Olmsted Linear Park was sent to GDOT in September. Anne has received acknowledgment of receipt from GDOT. Also, Commissioner Jeff Radar is trying to set up a meeting with GDOT.

Other News:

This Saturday is the bluegrass festival at Emory Presbyterian.

The Glenn Pumpkin Patch is open which funds Youth Service trips.

The October DHCA Board meeting adjourned at 9:25.