

DRUID HILLS CIVIC ASSOCIATION, INC.
Board Meeting
Wed., May 18, 2016 @7:30p.m.
Location: St. John's Lutheran Church

IN ATTENDANCE

Officers: A Wallace, P Moise, H Handley, K Taylor, T McGuigan, K Gibson
B MacGregor, J Heerin, L Van Gelderen
S Kruse, R Vicevich, P Lee, D Parrington, S Thornton, R Foust, V Biesel, S Misner
2016: A Howell, J Markham, A Orkin, E Riley, A Silverman
2017: R Benfield, K Eisterhold, D Frymire, C Liggett, P Mitchell, J Morawetz
2018: A Ballard, B Evans, W Heaps, R Hughes, L Teunis, C Waterbury
Guests: Jenny McGuigan, Steven Mathias

The March 16, 2016 Board Minutes were approved. (There was no April meeting before the Home and Garden Tour)

The following new appointments to the Board were announced:

Phillip Lee, past President of DHCA, Co-Chair of Division 5.

Sarah Kruse, Co-Chair of Division 1 (with Justin Critz)

Ian Bogost, Co-Chair of Division 9 (with Steven Misner)

Steven Mathias, Co-Chair of Membership & Community (with Larissa Teunis)

Susan Baker, Managing Editor of Druid Hills News

Alida Silverman to replace Ryan Watstein in Class of 2016

A motion to approve all these appointments passed unanimously.

Wild Apricot Management Software

Jenny McGuigan reported that the Wild Apricot Management system has been installed and will run our DHCA website once the current website is transferred to the new system. Communications should also improve now that membership data has been transferred and updated. Login procedures will be explained to all members through an email notice and there will be workshops on using the new system for officers. Among the many useful features are a convenient payment system and ways to announce meetings delivered to only those affected.

Home and Garden Tour update

Jenny McGuigan reported that the 2016 Home and Garden Tour was successful, well staffed, and sold more tickets at all four ticket outlets as well as online. The event appears to have been a top fund-raiser and Kelly Taylor will give financial details in June. Having a half-day on Friday and all day on Sunday was a positive change and the Makers Market and band events were successful and well attended. Participating in the alcohol sales at Slice and Pint rather than obtaining a separate alcohol permit simplified the process. Steven Mathias reported that we have a record to the homes on

the original 1968 tour and hope to include some of these homes in the 2018 50th anniversary Tour.

New Business

Steven Mathias reported that the DHCA has obtained a new climate controlled storage unit and our voluminous files are being organized to determine what is archive material.

Budget Requests: Chris Liggett requested that this year's Trees Atlanta "Neighborhoods" match be increased to \$2500 to continue subsidizing one half of the \$100 cost to member homeowners for 50 trees to be planted in October. We will need the support of the Division Chairs in divisions 1 and 4 to reach the goal of 50 trees, which the homeowners select and volunteers plant. Chris is a tree expert and will give advice if asked.

A motion to increase the budget to subsidize \$50 per tree for 50 trees passed without opposition.

The National Wildlife Community Certification Committee has spent \$615 for Park certification signs.

A motion to reimburse the Committee for the signage passed without opposition.

Committee Reports – Land Use

Ian Bogost, the Emory Student Affairs liaison, is building a consortium with Emory Student Affairs, the DHCA, and the Clairmont Heights Civic Association to manage and prevent conflicts between residents and off-campus Greek houses as well as Emory students renting homes. Legally, no more than three unrelated people are permitted to live in a single-family residence. Ian is asking for the DHCA to authorize him to speak for the neighborhood when the consortium meets. No one expressed objections to having Ian relay the concerns of the DHCA when it involves problems with students in the neighborhood.

Bruce MacGregor reported that the Land use committee is concerned about a county effort to delete special existing requirements for gas storage and pumps.

A Motion to oppose deletion of SLUP requirements concerning permits for gas pumps passed without opposition.

Kit Eisterhold reported that Minerva, the developer of the Fox 5 lot on Briarcliff appears to have reduced the development to 24 units and has saved the trees along Briarcliff. However, the same developer is tearing down an historic church grandfathered on three R-85 single family lots on Briarcliff across from Callenwolde to build a three story retirement complex. Concerns were expressed that the size of the apartments and cottages may be larger than appropriate for retirees, and that the proposed development requires a rezoning since the three lots currently revert back to R-85 residential status.

A Motion to oppose rezoning of this property based on the site plan submitted to the county, and to support the current R-85 zoning passed without opposition.

The Land Use Committee is studying the proposed MARTA plans for light rail in the Clifton Corridor and walked along the Starvine route rejected by Emory. The Committee prefers the Starvine route over the N Decatur option where many more negatives exist. An informational meeting is planned at the Emory Presbyterian Church tomorrow evening and options including those not currently being considered in the Environmental Impact Statement will be discussed.

Ron Foust reported that Emory now owns 15 of the 25 homes on the north side of N Decatur Rd. and expressed concerns that MARTA does not appear to draw up plans that fit rail into existing neighborhoods. The Emory Grove neighborhood would like the DHCA board to protect Emory Grove by stating that plans should not threaten homes on N Decatur.

There is a need for the Transportation and the Land Use/Historic Preservation Committees to work together to discuss, research and write a formal recommendation that the board could vote to support.

Committee Reports – Transportation

Mike St. Louis reported that the Subcommittee on Mass Transit Options has facilitated meetings between leaders of Save Emory Grove and neighborhood experts. The committee is exploring ways to reduce single occupant traffic with Emory and MARTA officials.

The Safe Walking/Biking Subcommittee reports that the Lullwater Preservation Coalition has formed to mobilize opposition to PATH proposals and another group is forming to support a safe path for biking and walking on Lullwater. A Druid Hills Walking Club is developing a list of neighborhood walks and a Georgia Walks Summit sponsored by GDOT and PEDS will take place in mid-June at Inman Park.

The Traffic Safety & Calming Subcommittee reports that three of their members were citizen participants of the GDOT traffic safety audit on Briarcliff Road. A draft report will be available soon. Numerous streets in Druid Hills are performing street-by-street traffic studies and “bulb out” solutions such as the installation on Oxford between the byway and N Decatur have been criticized. The Transportation Committee is wishing to apply for an LCI grant from the ARC to take a more comprehensive approach to the problem. Board approval would be necessary for the LCI grant application.

A motion was made and seconded to go into **EXECUTIVE SESSION**. After the Executive Session ended, the May 18, 2016 Board meeting adjourned at 9:38 pm.