

**DRUID HILLS CIVIC ASSOCIATION, INC.**

**Board Meeting**

**Wed., July 18, 2018 @ 7:30 pm**

**Location: The Frazer Center**

**IN ATTENDANCE**

Officers: A Wallace, A Keenan, R Graham, F Putney

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

Div Chairs: R Nelson, D. Engle, S Thornton, S Mathias, M St. Louis,

R Foust, V Biesel, S Misner, Y Weatherly

2018: T Roeser, M Walters, C Waterbury

2019: H Lane, P Moise, A Silverman, D Winston, R Atkins

2020: S Sullivan, K Eisterhold, J Jones, C Ligget, L Van Gelderen

**Announcements:**

Chris Liggett Introduced idea of new "Friends" Committee as first Green Spaces Committee; people with expertise. Frazer Center has had loose alliance with Trees Atlanta. Looking for volunteers to help with different areas. Ron Foust said county does provide assistance to some areas and Boy Scouts are also a resource. Phil Moise described how DHCA Committees are formed. Need a formal proposal. Other thoughts: instead of new committee, we support neighborhoods working on their own parks and spaces.

Alida moved to approve June minutes; Andrew seconded. All voted in favor.

Anne announced Picnic in the Park event. Ryan's Keller-Williams offices will play volleyball against another KW office. Need players for DHCA vs OLPA volley ball game. Steven Mathias says there will be lots of other games for all ages at the event this year.

Budget requests are due today and will go in front of the Executive Committee in their August meeting.

Fernbank Elementary has come forward with a request for DHCA to fund a kiln for \$3,050. They have been a long-standing recipient of an annual \$500 donation. DHCA funded instruments for Fernbank a few years; Ryan noted it seemed to have a big impact. Fernbank was a big contributor to the Druid Hills Tour of Homes a few years ago following their renovations. Anne notes that we don't have many memberships from that area and this could be a good way to get the word out to these folks about DHCA. Kit motioned to approve the request; David seconded. Discussion on whether we could use yard sale proceeds to help fund this; Anne notes the timing of the request is such that Fernbank hopes to have the kiln for this school year. Bruce suggests putting a plaque on the kiln noting that it was donated by DHCA. Carol remarks that there are other elementary schools in our neighborhood, and Anne reminds the group that DHCA donated to SPARK's playground. Alida calls the motion; all vote in favor except for Andrew who abstains due to a conflict of interest.

Fran notes the deadline for articles for the early Sept issue of Druid Hills Newsletter is August 1<sup>st</sup>. The following issue will be in November. Anne says that budget-wise this has worked out well; the bills for the first two issues of the year have been less than \$1000 per issue. Advertiser dollars pay for the newsletter.

The Flock camera project continues to progress; we have agreed upon eleven locations for the cameras in Division One. Eight are paid for by the funds allocated by Alex Wan; the three additional cameras were donated by Flock for six months. The plan has been changed from taking egress photos to taking ingress photos. FLOCK representatives recommended this because they feel the photos will be better taken this way and that the solar panels that power the cameras will better positioned to maximize sun. The cameras need three hours/day of good solar exposure to work. Anne sent letters to all Division One residents, 613 total; the cost of this mailing was also covered by the funds secured by Alex Wan. There are also some Division Four residents that will also be covered by the Flock cameras at the By Way headed south on Springdale, Oakdale, etc.

Anne attended the Clifton Corridor Bike Ped Connectivity Study as the official representative for DHCA. The meeting minutes are accessible here: [\*Information from the Citizens Advisory Committee Meeting, June 20, 2018\*](#). The meeting minutes will download directly to your computer; search your browser downloads if you don't see it. Anne reminded the group in attendance that this study's focus is both bikes and pedestrians, and that Druid Hills would love to see its miles of sidewalks reclaimed so they are safe, walkable and ADA accessible.

## **Committee Reports**

### LDPC UPDATE:

Jan notes that Montessori Intown school is targeting a date a year from now to move into the former Boys' Choir location. They will use the time in between now and then to restore and renovate the house.

Kit notes that it has been quiet in Dekalb; there is a request to upzone an area near the QT at Clifton and Briarcliff to replace seven single family homes. (Upzoning = a more intense use; downzoning = less intense use) Biltmore Estates is a proposed six story, 120 units/acre development targeting Emory students. Emory has not gone on record in support and disavows any discussions with the developers; however, the developers claim Emory does support. This location is just outside the neighborhood boundaries so it's outside our jurisdiction. Bruce notes it's part of the Emory Town Center. We will revisit this topic in the future; Kit doesn't feel the project is being fast-tracked. Anne asks Kit to get in touch with impacted nearby civic associations prior to the August DHCA board meeting.

There are two lots of record at Briarcliff and Harvard; the owner is asking to demo the existing single house and build two houses. Kit will work to find a compromise with the owner regarding a variance from 35 to 15 feet.

1325 Emory is requesting a variance; some of the committee is worried about the possible precedent set by a lot rezoning. For now the request is solely for rezoning in order to be able to split the lot.

### TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE UPDATE:

Mike St. Louis updates on N Decatur road which has been a major focus area; held a meeting on June 21<sup>st</sup> for the community with the county. The initial request was for all-way stops at the three intersections of Oakdale, Oxford and Springdale in order to reduce speed and increase safety for pedestrians, bicyclists, and motorists. Dekalb County proposing that their traffic design team design two mini roundabouts at Oakdale and Springdale and leave the current light in place at Oxford Road. Mini roundabouts might both slow down traffic and simultaneously keep it moving while also making the intersections safer. However, some of the community feel strongly that all-way stops are the most simple, straightforward, inexpensive and reversible option. There was also support for a road diet, for instance bike lanes that would create a road narrowing.

Phil successfully moves to adjourn the meeting.