

Charles B. Aycock Neighborhood Association
Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting
Monday, December 2, 2013

The regular meeting of the Board of Directors was held on Monday, December 2, 2013 at Sternberger Artist Center. Meeting was called to order at 6:31 pm by Vice President Shawn Wriede. Secretary Sara Farnsworth was in attendance to record the minutes.

Present: Shawn Wriede, Sara Farnsworth, Mindy Zachary, Christina Cantrell, Esther Maltby, Matthew Thomas.

Absent: Linda Fusco, Robert Coltun, John Mandrano, Bert VanderVeen, Joe Kilpatrick, Mebane Ham (alternate).

Guests: Officers D. Campbell, J. Clack, and M. Lassiter of GPD, neighbors Brian and Christine Gillis, Shawn Patch

- 1. Crime Report:** Officer Doug Campbell reported on recent crimes in the neighborhood, comparing 2012 statistics with 2013. He warned neighbors particularly about leaving cars unlocked, as recent larcenies from motor vehicles have occurred with vehicles that appear to have been left unlocked. A warning was also given about packages left on porches, especially for the holiday season. Board members reported that all is quiet with the homeless encampment on the Dunleith property. Officer Campbell has been working with Norfolk Southern Railroad officials, who have told individuals that they must maintain a 50-foot distance from the railroad tracks to avoid trespassing in the railroad right-of-way.

Officer Campbell left gun locks and associated pamphlets, which Shawn Wriede will give to Linda and Bob for distribution.

- 2. Secretary's Report:** October meeting minutes were distributed, reviewed, and unanimously accepted.
- 3. Treasurer's Report:** Christina Cantrell distributed the Treasury Report and reported that a full accounting of the Oct. 26 Pecan Festival would be reported at the next meeting. Total balance was \$7904.66 as of November 24, 2013, with \$3901.96 in the General Fund. Escrow accounts total \$4002.70: \$3,000 in Park Ave Proceeds, \$113.77 in Dunleith Community Garden fund, \$650 in BSN Grant fund secured by Zora Medor, and \$238.93 in Aycock Middle School PBIS donation program fund. Christina declared the 2013 Pecan Festival a success based on the Profit & Loss statement she distributed, showing total costs of \$376.47 and total donations of \$409.55. Treasurer's Report was accepted unanimously.
- 4. President's Report:** Linda Fusco was absent and made no report.
- 5. Park Avenue Escrow Account:** Board members discussed how to approach the issue of the \$3,000 in funds that have been sitting in an escrow account for approximately seven years without clearly defined guidelines for their use.

Motion was put forth that the board reaffirm the related motion from the last board meeting, that the Neighborhood Association release the Park Avenue escrow funds into the General Fund on the condition that we notify the entire neighborhood. Motion passed unanimously.

- 6. Alleyway Issues:** Shawn Wriede offered no news to report.

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7. **Community Watch:** No report. Joe Kilpatrick was absent.
8. **Historic Preservation (COA's):** No COA applications this month.
9. **Technology Report** - Nothing to report.
10. **Welcoming Committee:** New residents need welcoming at 505 Park Avenue. Brian Gillis and fiancée Christine. **ACTION ITEM for Sara Farnsworth: Notify Linda of new residents at 505 Park Avenue who need a welcome basket.**
11. **Luminaries:** Bert VanderVeen reported that he and Joe Kilpatrick will be in charge of the luminaries fundraiser/event again this year. Various dates were discussed, and board members voted to empower Bert and Joe to make a decision on a date for the event as they see fit.
12. **Fundraising Committee:** Mindy Zachary reported on ideas for potential fundraisers: Neighborhood yard sale, potluck dinners, etc. She has been in touch with former board member Tracy Lamothe about previous fundraisers that have been undertaken by the board in past years. Mindy plans to wait until April to undertake potential fundraising projects.
13. **Greensboro Neighborhood Congress Report:** Sara Farnsworth reported that Barbara Harriss has been appointed as the city's new Director of Neighborhood Development. Ms. Harris said that the procedure for initiating an code compliance inspection of a substandard/problem property. It used to be the case that a petition with several signatures was required to initiate an inspection. Now, only one citizen needs to call 373-CITY to initiate an inspection.

The Better Buildings Greensboro energy grant program that was set to expire in September has been extended and is still available through March.
14. **Aycock Middle School Liaison/PBIS Project:** Esther has been spending donated funds reserved for PBIS towards small incentives for students and dropping them off at the school as needed. She read some thank-you notes from Aycock students.
15. **Greensboro Neighborhood Congress:** Matthew Thomas reported on the Candidates' Forum held at the last GNC meeting. For our district, the focus was on economic development and giving business incentives to large corporations.
16. **School Liaison/PBIS Project:** Esther Maltby reported that she has taken a vanload of PBIS incentives/prizes to Aycock Middle School, including drinks. Neighbors are encouraged to give via the Paypal link on the neighborhood website.
17. **Helping Home Buyers Understand Historic District Design Guidelines:** Christina Cantrell presented the topic of potential efforts we might make towards ensuring that potential property owners within the Historic District are fully informed about the Guidelines before they purchase property here. Christina researched the issue and found that while realtors are required to disclose HOAs to potential buyers, they are not required to disclose Historic District status. Board members discussed the need for city laws to address this oversight, and a possible education campaign among realtors. Christina will continue to work towards addressing this issue.

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18. Pending Action Items from last meeting:

Action Items Still Pending:

- A. September 2012, **Bert VanderVeen: Try to figure out who has old “sandwich board” signs which we’ve lost track of, to advertise the Pecan Festival.** Bert stated that he thought that Susan Elliott Billington most likely has the sandwich boards. **ACTION ITEM for Christina: Contact Susan Elliott Billington to see if she has the old neighborhood sandwich boards.**
- B. December 2012, **Mindy Zachary: Contact appropriate city official about granite curb replacement.** - Mindy has sent an email to a city official and is waiting for a response. **ACTION ITEM for Linda: Determine who has the list of cataloged granite curbs that need repair/replacement, and send the list to Mindy so that she can get it to the appropriate city official.**

19. Mural Painting: Sara Farnsworth reported that Stefan-leih has told us that we can handle the bid/RFP process ourselves. She will do so. **ACTION ITEM for Sara Farnsworth: Start RFP process for tunnel mural with Stefan-leih.**

20. Security Cameras: John Mandrano was not in attendance to report on cameras.

22. New Business/Other -

- A. Shawn Wriede reported that he met with Duke Energy officials at their request about minor tree trimming in an alley between Park Ave. and Homeland that falls outside of the historic district boundaries.
- B. Board members reported that the Tree Inventory Project is currently underway.
- C. Shawn Patch reported that he has a box of old neighborhood documents he can no longer store. Christina Cantrell offered to take over their storage.

Meeting adjourned at 8:05 pm.