

**August 25, 2003**  
Charles B. Aycock Neighborhood Association  
**Board of Directors Meeting**

**Members Present:** Dave Wharton, Betsey Baun (alt), Brad DeHart, David Hoggard, Chris Hollar, Bill Lusk, Fran Lusk, Mindy McReynolds (alt), Laura Wall

**Members Absent:** Susan Elliot (with notice), Stephen Ruzicka (with notice), Bert Vanderveen

**Guests Present:** Herman Browning

**Approval of Minutes:** Minutes from July 29, 2003 meeting approved by acclamation.

**New Business**

**Yard Sale:** Herman Browning reported that he has organized a neighborhood yard sale to be held Saturday, Sept. 20<sup>th</sup> (rain date the 27<sup>th</sup>), at Sternberger Park from 8:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. He cannot physically pick up large items on the morning of the sale, and requested volunteers to help. Chris Hollar, David Hoggard, and Mindy (and Bob) McReynolds will help with trucks and/or muscle. Herman takes sale items to the park at 7:00 a.m. and will need help moving, setting up and selling. Betsey Baun volunteered her “crummy old garage” for pre-event storage, but will need to be contacted before drop-offs. Herman projects \$75 in expenses for 500 fliers, labels, a receipt book, and a Fri/Sat ad in the News & Record. Carolina Thrift will pick up unsold items at 3:00 p.m., and if any donor wishes to retrieve their unsold donated items, they must do so before then. Herman needs the Aycock neighborhood’s tax ID number for receipts.

**President’s Report – Dave Wharton**

**Grant Writer:** After some initial headway, Dave has had little contact with the County grant writer. He is pursuing.

**Inspections:** Dave reported that LoRay and Mike Cowhig from the city have been out and about the neighborhood, inspecting 600 5<sup>th</sup>, 503 Percy, and the Awning on the American Cleaners building. Although there are no City funds budgeted to enforce the Demolition by Neglect ordinance, there are fines that can be assessed. Dave asked specifically that Fran Lusk develop a strategy to systematically identify and process requests for inspection those properties that are either COA deficient or candidates for the demolition ordinance. We should not try to overwhelm our resources by identifying many problems at once, but develop the system so there is continuous reporting. He also strongly suggested that our neighborhood make a concerted effort, even banding together with the other historic districts, to exert pressure on City Council during the next budget hearings to ensure money is set aside to enforce the demolition ordinance.

**Pictorial Survey:** Additionally, since there is confusion in one case about replaced porch balusters and what might have existed previously, it was determined we need periodic historical surveys of our neighborhood. Dave asked Mindy McReynolds to schedule a winter Saturday to take digital photos of every house in the neighborhood, our 2002-2003 Aycock Pictorial Survey.

**Neighborhood Congress:** Dave asked that as many people as possible attend the Oct. 11<sup>th</sup> Neighborhood Congress. Dave Wharton, David Hoggard, and Bob and Mindy McReynolds are registering to attend. More are welcome.

**Vice President’s Report - David Hoggard**

**City Council:** David Hoggard is running for City Council and needs our support and votes.

**Community Meetings:** David is anxious for Stefan-Leih to set a date for the third and final city-sponsored neighborhood meetings to establish our actions list for Charette-inspired priorities. Our understanding is that city representatives have met with local business owners. Dave Wharton added that the city reps want to review their consultants notes and recommendations before presenting them at the meeting, but he wants this board to review them prior to the meeting as well.

**New Aycock Principal:** William Price is the new Principal at Aycock, and is very interested in his campus and ways to make it safer and more attractive. Dave Wharton will invite him to our next Board meeting. Mr. Price would like more lights on campus for safety and David hoped the neighborhood could help. Laura Wall recommended landscape lights rather than overhead, or a combination of the two, but that there is already a lot of light coming from the campus. She also asked if we could address the issue of curb cuts and drop off points.

**Sternberger Park:** Our park is on tier two of the Park and Rec's list for new playground equipment, which means ours is probably coming some time next year.

### **Beautification - Laura Wall & Brad DeHart**

**Plaques:** There are now 17 plaques ordered at a profit of \$22 per plaque, and Laura is awaiting sign-offs from homeowners for those proofs that are ready.

**Neighborhood Improvements:** The tallied responses to Laura's survey on priorities for beautification issues were: 1) bricked entryways, 2) trees, 3) painted medians, 4) banners, and 5) historic signage. We have \$80,000 to spend on neighborhood improvements and are looking at estimates for the bricked entryways, trees, and banners currently.

**Bricked Entryways:** Laura has one estimate so far but needs e-mailed recommendations for other brick masons. We need to coordinate with the Charrette information where the actual markers should be placed, but rather than the extensive serpentine brickwork, we are now doing just the half circles with back plantings. One identified site is at the WMS entry into the neighborhood. This will need to be coordinated with the City and we will ask them to go 50/50 with the expenses. Dave Wharton suggested we look into the Capital Improvement Project funds.

**Trees:** Chris Hollar's parents are happy to donate saplings provided we dig them up. Dave Wharton recommended this committee contact the County Extension Service, as they have funds available. Greensboro Beautiful is another source, but we really need to find free trees, if possible.

**Banners:** Laura and Brad are working on the banners first, figuring they'll need \$10,000-\$15,000 (less if Summit not included this go around) and following a discussion on where they would have the best/greatest impact, it was determined they should be started on Yanceyville St. and added to Summit Ave. as the area improves. There are several agencies, including the City, Duke Power, DOT, and the Historic Preservation Commission, which may need to be consulted. Dave Wharton suggested they start with Design Review and to allow in their budget the cost for replacement banners. Laura suggested we look at the Southside banners.

**MOTION:** Dave Hoggard moved that Laura and Brad continue their efforts to secure banners for Yanceyville Street, with the understanding that the cost per banner plus hardware is in the \$500-\$750 range and will be available from our MSD funds. Chris Hollar seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

**Hendrix Street Bridge:** Dave Wharton asked the committee to look into placing neighborhood identification signage on the blank wall of the Fisher side of the bridge.

**Yard of the Month:** Laura and Brad announced a new contest for the neighborhood where nominations for best looking yards can be e-mailed to them, where they will follow up with a personal inspection, and award the winner a yard sign. They feel this will help encourage

others to spruce up and maintain their yards, and build momentum and pride. At the annual meeting they will award a prize to the “Yard of the Year” selected from the monthly winners.

### **Code Compliance - Fran Lusk**

Fran reported that she has the notebook from Jacynthia, and is reviewing it. She will call and talk to Danny Nall about 708 and 600 5<sup>th</sup>, and 503 Percy. Other matters already covered in President’s report.

### **Fundraising - Chris Hollar**

**Neighborhood Yard Sale:** Already covered under New Business.

**Hallowe’en Party:** Dave Wharton suggested Chris contact Renee Franklin, who organizes a children’s’ outing every year, to see if we can coordinate an adult costume party as a \$5.00/person fundraiser.

**House Tour:** Rebecca has been working on a big show, but is making progress. Chris will touch base.

### **Community Watch - Betsey Baun**

Sandra Browning has modeled how break-ins are reported, which is that the victim immediately calls 911, and then reports the incident to their block captain. The block captain then notifies Betsey, makes inquiries to police as to investigation status, and reports back to captain, who relays status to victim. Discussion followed regarding the excessive number of cabs late at night around the Executive Center area, and how to declare a building a public nuisance (call police, report specific address and activity).

**Neighborhood Watch Meeting:** Scheduled for Sept. 10<sup>th</sup> at St. Leo’s community room, from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. for Block Captains, Community Watch members, and residents of St. Leo’s Place. Speakers include Officer Braswell, Phyllis Ford, the city Taxi Inspector, Brad Tolbert (Local Ordinance Inspector) and will include a Q&A period.

**National Night Out:** Great success; accolades to all involved.

### **Newsletter – Annie Teich**

Dave Wharton reported that the newsletter is ready to go to the printer tomorrow, and to he’ll let Annie know about the Yard Sale, Yard of the Month contest, and Community Watch meeting.

### **Treasurer’s Report – Bill Lusk**

**PGI Payment:** The first payment on our loan from Preservation Greensboro, Inc. has been made. We are required to pay \$2000 each year for 4 years, with a \$12,000 balloon payment at the end of 4 years. Although it may be possible to use some of the MSD funds, Bill is very desirous of paying as much down as possible on that \$12,000 balloon before it becomes due, and leave the MSD funds for actual improvements. To that end he is asking everyone to come to the next meeting with suggestions as to how that might happen. General discussion followed re: a neighborhood talent bank auction, a perpetual auction (“A-Bay”), and more active use of our web site (Aycock Store).

### **Historic District Items**

**Aycock Middle School COA:** Approved by acclamation the plan presented by the school for a handicap access and curb cut. Dave Wharton will present our endorsement at the Historic Preservation Commission meeting on the 27<sup>th</sup>.

**Adjourned** at 9:15 p.m.