

Charles B. Aycock Neighborhood Association
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
for
October 25, 2004

Present: Betsey Baun, Frankie Green, Tracy Lamothe, Mindy McReynolds, Cat Paige and Dave Wharton.
Absent: David Hoggard, Bob Lauver, Lynn Leonard, Miki Moore, Bruce Oakley, and Steve Ruzicka.
Guests: Bob McReynolds

Meeting called to order at 7:00 pm by Betsey Baun

Minutes approved from the September 27th meeting.

OFFICERS' REPORTS

President's Report – Betsey Baun

- Design Review Committee Betsey received the following from Stefan –Leih Kuns:

I just wanted to remind you that the neighborhood typically has a representative on the Design Review Committee. We have it designed so that the Vice President of each neighborhood association is the representative (this is beneficial for two reasons—it prepares the VP for his/her presidency by familiarizing them with the COA process, and it allows the neighborhood to have a role in design and discussion prior to a COA submittal).

Previously, Bill Lusk was your representative and unfortunately we have not had anyone from Aycock attend a DRC meeting in well over a year and a half if not longer. I wanted to make you are aware of this since your board has recently changed hands and you may want to direct your new VP or “a suitable representative” (if your VP does not want to do it) to become your member.

The DRC meets on the first Thursday of each month at 4:00 in the Plaza Level Conference Room of city hall. Meetings are typically 1-2 hours in length. It is an informal group that will review applications that go to the HPC (if, at staff's discretion, it is not a clear application or if there are design issues that should be addressed) and we are open to residents that want to discuss projects in the preliminary stages as well. Often we recommend that developers or individuals pursuing infill/larger scale projects come to this board prior to spending \$\$\$ on professional services that may not meet the intent of the guidelines.

Please let us know if the present VP or someone else from Aycock wishes to become a member of this committee. It is short notice, but we do meet this Thursday October 7 at 4:00 in the Plaza Level Conference room if you would like to send someone.

Mindy McReynolds volunteered to serve and was appointed to the position.

- War Memorial RFQ Update Betsey and Dave W. received the following e-mail response from Bob Morgan, Assistant City Manager:

Betsey and David, Please find enclosed a copy of the RFP that was advertised last Sunday. Please understand that the City plans to include citizens, including residents in the neighborhood, in the selection of the architect as well as in the design process. Also understand that the selected architect would be provided copies of the Neighborhood Charette Workbook and the Neighborhood Strategic Plan. Again I would like to apologize for not contacting you prior to this advertisement, as was our intent. Please feel free to contact Mark Bush or me with any questions or concerns. I would be glad to meet with the Neighborhood Association if you feel that would be helpful. I look forward to working with you and the neighborhood on this project. Bob Morgan, Assistant City Manager

They also received a copy of the following City Memorandum from City Manager, Ed Kitchen:

*Date: October 8, 2004
Memo to: Mayor & City Council
From: Ed Kitchen, City Manager
Subject: Items For Your Information*

1. Planning Process – War Memorial Stadium

As you are aware, professional baseball will move from War Memorial Stadium to the new downtown stadium in the spring of 2005. As part of our commitment to maintaining and utilizing War Memorial Stadium for the future, we have recently issued a Request for Proposals from design professionals for programming and concept

designs for renovations and enhancements to our stadium. The selected design team will be asked to utilize the recommendations of the Parks & Recreation Commission sponsored future uses study, input from the Aycock and Bluford neighborhoods and various stakeholders, as well as the structural analysis we recently completed. They will also be asked to coordinate design concepts with the Council approved Summit Avenue corridor study. An overriding objective will be to propose enhancements that are in keeping with the historical and architectural heritage of the facility so that it can be utilized as a premier amateur athletics venue for many years to come. Strong coordination with the Aycock neighborhood plans will be a mandate to the team. Proposals from interested firms in the Piedmont area are due by November 17, 2004. I plan to appoint a selection team to pick the best proposal and advise us and the design firm throughout their work. That team will include representatives from the following stakeholders: Aycock neighborhood, Bluford neighborhood, NCA&T, Greensboro College, P&R Commission, VFW Post, Preservation Greensboro, and staff from P&R, H&CD, Planning, and Engineering & Inspections. If you have questions or concerns, please contact me or Bob Morgan who is coordinating for my office. We will, of course, keep you posted as we move through the process.

Discussion followed clarifying that what was sent out was not an RFQ, but an RFP; it was suggested we should look into how historic tax credits might be utilized for stadium renovations and as a way the existing stadium seating count might be preserved; it would be difficult for the stadium to be a private concern as annual maintenance costs are in the \$200,000-300,000 range and would have to be self-sustaining; it was suggested we look at firms who can organize tax credit usage.

- Signage Request Betsey reported that the Neighborhood's request for a COA to place historic district signage will be reviewed at the Nov. 17th HPC meeting.
- Calendar Dates the following items were considered for placement on the neighborhood calendar, with funding needs/generation discussed:
 - Neighborhood Yard Sale – Tracy is organizing; we have 5 neighbors committed to have items available for sale on Sat. morning, Nov. 6th (Nov. 13th rain date); we are asking a 20% neighborhood contribution from participants' proceeds; Tracy will advertise in the N&R, Rhino Times, and at the Farmers Market, and notify neighbors via the ListServ.
 - Luminaries – Sunday, Dec. 12th will be our annual Luminary Display, which coordinates with Fisher Park's; Betsey will check into caroler availability and cost; Dave H. and Tom Franklin usually coordinate this event. Cost for 12 luminaries is \$7.
 - Pot Luck/Annual Meeting – Sunday, Feb. 13, 2005 is the suggested date for this event; this is a good opportunity to present Summit Ave. Corridor Study updates; a chairperson is needed.
 - Spring Clean – Sat. April 30, 2005 was discussed as a prelude to the house tour; the last cleanup was highly successful, and this time we would like to possibly coordinate with Earth Day.
 - House Tour – Sat. and Sun., May 14th and 15th, 2005 are the suggested dates for our next house tour; Mindy will contact Rebecca Fagg who was last in charge of the second tour, and subsequently cancelled when we received the county grant to pay off the PGI charrette loan.
 - Summer Picnic/NNO – we need to apply for a BSN grant to help fund this function; we didn't get one last time.

Vice-President's Report – David Hoggard (absent)

- Noise Ordinance Update – Betsey submitted the following e-mail, received from Terry Wood on Oct 14th:

We have contacted Jeff Ivester of Dawson Associates, Charlotte, who attended the last meeting. We asked Mr. Ivester to return to give us a demonstration on the decibel meters and he indicated he would be glad to do so. His wife is having a baby and he cannot get back with us until the last week in October. I will let you know as soon as I hear from him.

We have also researched, and discussed with the Attorney General's Office, the legality of the City enforcing its noise ordinance with reference to noise generated on State property, i.e., State Universities, construction projects, etc. We are of the opinion that such enforcement is not possible. It is, of course, possible to work closely with Campus Police to create an atmosphere of cooperation to limit and control campus noise. This restriction would not prevent the City from controlling noise created on private property, whether or not it is created by students, or other campus residents.

I will also be forwarding to you, in the very near future, the draft noise ordinance for your comment. Thank you for your patience.

Treasurer's Report – Tracy Lamothe

- Financial Report – Aycock's financial status is still undetermined since she has not been able to reach Bill Lusk; Betsey will again contact Bill; Mindy will contact Jinni re: loan repayment. It was suggested that Bob Lauver be contacted to determine a process for retrieving financial records.
- Fundraising – Grants discussion: Building Stronger Neighborhoods (BSN) grants are designed to help fund events that build neighborhood relationships; Dave W. will bring copies of past grants; Cat Page added that there are American Express grants available in the under \$10,000-range; other ideas were considered under preceding Calendar Dates discussion

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Community Watch – Frankie Green

Frankie is doing as she always has regarding her block of the neighborhood; she will be assisted by Bob McReynolds to reconstruct the block captain list; they are mindful of the upcoming Dec. 8th police and community watch leaders meeting to be at 6:30 p.m.

Beautification – Cat Page for Lynn Leonard

- Tree Reforestation – Cat reported that Lynn has indicated there is a process available to obtain trees for our reforestation project.
- Hendrix St. Bridge Sign – there was discussion regarding the possibility of installing some sort of neighborhood marker sign at the Hendrix St. Bridge so that people coming into the neighborhood know they are entering our historic district, and understand that the beautiful landscaping on the Church St. side of the bridge is part of our neighborhood.
- New Garden Invoices – received from Stefan-Leigh were authorized for city payment by the board; they were for \$114 (re-mulching) and \$398 (Sept. maintenance).
- Letter from Julie Williams – the following communication was received (no action taken):
*I'm a resident of Fisher Park, and together with other like-minded individuals am testing the waters for interest in a **neighborhood-based grassroots environmental coalition** as part of our Fisher Park Neighborhood Association. Our mission would be education on environmental issues affecting our neighborhood with the goal of slowly influencing personal practices and working together to positively influence policy affecting our community. We hope to network with other neighborhood associations or citizen organizations on common goals, and wondered if your association does something similar. If you could share any ideas or point me in the direction of an appropriate contact person in the Aycock community, I'd appreciate it. Thank you!*
Julie 230-0850 208 East Hendrix
- Communication from Parks and Recreation – this was received earlier; if there is a neighborhood response, it should be put forth as a neighborhood request (no action taken):
Subject: Parks & Rec
Date: Thu, 14 Oct 2004 17:34:04 -0400
*The Issues and Bylaws Committee is going to be taking a look at problems, concerns, regulations and suggestions regarding Parks & Rec and their procedures for dealing with small neighborhood parks. If you have had any **difficulties in getting what you want/ or need for your neighborhood small parks** or if you have **suggestions for improving the procedures used by Park & Rec in dealing with the small neighborhood parks**, please let me know.*
Has the process you used in getting equipment or services for your small neighborhood park worked well for you, or not, and why?
- What would you like to see improved in Parks & Rec?
- What would you like to see improved in your neighborhood park?
- What would you like to know from Parks & Rec about your park and how to improve it?
- What form would you like for this information to be presented? [ie, document, charts, video, personal presentation, etc.]
- Any other topics related to Parks & Rec and your small neighborhood park that you feel need to be addressed?
Please let me know, this information will be discussed in the next Issues and Bylaws meeting next week. I & B will

*discuss what GNC might be able to do to help improve the relationships between Parks & Rec and the neighborhoods and their small neighborhood parks. Your input and help is greatly appreciated!
Deborah Haro Ardmore Park Community Crime Watch 292-7286hm*

Code/Zoning Enforcement – Bob Lauver (absent)

Betsey provided a copy of the letter (attached to these minutes) from Danny Nall regarding assistance in identifying close, vacant, and/or boarded up houses in the neighborhood; the board opted to take no formal action at this time.

Summit Avenue Corridor Study – Dave Wharton

Dave reported that the city has received 10 RFQs and expects to whittle the finalists down to four. They will then submit an RFP to the remaining firms, which will insist that the firm works with our charrette plans, and request budget commitments immediately. He added that voting YES for Amendment One at the upcoming election will help pay for surveys such as this one.

Newsletter – Mindy McReynolds

The newsletter is progressing and should be distributed before the next board meeting; the plan is to have Winter, Spring, Summer, and Fall editions.

New Business

- Request to Survey Neighbors
My name is Melissa Parrish. I am a graduate student attending UNCG in the field of public health. My group and I are doing a project for one of our community classes that deals with the Aycock Historical Neighborhood. We are coming to the portion of the project that requires us to interview a couple people that are affiliated with the neighborhood. Do you know anyone that lives or works in the neighborhood that I might be able to interview? This would help me out a great deal and would not take much time. I would be more than happy to try my best to accommodate individual's schedules. Thanks again!! 259-2075 Melissa Parrish, UNCG

COA Applications

- Aycock Middle School lighting plan -- Mindy reported that she attended the September 29th HPC meeting and registered the Aycock Board's unanimous feeling that although the lighting scheme was good, there should be a more appropriate light fixture selected. Due to a lack of plans for the commissioners to view, the matter was held over until the October meeting.

Next Board Meeting: Tuesday, November 16th at 7:00 pm, St. Leo's Community Room.

Meeting Adjourned: 8:30 p.m.