

Charles B. Aycock Neighborhood Association Inc.

Minutes of Board of Directors Meeting

Date: May 27, 2014

The regular meeting of the Board of Directors was held on Tuesday, May 27, 2014 at St. Leo's Place. Meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm by President Linda Fusco. Anne-Marie Earl agreed to transcribe the minutes.

Present: Board members Christina Cantrell, Robert Coltun, Anne-Marie Earl, Shawn Wriede, Linda Fusco, Esther Maltby, Mindy Zachary, John Mandrano, Matthew Thomas. Also in attendance were Officer Douglas E. Campbell and neighbors Patti Bauer, Pam Grigsby, Betsey Horth and David Horth.

Board Members Absent: Bert VanderVeen, Mebane Ham, Mark Walter

Greensboro Police Department Crime Report:

Officer Doug Campbell reported on recent crimes in the neighborhood. The crimes included three burglaries, motorcycle theft, larceny from a motor vehicle, auto vandalism, physical assault, and a hit and run.

Special Speakers:

Ryan Saunders was not in attendance to speak, but two of his handouts were distributed. One is about the Power for the People's Transit event on June 21 (powertothepeopletransit.eventbrite.com), and the other is about the Create Your Space project (createyourcity.com). **ACTION ITEM: Send information about Power to the People's Transit through the listserve, as well as the Create Your Space project.**

Minutes/Secretary's Report: February, March, and April minutes were distributed and reviewed. Changes that need to be made: Anne-Marie's last name needs to be changed from Larson to Earl in the April Minutes. For the March minutes, Christina Cantrell clarified that the city takes care of the doggie pot station at Sternberger Park, but that there are three stations that the city is not responsible for, including two on Chestnut and one on Cypress. This information needs to be updated on page 4 of the March minutes. Mindy Zachary had a correction to page 4 of the March minutes, as well: Mindy wants to add a line in regards to rezoning Summit Avenue. Years ago, there was concern over how it would adversely affect the businesses on Summit Avenue, but Mindy's point was that it was adversely affecting the residential units along Summit. **ACTION ITEM: Christina Cantrell will send Linda the updates that need to be made to the minutes. Linda Fusco will make these corrections to the minutes.** The board unanimously accepted the minutes given those changes are made. **ACTION ITEM: Anne-Marie will send the action items separate from the minutes.**

Treasurer's Report: The Treasurer's Report showed an ending balance of \$6,275.16, with \$5719.46 in the General Fund and the rest in Escrow. Given that Christina Cantrell will be in Europe for a period of time this summer, she had issued checks that were for June, so they are not reflected in the report for May. The Dunlap and Great Atlantic landscaping estimates were shared. Both annual landscape contracts are paid for by MSD funds. The board unanimously agreed to accept the contracts.

President's Report:

Sara Farnsworth resigned due to more job-related responsibilities and less time to devote to volunteering. Linda thanked her for her service.

As a follow-up to the tree-pruning workshop held on May 19th from 7-9 p.m. at St. Leo's Community Room, Christina inquired about trees that did not make it into the inventory due to private fences. **ACTION ITEM: Christina Cantrell will follow up with Mike Cowhig about how to update the inventory for trees that did not appear on the inventory. Christina will also inquire about sending letters to the homeowners who have trees on their property that are in poor condition or are dead.**

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ACTION ITEM: Put a link to the tree inventory on the Historic Aycock website so that residents can access it easily.

Stefan-leih Geary drew an updated neighborhood map to illustrate the boundaries of Historic Aycock. The board agreed to upload this map to the neighborhood website to replace the old one. **ACTION ITEM: Replace the old map on the website with Stefan-leih's new one.**

Question for Jamal Fox regarding budget shortfall and MSD funds: Jim Westmoreland, city manager, indicated that our MSD funds would not be impacted by the budget shortfall. Jim Westmoreland promised Linda he would follow up on an accounting of our money.

Alleyway Issues: Shawn Wriede reported that he and Mindy Zachary met with council members Jamal Fox and Mike Barber on May 14th to discuss storm water issues in the neighborhood. Mike Barber confirmed that if it is a storm water issue, the city has a federal mandate to take care of it. Now they are pursuing the work that was described in the engineer report that needs to be done. Mindy has inquired with Jamal Fox and Mike Barber if there is any more news, and there is no news yet.

Fundraising: Nothing to report this month.

Historic Preservation: The COA for the tree removal at 701 Percy was continued from last month's HPC meeting. The city wants a second opinion on the health of the tree. The board is still in agreement that we support the tree removal at 701 Percy.

Joseph Steele filed a COA for 510 Fifth Avenue. He wants to remove four trees, extend a driveway, construct a parking area, add a fence in the back yard, and construct a roof over the stoop. The board was unanimous in the agreement to approve this COA.

Katherine Young filed a COA for 743 Park Avenue. She wants to cover her existing wood siding with fiber-cement siding. The board was unanimous in the rejection of this COA due to the fiber-cement siding, which would not follow historic guidelines.

Newsletter: Nothing to report this month.

Technology: Nothing to report this month.

Welcoming: Nothing to report this month.

Greensboro Neighborhood Congress: Shawn Wriede reported that at the past GNC meeting on May 17th, Mayor Nancy Vaughn had a Q&A session. They found a way to fix the \$5 million shortfall in the city budget. Of concern to us, the transportation bonds have a 10-year statute of limitation to be used. If the Summit Avenue project is not underway by 2016, it will not happen with the bond we have, so we need to make sure that it does. Another concern is that we need to maintain attendance at the GNC meetings to keep our voting rights. We are down one member, so Mindy Zachary volunteered. Linda Fusco offered to attend if one the four volunteers cannot make it. **ACTION ITEM: Shawn Wriede will notify GNC that Mindy Zachary is replacing Sara Farnsworth for Historic Aycock representative.**

Community Garden/Homeless: Dunleith property: No trespassing signs have been posted at the entrances and exits of the property. At this time, Officer Campbell suggests calling the police if anyone is seen or heard on the property and they will be removed. The camp has cleaned up the property. Esther Maltby spoke with Amy from the IRC, who is going to help clean up the rest once the last tent is gone. Officer Campbell recommended trying to work with the property owner Demetri Dascalakis to clean up the brush on the property, otherwise we will continue to have issues with theft and people living there. **ACTION ITEM: Write Dascalakis a letter from the board thanking him for allowing us to use his land for the community garden, and to explain that Officer Campbell recommended that his land be cleaned up to deter crime.**

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Esther Maltby reported that she wrote a grant for the garden to design and create a small, moveable shed that would hold garden tools. David Wharton sent Esther a design with recycled windows and things from the neighborhood. It would be 5X5' with a tin roof. David Wharton will fill out a COA application. **ACTION ITEM: Esther Maltby will send an email to the listserv asking for windows, doors, and other recycled materials that are not in use as a donation to the garden shed project.**

Mission Statement: Mindy Zachary presented the new mission statement of the neighborhood. It was chosen by the Mission Statement Committee, consisting of David Horth, Christina Cantrell, Mindy Zachary, Matthew Thomas, Joe Kilpatrick, and Linda Fusco. The new mission statement was presented as "Aycock: History Matters." Betsey Horth raised concerns regarding the negative history associated with Charles B. Aycock and requested we change the mission statement to clarify that we do not associate our community with Charles B. Aycock. The board agreed to change it to "Historic Aycock: History Matters."

Old Business:

Cameras at the tunnel and bridge: Officer Campbell reported that College Hill is setting up security cameras and working in tandem with the police to determine the best way to establish security. Officer Campbell believes Historic Aycock should wait until College Hill's security is set in place before proceeding, and the board agreed. He is planning to attend the next College Hill meeting, which is not currently scheduled.

Completed MSD-funded projects for 2014-15: trash receptacles at Sternberger Park and Max Thompson Bridge, landscaping at Max Thompson Bridge, sign toppers for street signs, tree inventory and maintenance program.

The mural for Leftwich Tunnel: Betsey Horth presented four of the eight submitted project proposals. Two are projects estimated under \$20,000, and two are estimated over \$20,000. **ACTION ITEM: Send any questions or concerns for the artists about the mural project to Betsey before the next board meeting.** At the next board meeting, the artists will present their proposals, and we will let the neighborhood choose which mural they prefer. **ACTION ITEM: Distribute handouts to the neighborhood to advertise the mural project so that our neighbors will be inclined to vote.**

Robert Coltun inquired about the two proposals that are over \$20,000. After \$20,000, there is a concern that the city council will step in and take control of this neighborhood project. **ACTION ITEM: Betsey will reach out to the artists to ask if their price is firm or if they have flexibility.**

Mindy Zachary inquired about whether or not the tunnel is technically located in Historic Aycock. According to Stefan-leih Geary's new map, the tunnel does not appear to be within the boundaries of Historic Aycock. **ACTION ITEM: Linda Fusco will confirm with the city that our MSD funds are able to pay for the Leftwich Tunnel mural.**

Restrictive covenants: **ACTION ITEM: Mindy Zachary will ask Benjamin Briggs to compose an email regarding his presentation on restrictive covenants on houses. They will determine whether or not to invite neighbors to his presentation.** This presentation will not be possible for the June board meeting, as that meeting will be dedicated to the mural, but it could be done for the July meeting.

Sign at the corner of Yanceyville and Bessemer: Stefan-Leih Geary informed Betsey Horth that the sign permit has been obtained and a contractor is in the process of coordinating a review to ensure that all underground utilities are identified before breaking ground. Pieces of the fencing has been removed, and it is up to the school to house those pieces of fencing, however the board agreed that it would be best for us to find storage for the fencing. **ACTION ITEM: Reach out to the listserv to find a proper place to store the fencing in the event that a piece of the fence needs to be replaced or repaired.**

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New Business:

Anticipated MSD-funded projects for 2014-15: Sternberger Park improvements/butterfly garden, signs at one or two other gateway locations, replace globes on street lights and repaint light poles.

Announcements for Aycock:

- Upcoming 2014 Board/Neighborhood Meetings –Jun 23, July 28, Aug 25, Sep 22, Oct 27, Dec 1
- National Night Out – Tuesday, Aug 5, 2014
- Big Sweep Cleanup – Sat, Sep 20, 2014, 9 a.m. – 12:00 noon – Meet at 721 Fifth Ave
- Luminarias – Sun, Dec 14, 2014 (Rain Date Sun, Dec 21, 2014) – Sternberger Park

Announcements for Fisher Park:

- June Jubilee - June 7th from 5-8 pm on Temple Emanuel's lawn. Food Trucks and Aycock's resident Molly McGinn and the Wurlitzer Prize have been booked for the event. Contact Ashley Meredith at 336-202-4964 for more information.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8:39.

Submitted by,

Anne-Marie Earl