

College Hill Neighborhood Association

Minutes of Monthly Meeting

6:15 p.m., Feb. 25, 2013

Fellowship Hall, Church of the Covenant, Mendenhall St.

Monthly Neighborhood Watch Report (6:15 p.m.)

Greensboro Police Officer Melanie Daniels reported on an attempted robbery and shooting that took place at the Wafco Mills condos in February. Suspects involved were arrested and evicted from the condo unit they rented. Police officers met with the Wafco Mills Homeowners Association to discuss ways to better screen potential renters.

Election of New CHNA Board (6:30 p.m. start)

David Arneke reviewed the slate of officers and board members developed by the Nominations Committee. There were no nominations from the floor. V. Haskett motioned and J. Wheby seconded to approve the proposed slate. Motion carried unanimously on a voice vote. The officers for 2013-2014 will be President James Keith, Vice President David Arneke, Secretary Judy Horn, Treasurer Marjorie Bagley and board members Lori Campbell, Janet Frommann, Larry Horn, Jane Moore, Lyddan Pawlowski, Cindy Sheppard and Terry Weaver.

CHNA Website, Social Media Update

Ian Beatty reported that the CHNA website is now live. The URL is www.collegehillgreensboro.net. News items will appear on the home page. These time-sensitive posts will scroll down as newer items are posted. Other pages on the website provide more static information related to the neighborhood, the CHNA board, CHNA meetings, and relevant Greensboro news. Please send news for the website to Judy Horn at judithahorn@gmail.com. Please report technical problems to Ian Beatty at webmaster@collegehillgreensboro.net.

Soon news items posted on the CHNA website will also automatically be posted on the CHNA Facebook page (www.facebook.com/collegehillgreensboro.com) and to our Twitter feed. Residents are urged to check out these new electronic communications and spread the word so others in College Hill can be better informed about the neighborhood.

Minutes of Previous Meeting

J. Wood motioned and I. Beatty seconded to approve minutes of the Jan. 28, 2013 meeting. Motion approved on voice vote.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Marjorie Bagley said that she has followed up with the IRS regarding the form that was omitted from a previous tax submission. Now that she is officially the CHNA Treasurer, she is authorized to speak for the organization and expects to be able to finalize this issue soon. Marjorie will arrange to get Pres. James Keith's, VP David Arneke's and her signatures are added to the bank accounts.

Bank balances as of Jan. 31, 2013 are BB&T \$384.38 and Sun Trust \$853.97. Both bank accounts are charging maintenance fees. To minimize the impact of fees, Marjorie proposed that CHNA combine the funds into one account. If possible she will obtain a no-fee account since we are a non-profit. V.Haskett motioned and J. Moore seconded to approve the treasurer's report including the recommendation to combine the accounts into one. Motion passed on a voice vote.

Certificate of Appropriateness (COA) Applications

In January, the Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) rejected the COA of the mattress business on

Spring Garden regarding exterior signage. The current owners recently purchased the business (but not the building) and are working with the HPC and the city staff to have compliant signs.

It has come to the attention of the HPC noted that Duke Energy failed to apply for a COA before it removed three trees on College Place and, therefore, Duke Energy is in violation of HPC rules. Only the HPC can approve *removal* of trees. CHNA (represented by Virginia Haskett) can recommend a remedy at the next HPC meeting. Possible responses were discussed. T. Weaver motioned and J. Wheby seconded a proposal to ask Duke Energy to 1) plant three trees on the east side of College Place which will help replace the tree canopy and 2) plant three shorter trees (that will not interfere with overhead wires) on the west side of College Place. Motion was approved on a voice vote. Cindy Sheppard will join Virginia Haskett at the February HPC meeting.

Bill and Jane Moore have requested to replace the flooring of their front porch with a wood-like tongue and groove synthetic material. The Moores have had to replace the porch surface several times in the past; therefore, they will not be replacing material that was original to the home. At least one previous COA to use synthetic material for a porch (on the Holderness Presbyterian House on Mendenhall Street) has been approved. I. Beatty motioned and J. Wheby seconded a motion to support the Moore's COA request. The motion passed on a voice vote with one dissenting vote. The COA request will be presented at the February HPC meeting. Mike Cowhig noted that since the Moore's home is designated as a Guilford County Historic property, the county may have the final say as to whether the synthetic materials may be used.

Landscaping Proposals using MSD Funds

Mike Cowhig updated the association on several landscaping projects.

Two benches that used to be at the pergola at Mendenhall and Walker streets have been located. They will be refurbished and reinstalled at the pergola. Now that the pergola has been cleared of overgrown vines and shrubs, the hope is that people will not sleep on the benches. If that is found to be a problem, arms can be added to the centers of the benches.

Mike Cowhig presented the revised plan that Christine Russell of New Earth Designs, Inc. (the firm contracted by the City to help with College Hill landscape improvements) prepared for the *West McGee Street Planting at Greensboro College Soccer Field*. Following a discussion, J. Wheby moved and J. Wood seconded a motion to use up to \$12,000 of MSD Funds to proceed with the plan presented but to extend the plantings to Kim Langlois's home at 1010 W. McGee St. and to use a larger tree in front of Janet Frommann's home at 1003 W. McGee St. The motion was approved on a voice vote.

Mike Cowhig next presented the New Earth Designs, Inc. proposal for improving the landscaping at the *Spring Garden Street Median at the Province Village*. The improvements would be in addition to the trees that Province Village recently planted. Estimated cost is \$17,000. Following discussion, C. Sheppard moved and J. Moore seconded to proceed with this project as drawn but to amend it to include a large canopy tree toward the west end beyond the last proposed willow oak and to extend the median plantings to Fulton Street at the railroad tracks. The proposal is to be completed in its entirety if sufficient MSD funds are available in FY 2013. If the entire amount is not available during this fiscal year, the project could be started and then completed in the fall with funds allocated in FY 2014. The motion was approved on a voice vote.

Mike Cowhig then presented the New Earth Designs, Inc. proposal for improving the landscaping on *College Place adjacent to Greensboro College*. The City will request that Greensboro College take on these improvements since College Place is no longer a city street and is part of the Greensboro College campus. This is also the street where Duke Energy will be asked to plant trees to replace those they cut down.

Lastly, Mike Cowhig presented a preliminary drawing for improving the landscaping in the *Fulton Street/Morehead Avenue area*. New Earth Designs, Inc. has not yet determined costs for this plan. Following a short discussion, the association decided to ask New Earth to continue with this plan and return to the CHNA with costs and a firm proposal.

Granite Curbs, Brick Gutters and Street Lights

It was noted that the CHNA needs to continue to keep maintenance of granite curbs and brick gutters a priority since these are hallmarks of the College Hill Landscape Plan. Likewise, we need to ensure that Duke Energy replaces the street lights installed on Spring Garden. The design of these lights did not match the lights used elsewhere in College Hill. MSD funds have been approved to pay for the Spring Garden lights. If any other street lights are damaged and need to be replaced, Duke Energy is to pay for those lights and replace them with lights that match our current street lights. Mike Cowhig said he would pass this information on at upcoming meetings with Duke Energy and will provide us with feedback.

Mike Cowhig also agreed to report back to the CHNA regarding the amount in the College Hill MSD fund .

Trash Cans

The round steel trash cans originally recommended for College Hill are too large for some planned locations. The cans would have extended into the sidewalks and conflicted with ADA requirements. Julie Davenport reported that the Trash Can committee (Julie Davenport, Virginia Haskett and Mike Cowhig) has located a rectangular, black steel trash can that will work. Wherever possible, a pair of these trash cans will be installed to provide separate containers for recycling and trash. The locations and number of cans has previously been determined. C. Sheppard moved and T. Weaver seconded a motion to approve use of these newly identified trash cans. The motion was approved on a voice vote.

Next Meeting

To be determined by new CHNA board.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Judy Horn, Secretary

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Facebook: www.facebook.com/collegehillgreensboro
Twitter: @CollegeHillGSO

Please send news to Judy Horn by email to Judithahorn@gmail.com.