

College Hill Neighborhood Association

Minutes of Monthly Meeting

7 p.m., Monday, March 25, 2013

Fellowship Hall, Church of the Covenant, 501 S. Mendenhall St.

Community Watch Report -- 6 p.m.

Officer Melanie Daniel and Commanding Officer Joel Cranford introduced themselves. Officer Cranford is the new Commanding Officer for the Central Division (which includes College Hill).

Officer Daniel reported that during the past month there was a rape (between individuals who knew each other) reported on Tate Street, a break-and-enter reported on Spring Garden, and a break in on a couple of cars in Wafco Mills. She reminded everyone to lock doors and cars. Tom Herrin asked about shots fired near Fulton on a recent past weekend. Officer Daniel had no information about this event. Tom indicated that the people involved moved out the next day.

Officer Cranford said he is very aware of the issues related to the CrossFit facility. Issues have centered on noise complaints, lack of parking, and obstruction of local traffic. Local homeowners have been blocked from getting in and out of their properties when CrossFit clients take all possible parking spots in the adjoining neighborhood. The city is engaged in litigation with the property owners and expects to go to trial in Superior Court by July at the latest. (CrossFit rents from the property owner.) The city has opposed requests to have the property re-zoned. The Board of Adjustments has already ruled against a rezoning request, but the owners are appealing. The city is confident it will prevail. Without the proper zoning, CrossFit will be required to leave this location.

Officer Cranford asked if the neighbors had other issues. Littering and graffiti were mentioned as concerns. When residents see violations, they should phone 373-CITY. Make the phone call to document the graffiti before doing clean up. Property owners are responsible for doing clean up. If they do not clean up the graffiti, the city will do so and charge the property owner. Officer Cranford noted that the city's graffiti task force was successful in reducing graffiti the downtown area; criminals are held responsible for restitution. He said the police will also speak with Greensboro College and UNCG regarding littering.

Officer Cranford wants to know the problems in College Hill so the police can shape enforcement and policing efforts and know where to apply resources. He encouraged residents to contact police early when problems arise rather than getting frustrated and letting problems escalate. Officer Melanie Daniel is our College Hill police contact.

Monthly Meeting – 7 p.m.

Approval of Minutes: D. Arneke motioned and L. Horn seconded approval of the minutes from the March 17 meeting as written. Approved on a voice vote.

Treasurer's Report: On behalf of Marjorie Bagley, Judy Horn reported that the balance in the SunTrust account is \$841.97 and in the BB&T account is \$382.38.

Speaker: John Redmond, CEO of Home Energy Solutions of the Triad, spoke about ways to improve energy efficiency in older and historic homes. He can be reached at 336-587-8345.

Updates and Old Business

Joyner Street Parking Lot COA: Pastor Jason Harvey from College Place United Methodist Church on Tate Street was introduced. He explained that the church wishes to pave a parking lot at 608 Joyner that is currently unpaved. The back property line of the lot on Spring Garden Street (where the burned house

stands) adjoins 608 Joyner. The paved lot will enable more efficient use of the land since spaces can be marked with lines. It will also look better than the current dirt lot. Several trees will need to be removed, but as many as possible will be saved. The church will rent a few of the spots, but Pastor Harvey said selling spots is not priority. The church will add lights to the lot. Cindy Sheppard suggested that the lights Duke will be removing from Spring Garden Street might be re-purposed to this parking lot. She agreed to contact Kim Collins at the City to discuss transferring the lights to the church. She will ask Ms. Collins what information she needs from the CHNA to get the light replacement project moving. The group thanked Pastor Harvey and other church members for attending. After he left, the group discussed the HPC request. J. Keith moved and T. Herrin seconded a motion to support the church's COA but to add the condition of a privacy fence concurrent with HPC guidelines that will shield headlights along the north border of the parking lot and the requirement that the lighting plan use appropriate lights that will shield light from adjoining residences. The motion was approved on a voice vote.

Historic Preservation Commission COAs: A COA from 313 Tate St. requests to keep a satellite dish that had already been installed in the front of the house. J. Keith moved and C. Sheppard seconded that the CHNA advise the HPC to deny this COA and require that the dish be placed in a location not visible from the street. The motion passed on a voice vote.

Letter to City Regarding MSD Funds: The group reviewed a draft of a letter Judy Horn had prepared regarding our request for ongoing information about the MSD fund balance and uses of the funds. A few suggestions were given. Judy will revise the letter and send a copy to Councilpersons Methany, Vaughan and Abuzuaiter.

Wish List for May House Tour: James Keith received one email with suggested projects. The group brainstormed and added two projects: repainting strips on the street crosswalks and replacing a missing piece of fence on Oakland near the railroad tracks. James will forward the complete list to the city.

Presentation by Jeff Sovich: The group agreed to invite Jeff Sovich, who manages the City of Greensboro Neighborhood Planning, to the May monthly meeting. J. Horn will contact him.

New Business

The railway underpass area at Fulton Street is an unofficial entryway to College Hill. This area needs repaving, cleaning, and installation of lights for safety. It has been difficult to get action from the city because this is considered railroad property. J. Keith recommended that we contact both the City Manager and also document our concerns by calling 373-CITY.

Next Meeting: The next meeting will be Monday, April 22 at 7 p.m. in the fellowship hall of the Church of the Covenant, 501 S. Mendenhall St. The Community Watch report will precede the meeting.

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Judy Horn, Secretary

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Please send news to Judy Horn by email to editor@collegehillgreensboro.net.