

College Hill Neighborhood Association

Minutes of Monthly Meeting

7 p.m., June 24, 2013

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

Community Watch Report – 6:30 p.m.

Officer Melanie Daniel reported that all reported crime activity during the past month was in The Province. There were three burglaries and some car break ins. Officer Daniel reminded residents not to leave purses and other valuables in cars, especially in or under the front seats.

Monthly Meeting – 7 p.m.

Motion to Approval Minutes: C. Sheppard motioned and L. Horn seconded approval of the minutes from the May 28, 2013 meeting as written. Approved on a voice vote.

Treasurer's Report: There was no treasurer's report.

UPDATES AND OLD BUSINESS

Tree Inventory and Tree Management Plan: Cindy Sheppard remembered that in October 2012 she notified Mike Cowhig of a grant that the neighborhood could possibly apply for that would have paid for the tree inventory due to the presence of two old fire stations within College Hill. No action was taken at that time on an application. Cindy recalled that Virginia Haskett also had information about the grant. Cindy agreed to follow up with Virginia to see if any information about this grant is still available.

Jim Rounds expressed a concern that the recently approved tree inventory contract has the same vendors who cut down trees advising residents about which trees need to cut. He suggested that this represents a potential conflict of interest. Following a discussion, it was agreed that the neighborhood should ask Mike Cowhig for a copy of the approved contract so we can do further review and research.

Dog Waste Bag Station: The doggy waste bag station has arrived. We will check with Mike Cowhig to see if a COA is needed to install the station at the pergola.

House on Spring Station: No buyer has yet been found for the house at Spring Garden and Joyner streets. Judy Horn will contact Benjamin Brigg at Preservation Greensboro, Inc., for an update at the July meeting. PGI's option on the house expires on Sept. 1, 2014.

Neighborhood Planning Meeting: Planning meetings will be held mid-day and in the evenings of Aug. 12, 2013. Times are TBD. The city will help publicize the meetings, but the neighborhood association should also promote the event. Judy Horn will check with the Church of the Covenant to confirm that the Fellowship Hall is available to us on Aug. 12.

Historic Preservation Commission (HPC): At the May HPC meeting, no decision was made regarding the Certificate of Appropriateness (COA) request to remove three trees as part of rebuilding a retaining wall at 909 Morehead Ave. The COA will be continued to the next meeting. David Arneke is now the College Hill representative on the HPC.

The group noted that the University Shop on South Mendenhall Street is no longer in compliance with the signage requirements specified in the historic preservation guidelines. We will ask Mike Cowhig how to file a complaint. We also will ask about follow up with signage at the Mattress store at the corner of Mendenhall and Spring Garden streets.

College Hill Lot: Since James was not able to attend the meeting there was no new information. Concerns expressed are how the neighborhood will pay for the water bill and that the plantings be suitable for shade and low maintenance. There was agreement that this garden should start small and be considered a pilot project that could grow.

NEW BUSINESS

Meeting with Councilman Zach Methany: David Arneke and Judy Horn briefly discussed the very positive meeting they attended (along with James Keith and Lori Campbell). Mr. Methany is very supportive of College Hill and sent an email summarizing his suggestions. Judy will forward this email to all board members.

Candidate Forum: With city elections coming up, David Arneke suggested it would be desirable for the College Hill Neighborhood Association to sponsor candidate forums for the candidates running for our district and the at-large council positions. This will require getting on their calendars as early as possible. David will pursue this project.

National Night Out: College Hill will hold a pot luck dinner from 6 to 8 p.m. on Tuesday, Aug. 2 in observation of National Night Out, a police awareness event. The dinner will be held at Springdale Park. L. Pawlowski mentioned that she has a large tent available to use during the dinner. All residents are urged to bring a covered dish and stop by to meet officers and fellow neighbors. L. Horn will submit the necessary application to the city so that our councilmen and area police and fire fighters are aware of our event.

Fall Event in College Hill: The group agreed to brainstorm ideas for an event to be held in College Hill at the July meeting.

Communications with Renters: D. Arneke suggested it would be very valuable to communicate with renters who live in College Hill so that they are aware of the historic district, the neighborhood association meetings, the Historic Preservation Commission meetings, the Historic District Guidelines, and basic information such as trash pickup. Printed information could be shared with rental agents as well as residents. David agreed to work with his wife Betty on a draft communication. Jeff Sovich can supply a spreadsheet with College Hill addresses that will include the number of rental units at each address.

Next Meeting: The next meeting will be Monday, June 29 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 at 6:30 p.m. The Planning Meetings will take place on Monday, Aug. 19. The August CHNA meeting will be Monday, Aug. 26.

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Judy Horn, Secretary

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