

College Hill Neighborhood Association

Minutes of Monthly Meeting

7 p.m., July 28, 2014

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

Monthly Meeting

Motion to Approve Minutes: Virginia Haskett motioned and Larry Horned seconded the motion to approve the minutes of the June 2014 meeting as printed. The minutes were approved on a voice vote.

Treasurer's Report: There was no report. No significant changes in the bank balance.

GUEST SPEAKER

Ms. Dabney Sanders, project manager, Greensboro Downtown Greenway, discussed the Run for the Greenway that will take place on Sept. 6 from 4 to 8 p.m. This is the fifth year for the annual run. This year part of the route goes through College Hill near Springdale Park. Ms. Sanders also provided an update on the progress toward completion of the Greenway and the positive impact the Greenway has already had on Greensboro.

UPDATES AND OLD BUSINESS

Neighborhood Planning

Jeff Sovich and David Arneke lead a discussion about how the College Hill Neighborhood plan was not approved at the Planning Board meeting. Four individuals (who had not previously participated in sessions in which the plan was developed) expressed concerns that elements of the plan might constrain development opportunities or negatively affect their property values. The Planning Board will discuss the matter further and a vote on whether or not to endorse the plan at the Planning Board's September meeting. In the meantime, we need to consider ways to lobby the Planning Board and get the board members to better understand the benefits of the plan. Board members are urged to email Planning Board members. The Planning Board will want to hear from College Hill residents who support the plan.

Street Lights

There has been a delay in getting the prototype light hung, but we should be able to view the proposed light soon and then vote on whether we want this type of light used in College Hill.

Marketing Committee Report

David Arneke said that the neighborhood should hear soon if it will receive funds from the Community Foundation grant. We are optimistic!

Neighborhood Clean Up

The group agreed to hold a neighborhood clean up on Saturday, Oct. 4. Virginia Haskett and Jane Moore volunteered to help organize the event.

New Earth Contract

The board discussed whether or not we are happy with the landscaping services provided by New Earth Designs. There was no consensus to automatically renew the contract. Concerns included a lack of communication with New Earth, the need for more color in the plantings, and better weeding and maintenance. It was agreed that Judy Horn would contact Mike Cowhig to express our concerns and determine how to proceed. The contract renews in September.

Neighborhood Congress and Neighborhood Consortium

David Arneke and Janet Frommann volunteered to attend Greensboro Neighborhood Congress meetings.

Janet Frommann, Lyddan Pawlowski, and Cindy Sheppard volunteered to attend UNCG Neighborhood Consortium meetings. The board thanks them for their service!

Preventing Landlords from Renting to More than 4 Persons per Property

The new owners of the property at 919 Spring Garden have advertised five bedrooms for rent. David Arneke tried contacting the City, in advance of the property owners actually contracting with renters, since local ordinances limit the number of unrelated persons renting a home to four. The city basically said we cannot accuse someone of violating an ordinance until they actually violate it. David could not get the city to talk to the landlord in advance to advise him or her of the ordinances. In a discussion, it was noted that the house at 224 S. Tate is also advertised as a 5 bedroom apartment.

Jubilee Was Successful

Clara Kelly reported that the Church of the Covenant was pleased with the turnout at the recent July Jubilee. The church plans to repeat the event next year.

Duke Energy Vegetation Maintenance

College Hill property owner Jim Round expressed frustration with Duke Energy's tree trimming. Jim stated that Duke Energy has no legal right to enter private property to prune trees. Jim is familiar with an attorney who has helped property owners who want to prevent Duke Energy from trimming their trees. David Arneke suggested the board discuss at the August meeting whether we as a board would be interested in having the attorney address the board.

Historic Preservation Commission

The board voted against supporting any of the three COA requests from College Hill residents. These were from property owners at 544 S. Mendenhall, 704 Spring Garden, and at 301 S. Mendenhall.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:04 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Judy Horn, Secretary