

# College Hill Neighborhood Association

## Minutes of Monthly Meeting

7 p.m., October 27, 2014

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

### Monthly Meeting

**Neighborhood Watch:** Larry Horn reported that the following crimes took place in the past month:

Oct. 21 – 816 Province Spring Circle, aggravated assault. This was an assault at a party.

Oct. 17 – 908 Spring Garden, burglary. Broke a window on the door, nothing appeared missing.

Oct. 6 – 924 Walker Ave., Larceny from auto. Appears the doors were unlocked and a cell phone taken from the console.

Sept. 30 – 1000 W. Market St., Larceny. Suspect entered victim's room after knocking on the door. Asked victim to use the phone. After he left the victim realized he had stolen several pairs of gloves. Description of suspect who lived nearby provided. Individual was arrested.

Oct. 12 – 706 Walker Ave., Robbery. Victim had invited friends over to watch movie. Two black males entered and produced a handgun. They got into a struggle. One of the friends who was there also started fighting the victim. Appear friend was involved in the robbery. All suspects fled scene. Case is under investigation.

Oct. 10 – 933 Carr Street, Robbery. Victim was leaving friend's house. Approached from behind by three black males and said they had a gun. Victim dropped backpack and fled scene. Suspects took backpack that contained laptop and calculator. Investigation continues.

**Motion to Approve Minutes:** Virginia Haskett MOTIONED and Amanda Keith seconded to approve the minutes of the September 2014 meeting minutes as printed. The minutes were approved on a voice vote.

**Treasurer's Report:** Margery Bagley reported that with the balance of our account in BB&T is \$2,042.49.

### **UPDATES AND OLD BUSINESS**

**Street Lights:** James Keith reported that each of the new "arm" lights that will be hung at a higher level than the current pole lights will cost \$1,812.20 each including installation. These arm lights have LED bulbs that cast a cool white light. The existing pole lights cast amber light. It will take 8 weeks to get the fixtures from the manufacturer and approximately 2 more weeks to have the fixtures installed. Currently a test light of the newer arm fixture has been installed at Fulton and Walker streets. Once the first set of arm lights has been installed, the City will mail a postcard to College Hill residents seeking feedback. The board expressed interest in helping to write the verbiage used on the card to ensure that we get usable feedback.

The City has recommended that when adding more lighting to College Hill that we use a "phased in" approach to ensure support of the neighborhood. The Greensboro Police Department has recommended adding three of the arm lights to Spring Garden between Tate and Mendenhall streets. The group discussed how many new arm lights should be installed initially and where those lights should be located. Following a discussion, Amanda Keith MOTIONED that the College Hill Neighborhood Association have Duke Energy install a total of 11 lights in the initial test consisting of 4 lights on Spring Garden between Tate and Mendenhall, 3 lights at the end of south Mendenhall between Walker and Spring Garden, 1 at Fulton and Walker (the current test light), and 3 lights on Mendenhall Street between Walker and Odell. David Arneke seconded the motion. The motion passed on a voice vote.

**Neighbor Relations:** James Keith and David Arneke will attend a meeting with the city to discuss educational efforts to help people know about and understand the purpose and requirements of the city's historic districts. The goal will be to ensure that residents and potential buyers know about the need to obtain CoAs. It was noted that

many of the recent CoAs have been “after-the-fact” requests. The group was in agreement that the City needs to come up with a fool-proof CoA process that is enforceable and enforced.

**Marketing Committee Report:** David Arneke reported that he continues to ask local businesses to sponsor ads for the neighborhood guide that is under development.

**Police Chief Search:** The City is using a consultant to search for a new chief of police. David Arneke said he plans to attend one of the upcoming meetings.

**Landscaping:** Amanda Keith, head of the landscape committee, reported that the \$6,000 in still-to-be-spent funds that remain on the current landscape contract will be used to clean up and weed existing plantings and to clean up the vacant lot that CHNA owns on Mendenhall Street. The Landscape Committee has had a very positive meeting with the new contractor (Designature Landscape Designers). They will work on a list of current plants so we can determine what we want to preserve. They are also looking into creating another granite College Hill sign for the intersection of Tate and Market.

**Edgar Street (or is it?):** Virginia Haskett described telephone conversations she had with the City regarding the legal status of Edgar Street. When Virginia was made aware of plumbing work that was planned at a property on Edgar, she checked to see if a permit had been obtained for cutting into a street. The city informed Virginia that Edgar is not a City-maintained street. There seems to be no legal paperwork to support its status as a street, and Edgar does not meet the physical requirement of being at least 16 feet wide. In the past, however, the City has done sewer work on Edgar Street as well as general maintenance. Dan Curry felt the City Attorney should be brought into the discussion. David Arneke agreed to bring up this question at the October HPC meeting.

#### **Historic Preservation Commission**

*#1819- 110 S. Mendenhall Street* – Demolish granite retaining wall -- Following a discussion, Dan Curry MOTIONED that the College Hill Neighborhood Association oppose demolition of the granite wall. Virginia Haskett seconded. The motion was approved on a voice vote. The board also wanted to be certain that all partners who own the property are fully informed about the application to demolish the wall.

*#1815- 921 Carr Street* – Satellite dish installed on roof of house -- Following a discussion Virginia Haskett MOTIONED that the College Hill Neighborhood Association oppose this application. Larry Horn seconded. The motion was approved on a voice vote.

*#1820- 709 Walker Avenue* – Construction of wheelchair ramp -- The group agreed to support the application.

*#1818- 817 Rankin Place* – Landscaping & site improvements Application -- The group agreed to support the application.

*#1810 – 916 Walker* – Matching fiber cement siding used to replace deteriorated wood siding – The group unanimously agreed that we have never supported use of hardy board as a replacement for wood siding and therefore did not support the application.

**Next CHNA Meeting:** HPC does not meet in November. Therefore, the next CHNA meeting will be Monday, Dec. 1 at 7 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Judy Horn, CHNA Secretary