

Charles B. Aycock Neighborhood Association

Minutes of Board of Directors Meeting

August 24, 2009

Present: Christina Cantrell, David Hoggard, Linda Fusco, Brian Heagney, Jennifer Lanza, Justin Smith, Bert VanderVeen, Laura Wall, Shawn Wriede, Erica Yamaguchi

Absent: Fabio Camara, Charlie Conner

Guests: Phoebe Azar, resident; Sarah Brewer, Dawn Leonard, and Justin Leonard from Urban Harvest, LLC; Jerry Leimenstoll and John Linn from Piedmont Community Design Forum (PCDF); Officer Doug Campbell from Greensboro Police Department

Meeting Called to Order: 6:36 pm

- 1.) Community Watch Report:** Officer Campbell distributed the Greensboro City ordinance on **littering** to the listserv. He is still researching ordinances on **curbing** dogs. In response to a question about park rules (there are some people in Sternberger Park who leave trash), Officer Campbell promised to send the **Parks and Recreation Park Rules** to the listserv.

Officer Campbell had a copy of the **July police report** (from the public online system) for the tract that includes the Aycock Historic District and made notes to research entries that board members wished to have more detail. Erica Yamaguchi asked about incidents that she cannot locate online; Officer Campbell asked her to provide details (date, street name, etc.) and send the information to him directly. All incidents that result in police action, except for certain crimes like rape, are expected to be on the report.

Bert VanderVeen asked whether a **radar trailer from the police department could be made available for Fifth Ave.** A resident on Fifth Ave asked GDOT for a radar trailer because of suspected speeding on Fifth Ave, but the liability for the equipment rests with the requestor and so the resident returned the radar. After discussion, the request was changed to place the radar on Yanceyville St. due to the start of school next week and then move it to Fifth Ave.

- 2.) Dunleath Update:** Jerry Leimenstoll and John Linn of PCDF provided a very lengthy narrative of the stages of the Dunleath property and the timeline and steps taken after the design charrette to bring Urban Harvest, LLC into partnership with the property owner. However, the property owner has the right to terminate Urban Harvest's lease with a 90 day notice, so PCDF feels that more detailed drawings of the property, using the design options provided by Duany Plater-Zyberk, is warranted. They can provide said drawings at a cost of \$32,000 and suggested that the Aycock Historic district split the cost with the city. There was insufficient time for the board to discuss the option after PCDF's presentation and no vote was taken. PCDF has requested an opportunity to present an overview of the design charrette at an upcoming Greensboro Neighborhood Congress meeting; no date has been set.
- 3.) COAs -** Linda Fusco and Christina Cantrell are planning to attend the HCD historic preservation commission meeting on August 26, 2009 at the Melvin Municipal building.

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- a. **707 Fifth Ave** – replace exterior metal porch columns with tapered wooden columns and replace 2 windows in the back of the house with doors. The applicant, Phoebe Azar, presented the COA. Board unanimously approved.
- b. **715 Percy St** – move greenhouse (28 ft X 12 ft X 10 ft) from former resident to Percy St house. Board unanimously approved, with the condition that the greenhouse is not visible from the street.
- c. **511 Charter Pl** – this appears to be a property dispute and not a COA. No action taken.
- d. **677 Chestnut St** – Urban Harvest opted not to build a fence around the community garden at this time, so the COA is withdrawn.

- 4.) **Neighborhood Night Out** – Linda Fusco reported that NNO was a success and thanked the board members who helped make it a success. Attendance is estimated at 100 people (not everyone signed in). \$181.00 in donations was collected. There are 3 billable expenditures: Party Rentals - \$380.62, Ice Cream - \$242.96, and U-Haul Truck - \$50.14.

Action Item for Linda Fusco: Write thank-you notes to Tom Franklin and Barry Talbert for helping make NNO a success.

- 5.) **Secretary's Report:** The **minutes from July 27, 2009** meeting were approved.

For any **streetlight** that is not repaired in a timely manner by Duke Energy, Kym Smith, Lighting Coordinator for the City of Greensboro, has offered to assist.

Action Item for Christina Cantrell: Check all the streets for any non-working streetlight or one that is light during the day and report to Duke Energy.

- 6.) **Treasurer's Report:** Justin Smith reported that the neighborhood association now has **non-profit status reinstated**. There was no financials report.

Mr. Smith reported that there is a balance of approx \$200.00 left from the grant for the community garden. A motion was made and seconded to use that money to **pay the plumber for installing the water pump and a portion of the water bill** for the garden. The motion passed unanimously.

- 7.) **Vice-President's Report:** Laura Wall reported that **alterations to the fence around Aycock Middle School to allow passage** cost \$450. The open gates appear to be a good solution to the problem of access. The invoice will be paid from MSD funds. The expense was approved by the board at the May meeting.

Ms. Wall also reported that several **landscaping improvements** are scheduled: replacing mulch, planting annuals, and replacing some dying plants around the Max Bridge. In addition, 3 gator bags will be placed around some young trees that appear to require extra water and nutrients. The total cost is approximately \$1,000. The funds are already approved (using MSD funds).

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Ms. Wall reminded the board that the **Greensboro Beautiful Awards** reception is Thursday, August 27, 2009 and that she nominated Aycock for 2 awards.

Nominations are being accepted for **Yard of the Month**. Christina Cantrell nominated 704 Summit Ave.

Action Item for all board members: Send a nomination for Yard of the Month to Laura Wall.

- 8.) President's Report – Bert VanderVeen welcomed the new board members: David Hoggard, Brian Heagney, and Erica Yamaguchi.

Mr. VanderVeen is planning to attend a Minimum Housing Standards hearing on Sept 8, 2009 regarding the **demolition by neglect for the house at 311 Leftwich St.** The house has been boarded up for years.

Mr. VanderVeen and Ms. Wall are leading the **Green Sweep on Saturday, September 19**, which is the fall cleanup effort. Volunteers will be given trash bags and gloves to pick up trash in the neighborhood. Flyers will be distributed to advertise the event.

Mr. VanderVeen asked David Hoggard to provide details of the meeting on the future of **War Memorial Stadium**. Mr. Hoggard reported that he and Aycock residents Tracy Lamothe, David Wharton, and Betsey Baun attended the meeting, held on August 24, 2009. The current Deputy City Manager, Bob Morgan, has prior experience with creating a city market in his previous capacity in Cary, NC and is in favor on converting part of the stadium to be used for other operations. The stadium is still in use as a ball park and must continue to serve its original purpose. The list of repairs and improvements, such as stabilizing the columns, removing the damaged awning, replacing seats, refurbishing restrooms and concession stands, creating an indoor heated area, and creating a plaza between War Memorial Stadium and the Farmer's Market across the street, are expected to cost approx 4.6 million dollars. The city has funds to move forward with the project, but it is felt that a vote by City Council must be scheduled prior to November 5, 2009 when the newly elected council members are seated. The next meeting on the topic is scheduled for Sept 8, 2009. Mr. Hoggard is planning to attend.

Meeting Adjourned: 9:12 pm.

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