

Charles B. Aycock Neighborhood Association
Minutes of Board of Directors Meeting
January 25, 2010

Present: Christina Cantrell, Charlie Conner, Linda Fusco, Brian Heagney, David Hoggard, Justin Smith, Laura Wall, Shawn Wriede, Erica Yamaguchi

Absent: Fabio Camara, Bert VanderVeen

Guests: Officer Doug Campbell, Ron Walters – College Hill Historic District, Aycock residents Lillian Gorus, Sara Farnsworth, Walt Bilous

Meeting Called to Order: 6:28 pm

1.) Community Watch Report: Officer Doug Campbell presented the police report for December and January and reported that the number of **burglaries increased since last month** as did the number of theft from vehicle incidents. In several car theft incidents, objects such as purses or wallets were left visible and/or the vehicle left unlocked. One arrest was made for a theft from a residence on Hendrix St. Two attempted burglaries were thwarted by a barking dog and an unexpected salesman knocking on the door. Officer Campbell reported that burglaries are on the increase in all precincts of Greensboro and reminded people to be watchful. To a question about people soliciting for money and/or butter, Officer Campbell reminded the board that a permit to solicit can be obtained at the Melvin Municipal Building; residents should not give any item to a stranger who cannot present a permit. Due to the increase in property crime, discussion commenced on actions the board can take to raise awareness. One action is to increase communication avenues using Facebook. Laura Wall volunteered to take the lead. Another is to send an email to the listserv from the Community Watch Captain offering tips for safety. Laura Wall asked about any particular dark, unlighted areas. The idea of a “Porch Light Campaign”, that is, leaving exterior lights on at all times, was discussed.

Action Item for Christina Cantrell: Prepare an email listing the tips that Officer Campbell left (including teaching children to say no to strangers and a Porch Light Campaign) for Fabio Camera, Community Watch Caption, to send to the listserv.

In a followup item from last meeting, an email requesting each person to re-register on the listserv was sent on Jan 5, with a followup email scheduled for early February. There is concern that people are receiving communication from the listserv that may not have an interest in Aycock. Shawn Wriede reported that 80 people have re-registered so far.

Action Item for Linda Fusco: Send second email requesting listserv subscribers to re-register, explaining the clean-up process and stating that people not re-registering will be purged from the listserv.

2.) Save College Hill presentation: **Ron Walters, of College Hill Historic District,** presented a request to the Aycock Neighborhood Board to publicly support College Hill’s petition against rezoning the Newman Whitney Machine site. The City Council rejected the rezoning by a 7-2 margin, but the ruling was appealed by the developer. The developer plans to build high-density dormitory-style residences (for a maximum of 725 people) aimed at the student

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population. The petition organizers object to adding more students in an area that already has 74% renter population. Their research shows the student population increases property crime in the neighborhood. Mr. Walters presented a letter from Chancellor Linda Brady of UNC-Greensboro stating that the development is not a partnership with the university. Mr. Walters asked that the Aycock board support the petition by attending the March 2, 2010 City Council Meeting. After his presentation, the board voted unanimously to support the petition because College Hill has been supportive of Aycock in the past, the current development plan does not fit the historic nature of the district, and the development is not supported by UNC-G.

Action Item for Bert VanderVeen: Draft a letter to City Council supporting College Hill's opposition to the rezoning of the Newman Whitney property and email the listserv with information (www.savecollegehill.org) so that residents can choose to attend the Mar 2, 2010 City Council meeting.

- 3.) **COA** – Linda Fusco was unable to print the COA for a brick and plastic **informational sign at the front entrance of the Aycock Middle School**. The person representing the school was not present at the meeting. The vote is tabled and will be performed online when Ms. Fusco sends an electronic copy to the board.
- 4.) **Secretary's Report:** The **minutes from November 30, 2009** meeting were approved.
- 5.) **Treasurer's Report:** Current balance: \$5005.73. Activities since the last meeting:
 - a. \$200 to Urban Harvest (plumbing)
 - b. \$38.70 to Brian Heagney (for Dunleath Flyers)
 - c. \$312.48 for All Star printing (January newsletter)
 - d. \$1537.50 for Triad Transportation Partnership (Atkins, which was really a 'pass through' because we got a check from our neighborhood tax funds.)
- 6.) **Vice-President's Report:** Laura Wall reported that Evans Engineering submitted a bid of \$8,000 to provide a feasibility study of replacing the Summit Ave – Murrow Blvd interchange with an urban intersection (no bridge). However, she is concerned that the city may require competitive bids; therefore, the **board voted unanimously to approve an amount of up to \$10,000 to be paid from MSG funds to pay for such a feasibility study.**

Brian Heagney updated the board on the developments of the Daskalakis conversations concerning the Dunleath estate. At the last board meeting, **a steering committee was created to identify the components of the most desirable scheme of the five that DPZ designed during the November 2008 charrette**. Its mission was also to inform the neighborhood and to solicit a neighborhood vote of the scheme so that a formal letter of intent supporting an initial concept could be written to the Daskalakis family. The steering committee, due to the holidays, did not complete its mission. It was decided to resurrect the steering committee before writing any letter. Specifically, there was concern that residents were not informed or given the opportunity to accept or reject the scheme. The potential for

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more conflict is high, especially for the residents of Chestnut St, which are most affected by any development. A recommendation was made to have a lawyer vet the final letter to avoid future legal issues. Charlie Connor volunteered to co-chair (along with Bert VanderVeen) the steering committee process.

Action Item for Charlie Connor and Bert VanderVeen: Restart the discussions with the steering committee; determine the components of the scheme; allow residents to reject or approve the scheme; write a letter of intent to support the initial concept if the majority of the responders approve.

Erica Yamaguchi researched **Doggie Pot stations** to place around the neighborhood after complaints of people not curbing their dogs, especially around Dunleath Gardens. Ms. Yamaguchi found a company that sells the junior issue Doggie Pot (without an attached wastebasket) for \$89.00 plus \$59.00 for the stand. A 10-roll case of bags costs \$81.00 and a 20-roll case is \$152.00. The board decided the item without the wastebasket was preferable. The areas that would most benefit are Sternberger Park, Dunleath Gardens, Aycock Middle School, and the grassy area in front of the Leftwich tunnel. Two **pending issues**: 1.) Permission to install (David Hoggard is researching this) and installing the stations once they arrive (David Hoggard also volunteered to install). The board voted unanimously to purchase 4 stations and a large roll of bags.

Action Item for David Hoggard: request permission to install Doggie Pot stations at 4 locations: Sternberger Park, Dunleath Gardens, Aycock Middle School, and the grassy area in front of the Leftwich tunnel.

Meeting Adjourned: 8:12 pm.