

Charles B. Aycock Neighborhood Association
Minutes of Board of Directors Meeting
June 29, 2009

Present: Christina Cantrell, Fabio Camara, Linda Fusco, Jennifer Lanza, Justin Smith, Bert VanderVeen, Laura Wall

Absent: Charlie Conner, Shawn Patch, Maliq Culbreath, Shawn Wriede

Greensboro Police Department: Officers Bud Blaylock, Doug Campbell

Meeting Start: 6:33 pm

Community Resource Officer Report: Officers Blaylock and Campbell spoke about the critical contribution that a Crime Stoppers tip made in the arrest of a suspect in the Red Mike homicide of Nov 2008. The officers stressed that no public funds are used in Crime Stoppers awards; it exists by donations only. Crime Stoppers has been nominated for the FBI Director's Community Leadership Award to be announced in August. (In response to a question regarding telemarketing by the North Carolina Fraternal Order of the Police, the officers stated that a small percentage of the funds solicited are earmarked for actual police departments.)

Action Item for Bert VanderVeen – send reminder to Aycock listserv that donations to Crime Stoppers are appreciated because it provides a valuable service.

The officers reported that some **drug activity the Chestnut Court** apartments have been called in; police surveillance has not uncovered any crime. There were also reports of fast driving on Chestnut St, but there are **no speed limit signs on Chestnut St**, so the general city speed limit applies. Installing speed limit signs is done by GDOT.

Officer Blaylock brought a **police activity report for the month of June:** some thefts reported included For Sale signs stolen from a house on Fifth Ave and items stolen from a front porch on Percy. The officers reminded residents to keep car doors locked and keep valuables out of the car (not just out of sight) and to have serial numbers recorded for all equipment that has a serial number. The police activity report is easy to generate and it reminds residents to remain vigilant. It does not include rapes or robberies, but does include details for most residential and commercial police incidents. Officer Campbell agreed to send a notice about **the P2C website to the Aycock listserv** (secretary's note – this was completed on July 2, 2009).

Laura Wall reported that every school day around 3:30 pm, **Cypress St becomes congested** due to pick up of school children. If a police officer is directing traffic, the disruption is more controlled.

There has been some **vandalism of the fence around Aycock Middle School.** There appears to be some damage; it appears the posts are not sufficiently sturdy to withstand the activity in the area. In addition, the decorative rings have been used as projectiles. Bill Black, owner of a car dealership at Bessemer and Yanceyville, called the principal of Aycock Middle School to report the incident, assuming that students were perpetrating the vandalism. Laura Wall responded by removing the rings completely from the Bessemer section of the fence. She will also contact Quality Fence, who installed the fence, to inquire about the 25-year warranty. There was also

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discussion about **inviting businesses to join in the community watch program**. There appears to be an existing business coalition that the neighborhood might want to partner. Ms. Wall wondered if the Blood Plasma Donor Center might be contributing to increased foot traffic, but the officers have no hard evidence for this.

Secretary's Report: The **minutes from May 27** meeting (prepared by Linda Fusco) were approved.

Darryl Kosciak, speaker at the **Greensboro Neighborhood Congress meeting on June 11**, is the director of the Youth First program of Parks and Recreation which is dedicated to providing alternatives to joining gangs in Greensboro. Minutes of the GNC meeting were forwarded to the Aycock board members on June 15, 2009. The **next GNC meeting is scheduled for Saturday, July 11, 2009**. The topic is Health Care Reform. Christina Cantrell is not able to attend the meeting; **Bert VanderVeen is planning to represent**.

Treasurer's Report: Justin Smith reported \$4588.80 in the general fund and \$3227.37 in the escrow fund. There are some outstanding invoices from the June 20 kickoff event for Dunleath Gardens. Mr. Smith created a **sub-account to track all expenditures and deposits related to the Dunleath Garden** urban farm.

Vice-President's Report: Laura Wall reported that the new landscaping service, Dunlap, determined that they are **not able to provide landscaping at the original cost** provided in their estimate due to the poor condition of the medians on Yanceyville. The board made a **motion and approved unanimously to authorize an amount not to exceed \$500.00 for a one time refurbishment** of the medians.

Ms. Wall received some recommendations for this month's **Yard of the Month Award** in response to her request emailed on June 29, 2009. She asked the board to **authorize funds to pay to 6 months of \$25.00 gift certificates from Lowe's** (or another vendor of Ms. Wall's choice) as a reward for residents receiving the YOM Award. The board made such a motion and approved unanimously.

Action Item for Laura Wall – followup with Roger Bardsley regarding the track to be installed at Aycock Middle School.

Newsletter: Linda Fusco announced the **delivery schedule for the July 1 newsletter**. She will have the newsletter ready for pickup on June 30 from her front porch. Distribution:

Fifth Ave from Sullivan to Percy – Fabio

Cypress St from Sullivan to Percy, and the one house on Dewey – Laura

All Percy St – Justin

All Brandon St – Christina

E. Hendrix St from Yanceyville to the railroad tracks – Bert

All Chestnut St, and the one house on Leftwich – Mark Townsend (as per Jennifer Lanza)

Park Ave from Summit to Dewey – Shawn W.

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Charter Pl from Fifth to Park – Christina
Summit Ave from the Murrow Interchange to Dewey – Shawn W

President's Report: National **Night Out** is scheduled for **August 4, 2009 in Sternberger Park**. **Linda Fusco agreed to head the committee** in charge of the event. No T-shirts are planned for this year. The **donation is \$5.00 per adult** and free for children. Elections for new board members will be held:

Potential contacts:

Shawn Patch's band, the Radials – encore performance
Laura Wall - an inflatable party jumper
David Hoggard - BBQ and tables
Jennifer Lanza – side dishes
Tom Franklin – tents
Barry Talbert – PA system
Linda Fusco – popcorn machine

Bert VanderVeen intervened just before last month's Yard of Month Award recipient cut down a large tree in her backyard last Monday. She **did not have a COA and it would not have been approved since the tree is healthy**. She stated she forgot the protocol.

Action Item for Bert VanderVeen or Shawn Patch – send a reminder email to the Aycock listserv regarding the procedure for obtaining a COA (Certificate of Appropriateness).

A COA is required for Urban Harvest to create paths to the magnolia trees in the middle of the Dunleath estate (called Dunleath Gardens).

Action Item for Bert VanderVeen – submit a COA to create paths in Dunleath Gardens.

John McLendon, President of Fisher Park Neighborhood Associated and a lawyer, drafted a **Neighborhood Garden Agreement** between Urban Harvest LLC and the Charles B Aycock Neighborhood Association. Copies of the agreement were distributed.

Bert VanderVeen spoke with Goldie Wells, City Council for District 2, regarding **anticipated water rates increases next year**. She also has Summit Ave and War Memorial Stadium projects on her agenda.

Aycock resident Anne Finn of E Hendrix St would like to **donate Jimmy Fleet's house at the corner of E Hendrix St and Yanceyville St to the Aycock Neighborhood**. If the transfer of property can be arranged, \$3,000.00 in the escrow account marked for special projects could be used to repair the house for resale or to be used as a community center.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm.