

Charles B. Aycock Neighborhood Association
Minutes of Board of Directors Meeting
October 24, 2011

Present: Christina Cantrell, Sara Farnsworth, Linda Fusco, Lillian Govus, Khalil Perilstein, Cathy Scott, David B. Wharton, Shawn J. Wriede

Absent: Betsey Baun, Fabio Camara, Bert VanderVeen

Guests: Resident T.K. Miller, Officer Douglas E. Campbell

Meeting Called to Order: 6:38 pm

1.) Community Watch Report: Officer Doug Campbell reported a moderate number of police incidents this month. One of the incidents, which occurred on Sept 28, involved a burglary at 1029 Olive St, which is not in the Aycock district, but just over the railroad tracks in Fisher Park. On Oct 6, an incident at the Executive Center on Summit Ave resulted in drug dealing charges. Another incident on Oct 11, of an unsuccessful break-in of a vehicle at 214 S Park Dr, also occurred just outside the neighborhood boundaries. The last active case involved a burglary at an apartment at 504 Park Ave on Oct 20. The residents decided to move as they have experienced 3 prior break-ins.

Cathy Scott inquired about police activity on the morning of Oct 24 in the 600 block of Fifth Ave. Officer Campbell said he would research.

Shawn Wriede brought up the **recent A&T Homecoming Event**, which **produced a large amount of litter** in the neighborhood (mostly discarded food wrappers) and some minor damage (Mr. Wriede's vehicle was covered in lemonade that appeared to be thrown from a passing car). The board asked Officer Campbell about steps the board can take to protect the residential streets while recognizing that most visitors are considerate. Some ideas: 1.) Event-specific **disposable trash cans** to encourage visitors not to discard their trash on the street; 2.) **Signage** that welcomes Aggies and requests that visitors respect the neighborhood; 3.) **Partner with A&T Homecoming Planning Committee** to bring awareness that a residential community is affected by the events.

2.) President's Report: Bert VanderVeen was not able to make the meeting due to a last minute conflict. No report.

3.) Secretary-Treasurer's report: **Minutes** from the September board meeting were distributed, reviewed, and approved unanimously. **Treasurer's report** for September was distributed. The donation page (via PayPal) on the Aycock website has not generated as many donations as hoped. Some board members have donated to the general fund. Ms. Cantrell reiterated that it is important for all board members to donate.

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Action Item for Shawn Wriede – post corrected and approved minutes on Historic Aycock District website.

- 4.) **Pecan Festival:** The weather was **unusually chilly** on Oct 1, 2011 and the decision was made to close the festival an hour early (at 7 pm). However, the neighbors that attended had a good time due to the great food and music. The children enjoyed making chalk pictures on Fifth Ave, which was closed for the event. The official count of festival attendees provided to the city (as part of the paperwork to close the street) was 82. The pumpkin-painting and face-painting activities were well-attended. Sponsors who provided monetary funds included **Breedlove Radiator** and Zora Medor's **Good, Green, Fun Fair** (a BSN grant); several board members contributed materials such as **Linda Fusco's donation of chalk and T-shirts**. Note: this event was planned as a community event and not a fund-raiser. The donations covered all the costs of the event.
- 5.) **Community Development:** Betsey Baun was not able to be present but she emailed documents so the board could vote on the **sign-topper proposal** that Ms. Baun presented at last month's meeting. A change to the initial proposal is that it be funded with MSD monies and not via a Neighborhood Small Projects grant. A motion was made to authorize the city to proceed with sign-toppers on selected street signs as detailed in the proposal, with a design as depicted in the proposal, using the words 'Historic Aycock' to designate the boundaries of the historic district. The **motion passed 7-1** with Christina Cantrell in dissent. A second motion to use MSD funds not to exceed \$3,500.00 for the project passed unanimously.
- 6.) **Community Watch:** Sara Farnsworth asked for ideas on how to **promote safety and awareness** in the neighborhood. A suggestion was made to contact Sonya Lowe of Fisher Park, who does an excellent job of promoting community safety by regularly reminding residents of precautions to ensure safety.
- 7.) **COAs:** None this month.
- 8.) **Newsletter:** Linda Fusco wanted to highlight the work that that Julie Luce and Sara Farnsworth provided for the last newsletter. Although not all the advertisers have paid, there were almost enough ads in Oct 2011 edition to pay for the publication. The newsletter consistently dips into Aycock general funds to remain solvent, but requires only 8 paid ads to pay for itself. The board discussed more cost-effective distribution methods, such as email blasts, but only 50% of the residents have signed up to join the listserv and the board did not feel online would reach enough residents. Lillian Govus offered to ask local businesses to advertise using Mebane Ham as a resource. The newsletter is published quarterly.

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9.) Website: Shawn Wriede provided a recap of **completed updates** to the website:

- a. A new events page
- b. A map of neighborhood with the historic district boundaries
- c. A new link to the by-laws to locate them more easily
- d. A search feature
- e. A guidelines to be agreed to prior to signing up to the listserv
- f. A donation page invoking PayPal

10.) Welcoming Committee: Cathy Scott and Lillian Govus indicated **no new residents this month**, but 700 Chestnut St recently sold and 624 Park Ave will be sold at auction this week.

11.) Old Business: Action Items from last meeting

- a. Action Item for Bert VanderVeen and Betsey Baun - Meet with Russ Clegg to ensure that the Neighborhood Small Projects Program submission is properly filled out.

Complete; after the meeting, the decision was made to use MSD funds instead of Small Projects Program for the sign-topper project.

- b. Action Item for Betsey Baun – Request resurfacing schedule from GDOT.

Pending - Ms. Baun not present, no report.

- c. Action Item for Cathy Scott – Request possibility of changing a bus stop location from GTA.

Pending - Ms. Scott plans to write this letter prior to next board meeting.

- d. Action Item for Christina Cantrell – Contact Lynne Leonard at the Farmer’s Market about possibility of selling chili at the Greensboro Beautiful Wreath Sale.

Complete – Lynne Leonard’s supervisor stated that outside vendors are no longer invited to participate in the wreath sale.

- e. Action Item for Christina Cantrell – correct meeting minutes with Betsey Baun’s amendments and redistribute.

Complete.

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- f. Action Item for Christina Cantrell – Locate correct contact to reiterate that further repairs to the fence are the responsibility of the school district and not Aycock.

Complete – Contacted Gerald Greeson, head of maintenance at Guilford County, who indicated his department, is responsible for future repair and maintenance of the fence.

- g. Action Item for Christina Cantrell – Send authorization to Stefan-leih Geary to pay Quality Fence Builders from MSD funds AND

Complete.

- h. Action Item for Christina Cantrell – Send revised delegate information to Peter Kauber of the Membership Committee of the GNC.

Complete.

- i. Action Item for David Wharton - Request permanent trashcan at Leftwich Tunnel to be maintained by the city. Leo Cheek of the city is the contact.

Pending.

- j. Action Item for David Wharton - Request zoning status on house for sale at 720 Percy St. AND

- k. Write letter to Inspection Department asking them to review the business at 351 Summit Ave for violations.

Complete – Mr. Wharton received a brief email from zoning enforcement stating both situations are ongoing. Mr. Wharton plans to continue to follow-up.

- l. Action Item for Shawn Wriede – post corrected and approved minutes on Historic Aycock District website.

Complete.

12.) Old Business: Breedlove planting project. The city has had no correspondence with Marguerite Suggs, the landscape designer, on the project and seeks **another resource to complete the work**. Some consensus has been reached with Mr. Spivey about the trees as part of the landscape plan. The chain-link fence is already being removed. The question of **continued maintenance** after the landscaping is complete was raised. The city must bid the work and is required to accept the

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lowest bid. The neighborhood has not been satisfied with the lowest bid vendor on other landscape maintenance contracts (e.g. Yanceyville median); the suggestion was made for the board to bid the job and vote to use MSD funds. For example, Dunlap, who now maintains the Yanceyville medians, has been doing a satisfactory job. As part of discussion, the question was asked how much money is available for use in the MSD account.

Action Item for Christina Cantrell – Request amount of MSD funds available to Aycock from city staff.

13.) New Business: Luminarias. The price last year was \$8.00 per dozen for pre-orders and \$10.00 per dozen the day of distribution. The board wanted to retain the same prices as last year. The date suggested for the event is Sunday, Dec 11. No one volunteered to manage the project.

14.) New Business: Clean up events for 2012. Linda Fusco was able to validate the dates for 2012 cleanup events so the board can prepare for them.

a. **Great America Cleanup – Sat, Apr 21, 2012**

b. **Big Sweep – Sat, Sept 15, 2012**

Action Item Bert VanderVeen – Determine why the doggie pot stations are not refilled with bags.

15.) New Business: Motion made to switch David Wharton and Fabio Camera board positions; that is, to appoint **Mr. Camera as the alternate delegate** and Mr. Wharton as the delegate to accommodate Mr. Camera's travel schedule. The motion passed unanimously.

16.) Meeting Adjourned: 7:50 pm.