

Charles B. Aycock Neighborhood Association
Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting
Monday, March 24, 2014

The regular meeting of the Board of Directors was held on Monday, March 24, 2014 at St. Leo's Place. Meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm by Treasurer Christina Cantrell. Board Member Mindy Zachary transcribed the minutes.

Present: Christina Cantrell, Esther Maltby, John Mandrano, Matthew Thomas, Shawn Wriede, Mindy Zachary, and Linda Fusco.

Absent: Robert Coltun, Sarah Farnsworth, Mebane Ham, and Bert VanderVeen.

Guests: Officer Doug Campbell, Misty Smith and Rodney Tuttle (new neighbors at 611 Park Avenue), Carolyn Velez, and Jennifer Motszko, Manuscripts Archivist Librarian in the Martha Blakeney Hodges Special Collections and University Archives at UNCG.

GREENSBORO POLICE DEPARTMENT

Crime Report: Officer Doug Campbell reported on recent crimes in the neighborhood, comparing 2013 statistics with 2014, which were down by two. Crimes included: 1 burglary, slashed tires on a vehicle, noise complaint involving parties and marijuana, magazine sales scam, various complaints involving Dunleith homeless camp, untagged van on Park that is also a feeding station for feral cats. The feral cat situation is being addressed separately by a nonprofit group that traps, spays or neuters, and releases the animals. Carolyn Velez is keeping an eye on the cat situation. Officer Campbell will send out an email regarding the magazine sales scam.

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

Archiving Neighborhood Documents at UNCG: Jennifer Motszko, UNCG archivist, spoke about an opportunity to archive Aycock documents. She is currently working with Fisher Park to archive their records and hopes to archive for College Hill as well. Her group collects, processes, organizes, and permanently maintains materials offered. Records are available for anyone to view. There is no cost for the service. We donate the documents, and they become UNCG's to share. Blueprints, walking tours, activities, photos from events (labeled with who, when, and/or location), really anything documenting our neighborhood over time, can be archived. If something is not useful to their collection but they see the value of it, they can help find a place to archive items not directly related to the neighborhood. Every manuscript collection is treated as one collection by archival 'principals of original order' – (keeping them organized the way we kept them) and provenance.

Documents will be physically stored at Jackson Library at UNCG – it has a fire suppression system – in the main part of the library's Special Collections University Archives department, which is open 9-5 with no appointment necessary.

It was generally agreed that this would be a great repository for all kinds of information about our neighborhood. **ACTION ITEM for Christina Cantrell to notify neighbors via listserv about this archival opportunity.** It was determined we have several boxes of potential material and that several of us should assemble and cull before handing over to Jennifer's group.

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Motion was put forth that the board enter into an agreement with UNCG to archive public records from the Aycock Historic District. Motion passed unanimously.

ACTION ITEM for Christina Cantrell, Linda Fusco, and Mindy Zachary to gather and review documents for the archives.

Mission Statement: David Horth spoke about the concept of developing a mission statement for the association. David is a neighbor, a Senior Fellow at the Center for Creative Leadership in Greensboro, and he is willing to assist. David said that his main purpose would be to facilitate a group of people around the mission statement project. He explained that a *mission statement* is our *purpose*; it doesn't necessarily guide – it inspires us; it tends to be enduring; the shorter, the better; and it must flow and have a kind of poetry about it. A *vision statement* is what we're all about and how we make decisions; it helps us determine how we do things, and is a combination of what we're trying to get to and what we're doing to get there; usually it contains several bullet items. Linda Fusco, Christina Cantrell, Matthew Thomas, and Mindy Zachary volunteered to be on the task force, with David facilitating. The group will work on both mission and vision statements (using our by-laws to assist with the latter) and bring their results to the board. An initial meeting was scheduled for April 9th at 7:00 pm at Tar Heel Manor. David will prepare a questionnaire for task force members to answer and respond directly to him. **ACTION ITEM for Mindy Zachary to forward to David the contact emails for task force members.** **ACTION ITEM for Christina Cantrell to pull out those items on the bylaws that will feed into the vision statement.**

CONSENT AGENDA

Secretary's Report: It was unclear that the January minutes forwarded to board members were the corrected ones, and no vote was taken.

Treasurer's Report: The Treasurer's Report showed an ending balance as of 3/20/2014 of \$7,576.06 (General Fund = \$6,478.14; Escrow Account = \$1,097.92 after payment of \$1,000 to Jewell Engineering for the Summit/Park alley infrastructure study; Aycock Middle School PBIS = \$131.40; BSN = \$650.00; and Dunleith Community Garden = \$316.52). The event that will create a \$100 donation to the Garden hasn't happened yet.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT Ann Stringfield has printed up fliers about the cats (on table).

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Alleyway Issues: Shawn Wriede reported on the engineering report from Jewell Engineering. Linda Fusco and Shawn met with Doug Jewell to explain the flooding problems for homeowners on the 600 block of Park and Summit. Jewell's inspection and subsequent report indicated that there is a broken drainage system from a bygone era creating excess water issues, and proposed a new system to which homeowners would have an opportunity to tie in. It was suggested that we pursue a political solution rather than going through City staff, as was done in the past. The Board was in agreement to move forward with the issue. Mindy has a connection with council member Mike Barber and volunteered to contact him to see what he recommends. **ACTION ITEM for Mindy Zachary to contact Mike Barber.**

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Fundraising: Mindy Zachary had no report.

Historic Preservation: Linda Fusco presented the application for a COA from 810 Cypress where the homeowner wants to remove a black walnut tree; Greensboro's new urban forester says it is healthy but the homeowner says it is interfering with her pool's filtration system. The applicant was not available to comment. General discussion followed involving the number of trees in her back yard, how the tree in question could be impacting her saltwater pool, and whether or not the tree and/or its fruit are considered "toxic." **Motion was put forth to support the application for 810 Cypress St. Motion passed 4 to 2.** Linda asked Mindy Zachary to attend the HPC meeting with the results of the neighborhood vote. **ACTION ITEM for Mindy Zachary to attend HPC meeting to represent the neighborhood in this application and report back to the Board via email.**

Newsletter: Linda reported that we are going digital. Our current printer is no longer available, and there is reluctance to continue hand-delivering newsletters. A few copies will be printed and left in the Little Free Library for those without internet access. We will have to first deliver a flier, which Mindy already developed.

Technology: Shawn Wriede had no report no communication with our newest Facebook administrator, Mark Walter. **ACTION ITEM for Shawn Wriede to contact our FB helper to assess status.**

Welcoming: **ACTION ITEM for Christina Cantrell to notify Bert VanderVeen to send gift basket to new neighbors, Misty Smith and Rodney Tuttle, at 611 Park.**

SPECIAL PROJECTS REPORTS

Greensboro Neighborhood Congress: Matthew Thomas explained that the City is proposing changes to the LDO regarding Wireless Telecommunication Facilities (WTF) such as cell phone towers. The installers are trying to incorporate wireless capabilities to all of GSO within ordinance guidelines. We have pretty good access to wireless within city limits, but areas toward the county need improvement. It was noted that there are no areas of the city that are considered "no go" sites.

Dunleith Community Garden: Esther Maltby reported that there are issues with a whole new colony of homeless people that has moved in. She met with Doug Campbell, other officers, Donna Gray from the City, Night Watch volunteers, and property owner Demetri Dascalakis. The meeting resulted with the suggestion that Esther bring the issue to the Board for input. Esther suggested that an effort be made to remove the newer population congregating behind the garden, and that a few old-timers be allowed to stay. The Board was in support of that solution. **ACTION ITEM for Esther Maltby to inform the Night Watch volunteers and others that the newcomers need to go.**

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OLD BUSINESS

Pending Action Items:

Cameras at Tunnel and Bridge: John Mandrano has not contacted Stefan-Leih Geary about cameras but did talk to Bob Coltun about them. John is concerned about sight lines because of all the trees. The camera vendor will be in Greensboro in June and we can ask product questions then. Linda Fusco reported Stefan-Leih says we can use MSD funds.

Mural: No report.

Trash Cans/Doggy Pots: Trash cans are being emptied by the City but they don't come on trash day. John noted the trash containers don't have holes in the bottom to drain out rainwater. City personnel take care of reloading bags at the doggy pot station at the park and Christina Cantrell takes care of the two on Chestnut and one on Cypress.

Bessemer/Yanceyville Sign: Linda Fusco reported that nothing is going on because of weather.

NEW BUSINESS

Great American Cleanup: Christina Cantrell reported that the April 5th Great American Cleanup is starting at Linda's house, and the Girl Scouts will be helping again this year.

Community Development: There was a brief discussion about whether or not to petition for the rezoning of the properties on Summit Avenue to "residential." No consensus was reached among the group.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm.