

FISHER PARK NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION, INC.
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
Monday, January 26, 2009

The monthly meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm by president, John McLendon. Board members present were Rachel Cannon-Percival, Lutie Graham, Rick Luebke, John McLendon, Robert Pope, Jane Jackson, Sonya Lowe, Connie Usry, Sally Atwood, Nicole Crews, Gene Rogers, Sherry Rogowski, Geoff Wall. Absent were David Craft and Greg Grieve. Each board member introduced themselves.

Minutes from the October 27th Board Meeting with the correction that Rick Luebke was present were approved as submitted. There was not a quorum at the November 24th meeting and no official action was taken; the minutes of that meeting were reviewed.

Report from the December 16 Historic Preservation Commission meeting:

215 North Park Dr. – Addition to rear and screen side porch approved with conditions.

Historic Preservation Commission agenda items for January 28:

302 Parkway Drive – Widen driveway, add brick retaining walls. HPC has asked to be continued for more information regarding the retaining walls.

707 N. Greene Street (Paisley House; owned by First Presbyterian Church, leased to Guilford Interfaith Hospitality Network) - Portable storage pods in rear. The City Council adopted an ordinance about two years ago that limited the use to 45 days so this will not work for what they want to do. Board members were asked to pass the word that Guilford Interfaith is seeking a donation of a suitable storage shed or other facility.

910 Magnolia Street – Petition for determination of demolition by neglect – HPC has been trying to contact the brother of the owner of the house without success so the HPC will probably have no choice other than to determine that it is undergoing demolition by neglect and turn it over to building inspections and enforcement for the next step. There is no good resolution if the owner will not actually do something. The shed has partially fallen and already been condemned. We will ask the City for an update from code enforcement about what they are going to do.

Election of Officers and Appointment of Committee Chairs for 2009

Nominated for:

President: John McLendon

Vice-President: Open for someone who is willing to move up to president next year.

Treasurer: Robert Pope

Secretary: Lutie Graham

Motion made for the above slate of officers with the Vice President position being left open for a short period of time, seconded, and approved.

Committee Chairs: Park Committee Sally Atwood and Carl Myatt co chairs; Neighborhood Watch Sonya Lowe; Events Rachel Cannon-Percival; Streets & Sidewalks Greg Grieve. Motion made, seconded, and approved for above Committee Chairs.

Treasurer's Report: Reviewed quickly last year's report and this year's budget, which will be presented for approval at February meeting. Luminary update: \$3738.00 was received of which about \$2200.00 was from donations. 308 kits were made with about 162 household participation.

Committee Reports:

Events: Events from last year included an Easter party for the children in the spring, spring picnic to celebrate the bicentennial, National Night Out, fall picnic, Halloween party for the children, open houses on luminaria night, and park work days. No events scheduled in January, Neighborhood watch meeting and a park work day in February. In the attached report are ideas of what will go on throughout 2009 with several people coordinating the events. There are two play groups, one for infants and one for young children. Any ideas for other events are welcomed. There are now four neighborhood greeters, one for each quadrant. Connie Usry will be taking over the t-shirt sales and see that there are t-shirts at the events.

Neighborhood Watch: Neighbors have been asking about community watch signage to alert unwanted guests. Research was done for a "big eye" window decals to have available for sale to interested residents. They come three per sheet in a pack of 50 sheets of three decals (150) for \$40.00 per pack, order four packs (\$160.00), and sell for \$1.00 per sheet. Motion made and approved. Ongoing discussions were had regarding problems at Red Mike's. Contact with the owner of the building to voice our concerns about these tenants will be attempted. Research will be made into what else might be done; law violations, nuisance laws, etc. First Presbyterian Church is housing a temporary overflow homeless shelter, but it is not felt that these people are involved in the criminal activities in our area. Neighborhood Watch meeting will be held February 17 in the Social Hall at Temple Emanuel, 6:30. Assistance in setting up and taking down help will be appreciated. Use block captains or obtain new captains to form a phone tree for emergencies. Talk with Ann Stringfield about how to coordinate.

Park Committee: The Landscape Management Policy and Procedures document has been revised and approved by the committee, and it recommends final approved by the Board. The Board approved this document, which will become part of our Adopt-A-Park renewal with the City. Five workdays are planned this year for 2/28, 4/11, 5/2, 9/19, 10/10 (rains dates will be seven days later), and NeighborWoods tree planting in November (if we receive the grant). Mr. Degraffenreid, a Grimsley High School vocational ed teacher, and his students want to rebuild the broken steps at South Park Drive and repair the stone work on the bridges (east park). A motion made for repair of the stone work on east park steps and bridges where necessary and a donation of \$250.00 to the Grimsley High School Vocational Education Department for this project only after a request is made to the Greensboro Parks and Recreation Department to pay for these repairs. We do not have to pay for materials. Motion approved. Will Leimenstoll, senior high school student, is involved in with First Presbyterian Church's environmental awareness committee. The group wants to plant ten or more canopy

trees along the streamside in the lower west park. Specific planting locations will be identified for review and approval by City staff, and brought back to the committee and the Board for approval. Motion made and approved for a \$200.00 donation recently received to be designated for plantings along Fisher Park Circle in front of FPC to be used for the purchase of plants in that area and any materials needed for planting, and the remaining to be used for other planned plantings. Motion approved to for \$50.00 expense for copy preparation of the application and authorized Sally Atwood to proceed with the NeighborWoods grant application.

Streets & Sidewalks Committee: No report.

Other Business:

Church/Neighborhood Discussions -- Open dialogue between FPNA and our neighborhood churches and temple will continue this year. This will let them know who we are and we will know who they are. In the past there have been some misimpressions and misinformation on all sides, and good communication is needed to pursue common goals and to address matters of concern.

Neighborhood Planning -- There have been concerns among residents about some current and possible future land uses around the edges of the neighborhood, including the blocks between Smith Street and Fisher Avenue, the School Board property, and near Wendover Ave. These concerns and others could be addressed, or we could help to improve outcomes when issues arise, with more forward planning. The City of Greensboro Department of Housing and Community Development has a neighborhood planning division that is working with the College Hill neighborhood this year and they may be able to work with Fisher Park next year. A neighborhood survey was done about six years ago and the summary of issues and goals is posted on the FPNA website. A neighborhood plan would update and expand those efforts. This will be discussed again at a future meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Lutie Graham, Secretary