

FISHER PARK NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION, INC.  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
Monday, April 27, 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, John McLendon, Robert Pope, David Craft, Sonya Lowe, Connie Usry, Gene Rogers, and Sherry Rogowski. Absent were Rick Luebke, Greg Grieve, Jane Jackson, Sally Atwood, Nicole Crews, and Geoff Wall. Guests were Ann Stringfield, Mary Sertell, and Nancy Vaughan who is running for city council at large and getting to know the districts.

Mary Sertell, Urban Designer from the City of Greensboro Planning Department, presented the proposed Downtown Design & Compatibility Manual and Overlay District. The purpose is to encourage appropriate and compatible exterior design for future development and redevelopment. The drafting committee looked at things like scale, pedestrian appeal, creating guidelines and standards. The proposed Manual and Overlay map will be presented for general public review at the Depot on 4/28, then to the Planning Board and Zoning Commission for their recommendation in May and June respectively, and to City Council in July for final action. Public comments on the proposed draft will be received through May 1. The Manual is flexible and addresses only new construction and additions; it is not retroactive for existing buildings. The proposed Overlay District includes three categories – Historic Core (along South Elm Street), Urban Residential (Cedar Street neighborhood and portions of the area north of Smith Street), and Pedestrian Mixed Use (all other areas within the downtown area). The northern boundary of the proposed Downtown Design Overlay District runs along the southern boundary of the existing Fisher Park Historic District. Ms. Sertell answered questions and then left the meeting.

Two Board members had to leave the meeting early so discussion of the Downtown Design & Compatibility Manual and Overlay District continued without a quorum. Concerns were expressed regarding the portion of the Overlay District to the north of Smith Street and Battleground Avenue, which is within the Fisher Park Neighborhood boundary. There was a consensus that we should ask for all of this area to be included in the Urban Residential category of the Overlay District, so that the Pedestrian Mixed Use portion will apply only to the area south of the neighborhood boundary. It was noted that office and business uses would still be allowed based on current zoning applicable to some properties within the neighborhood boundary, but the Urban Residential category has design guidelines and standards that are more compatible with the residential appearance of the Fisher Park Historic District (the Design Manual and Overlay will only apply to design and exterior appearance; zoning governs allowable uses). John McLendon, as President of FPNA, will send a comment letter with this request to the Planning Department, and he will also try to attend the public meetings and hearings. John encouraged other Board members to comment and attend the meetings and hearings too.

### **Report from the March 25 Historic Preservation Commission meeting:**

302 Parkway Drive - Widen driveway and construct brick retaining walls – Approved.  
201 East Hendrix Street – Repairs and alterations to walkways and steps – Approved.  
617 North Elm Street – Signage at the First Presbyterian Church – Continued.

### **Historic Preservation Commission agenda items for April 29:**

617 North Elm – First Presbyterian Church signage – we understand that the church will ask for a continuance until June.

**Treasurer's Report:** Addition to the revenue was the \$60.00 from t-shirt sales. Recent expenses were \$92.00 for printing of the Fisher Parker, \$19.00 for the Neighborwoods Project, and \$76.00 for the copies of the park and street trees master plan prepared by Chip Callaway in the early 1990's (these will be used in connection with the NeighborWoods application, and archived for future reference). Add the band expense to the Event Committee for May.

### **Committee Reports:**

**Events:** Had a good turnout for the garden tours with over 100 individuals counted. Nicole Crews did the coordinating for this event. A sheet of the neighborhood watch decals will be placed in the greeter packages. May 30 will be the neighborhood pot luck outside at the temple with option to be inside in case of rain. The band will be The Alley Rabbits. Aycock neighborhood has been invited. A donation cup might be put out at the pot luck for contributions.

**Neighborhood Watch:** The expense for the national night out will be \$250.00 this year for the Hawaiian Ice, which is very popular and will return this year. With summer arriving, be aware of crime activities. Put decals on windows. Items are walking off front porches. Two drug stops in Fisher Park; one not a resident, one a renter. Red Mikes building has been purchased by Doug Jones of Fishers.

**Park Committee and NeighborWoods:** First Presbyterian green team tree planting was done. Work day May 2 will concentrate in the west park pulling vines, weeds, etc. Get the NeighborWoods Interest forms completed and returned.

**Streets & Sidewalks Committee:** We did not get approved for the small projects grant. This program may be cut from the City budget next year.

### **Other Business:**

A letter from Wanda Myatt was read thanking the FPNA Board for the contribution to the SPCA in memory of her son, Robin. Ann reported that Delancey Street is looking for a new location with more space.

Respectfully submitted,  
Lutie Graham, Secretary