

Fisher Park Neighborhood Association, Inc.

Minutes of Board of Directors Meeting

Monday July 26, 2010

President John McLendon called the meeting to order at 6:30pm in the Haywood Duke room at Holy Trinity Church. Board members present were John McLendon (ex officio), Sarah Jordan, Sonya Lowe, Judy Morton, Sally Atwood, Jane Jackson, Connie Usry, David Craft, and Angie Smits. Absent were Sherry Rogowski, Nicole Crews, Greg Grieve, and Robert Kantlehner. Also present were Rachel Cannon-Percival and David Myers.

Minutes from the April, May and June 2010 Board meetings were unanimously approved.

June HPC Meeting: Robert Kantlehner attended. John relayed a report from Robert that the City will continue using bright yellow for detectable surface curb ramps being installed for ADA compliance at intersections, based on decision making by GDOT. They will, however, consider using black or dark green on other fixtures such as signals, poles, and equipment cabinets. HPC minutes were not available online at the time of this meeting for review of the COA application discussed last month.

There were no new **COA applications** from Fisher Park to discuss for the July HPC meeting.

Rachel Cannon-Percival reported that as **neighborhood greeter** coordinator she has made updated packets that are distributed to new neighbors by our four neighborhood greeters. The folder has a copy of the HPC guidelines as well as other pamphlets and information from the city regarding garbage pickup, recycling, etc.

Sonya Lowe, **Neighborhood Watch** Coordinator, reported that police department statistics show crime is down. We are all set for National Night Out next Tuesday, August 3 from 6:30-8:00 pm in the park.

Sally Atwood reported for the **Park Committee**. There are 15 volunteers watering planters and 36 volunteers watering the newly planted Neighborwoods trees in the park during dry weather. Hoses that the park committee bought for this purpose were a great investment and have not been stolen! Park co-chair Carl Myatt is coordinating with stonemason Lafayette Brown to repair bridges in the park. He will reassemble stones that have fallen into the creek, re-grout the stones and tops of the bridges to prevent future water leaking/deterioration. Cost is \$800 and will be paid by the City, according to Brooks Mullane of the Parks & Recreation Dept. Brooks is checking to see whether a COA is needed for this work. Repairs are also needed in several areas of the stone-lined creek beds, which will be more work and more expensive; the Park Committee plans to ask Lafayette Brown for an estimate on that work if the bridge repairs go well. Next Park Committee meeting and workday are in the Fall, though a workday may be added sooner for general maintenance (weeding, etc.).

Rachel Cannon-Percival and David Myers spoke about the city's use of **herbicides in the park**. A group of concerned neighbors are in the information-gathering stage on this issue. So far they have learned that the city contractors use Round-Up Pro in the park at least once per month during the summer. This

group would like to find out what they are spraying for, how notice to neighbors can be given more effectively when this will be done, whether the spraying is accomplishing the intended purposes, if it poses a hazard to people or animals, and whether there are non-chemical alternatives that could be explored. Rachel's group will get back to the Park Committee and Board with further information.

Streets and Sidewalks: John reported that City Council asked GDOT to review whether to make Greene Street two-way between Bellemeade and McGee. GDOT reported that two-way traffic south of Bellemeade would require modifications to entrances/exits of the existing parking garages, and would result in more northbound traffic on Greene up to Fisher Avenue.

Greenway: Phase 3 drop-in meeting is this Thursday July 28 from 12-2 pm and 5-7 pm in the old Bingo Hall at 421 West Smith St. Plans are also available online at www.greensboro-nc.gov/GDOT. Neighborhood residents are encouraged to review and give input, as this section of the Greenway will run along North Eugene Street from Fisher Ave to Smith Street, and then westward along Smith to the rail line (which eventually will connect with the Battleground Rail Trail, a/k/a the A&Y Greenway). The City is applying for a federal stimulus grant to expedite construction. FPNA was asked to write a letter in support of this grant application; John read a draft letter and the Board approved.

Downtown Design Guidelines: The proposed zoning overlay is going to Zoning Commission public hearing on August 9. Robert Kantlehner will attend.

City Manager/staff walk through Fisher Park is postponed until Fall.

Community Foundation Endowment Fund: Board still needs to discuss purposes and possibilities for the endowment going forward.

The neighborhood has been approached about a **Goodwill** pilot program having donation bins that households will use to collect donations and put out periodically for collection, similar to recycling bins. Board decided not to pursue at this time.

We have also been approached by **Triad Stage** about a program to give back a percentage of season pass sales to organizations. FPNA would have an assigned number that neighbors could use when buying season tickets, and Triad Stage would donate a percentage of those sales back to FPNA. Board was in favor of the idea provided that it is not considered advertising or an exclusive endorsement. Angie will contact Triad Stage to discuss logistics.

Minutes prepared by: Angie Smits, Treasurer.