

Fisher Park Neighborhood Association

Board Minutes



January 2012, 6:30 p.m., Haywood Duke Room, Holy Trinity Church

Attending: Board members Robert Kantlehner, Don Smith, Ashely Meredith, Laura Way, Ann Marsh, & Elizabeth Knight. Guests: Owners of 902 North Elm Street, 204 West Bessemer Avenue, and Communications Chairperson Ann Stringfield. Board members absent: Angie Smits, Judy Morton, Sarah Jordan, & Daintry O'Brian.

President Robert Kantlehner read this month's "**Historic District Moment**" from a published Report of the Joint Study Committee on Economic Development Through Historic Preservation. *"The Committee heard in every city that the improvements in downtown and neighborhood appearance from historic preservation had been critical to industrial and new business recruiting efforts."*

Certificate of Appropriateness (CoA) requests for January Historic Preservation Commission meetings:

- **902 North Elm Street** after-the-fact request to rework a wooden fence installed without a CoA, not an approved style, and inappropriately positioned up to the front corner of the house at a height taller than allowed by local Historic District Guidelines. Motion passed that the front section of the fence be moved back to the mid-point of the house, made into a picket fence design, and shortened to no greater than 42" as shown in the Guidelines, and that the tall side fence be graduated from the new 42" height front section to the allowed 72" side fence height. Applicant also requests to replace the building's degraded soffit and fascia boards with aluminum or fiber cement board materials. Motion passed that the wood soffits and fascias should be repaired to retain the dental molding and only parts of the soffit or fascia that cannot be repaired should be replaced using wood or new cementous plank materials as allowed in the Guidelines.
- **204 West Bessemer Avenue** request to replace 15 original wood windows with new matching wood windows. Motion passed to retain and preserve and repair the store original windows and to only "replace irreparable windows if necessary with new true-divided light wood windows designed to match the original in appearance, detail, material, profile and overall size as closely as possible" as required by local Historic District Guidelines.

Treasurers Report – Robert Kantlehner reported for Angie Smits that there has been no change in accounts since January with \$14,560.83 in one account and \$4,674 in another account.

Committee Reports:

New Board assignments for 2012 are Don Smith is Vice President, Judy Morton is Secretary, Angie Smits remains Treasurer.

Communications Chairperson Ann Stringfield reported the next Fisher Parker newsletter will be distributed in mid-March, she may seek a grant for the FPNA Archives through Building Stronger Neighborhoods, she requests our Board agenda's be shared on the FPNA Listserv prior to Board meetings in hopes of engaging neighbors, and reminded new Board members that she currently attends Greensboro Neighborhood Congress (GNC) meetings for the FPNA and welcomes any neighbor who

wishes to attend and/or serve as FPNA's primary GNC contact at any time. Board members expressed interest in several other grant request ideas presented including educating Realtors/Appraisers about the value of Historic District properties and initiating proactive facilitated group meetings to discuss the future of the current School Administration building and parking lots which at some point will move elsewhere and likely be replaced with high density development. Board members recommended contacting Bonnie McAlister as a potential group facilitator.

Park Committee report for Co-chairperson Sally Atwood via Ann Stringfield listed our 4 Park Work Days for 2012 are April 14 (9:00 a.m.), June 9 (8:30 a.m.), August 25 (8:30 a.m.), and October 27 (9:00 a.m.) and will be listed on our neighborhood News/Events web page. The Park received a generous \$500 donation from United Guaranty to replace damaged park trees which will be procured and planted this fall. The Park Committee is coordinating a list of City and other contacts for neighbors who wish to change City Parks & Recreation herbicide spraying policies which affect plants, soil, and water quality. Board members recommended the Park Committee contact Elizabeth Jernigan, 314-5232, who works with water resources.

Events Committee Co-chairpersons Elizabeth Knight and Ashley Meredith are planning a June 2 neighborhood wide pot-luck social at Temple Emanuel's Social Hall including games for children, music for adults. Details will be posted on the FPNA website and printed in Fisher Parker newsletters. Knight and Meredith encourage event ideas from all neighbors. An outdoor oyster roast is considered for the December Luminaria night in lieu of an open house.

Announcements:

An insurance agency located at the corner of Wendover and Church Street also serves as a "café" and its owner encourages anyone to stop by for coffee as he integrates into the neighborhood. He can be contacted at joe@cafeagency.com.

Next meeting is **Monday March 26, 6:30 p.m.** at the Haywood Duke Room of Holy Trinity Church.

Respectfully submitted by Ann Stringfield, February 28, 2012.