

Fisher Park Neighborhood Association

Board of Directors Meeting

October 29, 2012 6:30pm

MINUTES

Attending board members: Robert Kantlehner, Judy Morton, Angie Smits, Laura Way, Daintry O'Brien and Anne Marsh. Communications Chairperson Ann Stringfield and Park Committee Co-chair Sally Atwood.

Guests: Neil Dunnavant (associate pastor of First Presbyterian Church), Randal Romie (Designature landscape architecture), Tim Millisor (director of property for First Presbyterian Church), Jeff Harbinson (Harbinson Architects), Eric Phillips and Anna Phillips.

Certificates of Appropriateness

1) 1590 Olive Street, Phillips residence – construct masonry wall, fence, and accessory building.

The house, at the corner of Olive and Bessemer, has limited privacy in the back yard and the Phillipses want to build a 7' tall cinder block wall along the Bessemer side of their lot, to be covered in concrete stucco. There was discussion of the need to request a variance from the 6' height allowed by the city code. In addition they want to build a patio and picket fence across the back yard to enclose the patio. And finally, they want to add an 8'X10' tool shed in the southeast corner of the back yard. It was moved, seconded and unanimously voted to support this application, subject to the variance being granted for the wall height.

2) 800 Simpson Street, Kuester residence – construction of garage.

The Kuesters propose to build a 20'X24' garage at the rear of the north side of their lot, with a brick foundation that will match the house and 4.5" Hardiplank lap siding painted to match the house. There was discussion about the two windows proposed for the south side of the garage and concern about possible damage to the large willow oak beside the lot line. An arborist has recommended several precautions to preserve the oak tree's roots. It was moved, seconded and unanimously voted to support this application, with the added precautions from the arborist.

3) 910 Magnolia Street, Tracy Pratt house restoration project – remove basement windows and brick in openings.

Tracy Pratt proposes to remove two rotted windows at basement level and brick up the openings in order to be able to raise the grade at the foundation and slope water away from the basement. Preservation Greensboro has recommended that the bricked in holes be recessed slightly to indicate that there had once been windows there. It was moved, seconded and unanimously voted to support this application.

First Presbyterian Church – Neil Dunnavant and Tim Millisor of First Presbyterian Church distributed renderings of proposed changes to the exterior of church buildings and to the landscape. All the details have not been finalized yet, so they visited the neighborhood association board now to get reactions from the board and listen to its ideas; they will come again when the design has been completed. Construction is expected to take 47 weeks, from early April of 2013 to mid-February of 2014. Eighty percent of this major renovation is taking place inside, but in five or six cases it will have an impact on the exterior and landscaping. They will replace the 1920's era boiler, plumbing and electrical wiring, remove asbestos, and add a fire detection system. A large cooling tower to be added will need to be screened by plantings, as will new Duke Power transformers. The most potentially controversial change will be to create a new entrance into the church by the addition of glass doors where there are currently two windows; a paved walk, steps and covered patio with additional landscaping will be added to visually direct visitors to the new entrance. They would also like to extend the fence around the nursery school play yard, but if they make any changes to the current fence they will be subject to stricter NC childcare regulations and historic district fence guidelines.

Discussion of Next Year's Officers – Robert Kantlehner reported that Don Smith has been asked to be President; board members present urged Robert to urge Don to accept. Laura Way agreed to serve as Treasurer. There was discussion of Vice President and chairs of committees. Sally Atwood said she believes there is someone lined up to chair the Park Committee.

Speaker for the Annual Meeting – Robert reported that Linda Evans, Community Historian at the Greensboro Historical Museum, will present a program about the history of Fisher Park at the annual meeting, which is Sunday, November 18.

Discussion of Grants – The committee charged with building the Fisher Park Neighborhood Endowment has recommended that we take this year's interest from our Community Foundation endowment to be used this coming year on neighborhood projects. It was moved, seconded and unanimously voted that we accept the annual disbursement of funds from the Fisher Park Neighborhood Association's Community Foundation endowment to be used this coming year on neighborhood projects.

Luminaries – The annual party to package luminaria kits will be held December 5 at 6:00pm. There was discussion of whose houses will be open for the evening of the luminaria display.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:15 pm.