

HBNA Board Meeting Minutes – Jan. 2013

A meeting of the Historic Brookhaven Neighborhood Association was held on Tuesday, January 8, 2013 at 8:00am at the Capital City Club.

Present were Board Members: Frank Clementi, Lisa Martinez, Wade McKenzie, Tim Gartland, Mike Elliot, Anne Culberson, Bob Connelly, Hope Bawcom, Lisa Senters, Cathy Boston, Susy Stovin and interim Board Member Gay Colyer

The meeting was called to order by Lisa Martinez at 8:00am

Executive Committee Reports:

Lisa Martinez gave a brief introduction noting the desire to organize the HBNA with more committee level involvement and more neighborhood participation. Toward that goal Susy Stovin has rescinded her resignation and rejoins the board providing representation for the District 3 area. It was noted that another representative from District 3 was needed and Susy was encouraged to recruit that person.

Lisa announced a By-laws Committee Meeting to be held next Friday, January 18th at J. Christophers. The purpose is to review the current by-laws, draft any needed edits or changes and present the draft to the full board for review (goal is March) and approval (goal is April) prior to presentation for approval at the General meeting in May. Anyone interested is welcome to attend.

Future board meeting dates were discussed. Going forward the meetings will be on Wednesdays. The need to continue to meet throughout the year instead of taking the summer off, per historical precedent, was discussed. Most board members agreed it made sense to meet year round.

The general meeting was discussed briefly. The date would need to be confirmed with The Capital City Club in order to use their facility. Monday seems to work well since the club is closed on Mondays for normal member activities although staff is present.

Standing committee assignments for 2013 were reviewed and they are listed below on the attached:

It was noted that the Chair of the Transportation Committee is an interim board member. It was decided to discuss this at the upcoming By-Laws Committee meeting.

Lisa Martinez asked that the standing committees decide on their meeting times and post those times so that interested members could attend.

The December minutes were presented and approved by voice vote of the board.

Karen Spitz was unavailable due to a family emergency so the Treasurers Report was deferred to the next board meeting. There were no significant known changes to the HBNA finances since last board meeting. Development of the 2013 budget will be differed until the next board meeting.

Committee Reports:

Community Maintenance and Enhancement (CMEC)

Tim Garland presented the Community Maintenance and Enhancement Committee report.

Club/Davidson Triangle Park was discussed at length. Lisa has been in communication with the Atlanta City Parks Department. ACPD is two weeks behind schedule and is working on the grading of the park. HBNA is to meet with them next week to review their checklist vs. HBNA's checklist. The current strategy is for ACPD to complete grading and sodding at the city's expense. HBNA will repair the irrigation system at its expense. This will insure that the systems lifetime warranty will remain in effect with the contractor. Estimated repair cost is between \$800 and \$1,200. Irrigation contractor to flag existing lines before city grades to try and minimize further damage. There was discussion about the relative expense of the park. Background on the project was discussed, specifically the adjacent homeowners desire to repair the park in a way the improved it from its pre-accident condition. A fundraiser was held at the time at one of the adjacent resident's house. Estimates at the time ranged \$30-35K to restore the park. It was noted that this repair work is a one-time expense. There was a comparative discussion

about similar projects in other neighborhoods. There was discussion about the parks role in drainage and the need to consider access with respect to these park improvements.

Historical neighborhood monuments were discussed. Mike Elliott filed an application for construction and encroachment permits with the City of Brookhaven before the moratorium. Mike is waiting for approval from the city. He will forward to the board a sketch with the locations marked.

Transportation

Transportation Committee report was given by Lisa Martinez and Frank Clementi in Mark Anderson's absence. The Traffic Calming at Vermont/Winall Down was discussed at length. Howard Shook and Nursef Kedir from the city met with ~25 residents on December 18th to review the situation. Mark Acampora, a traffic engineer and consultant also attended the meeting. Howard asked for HBNA to meet and come up with a consensus of their wishes for the intersection. Nursef Kedir is supposed to present alternate solutions for HBNA review. The neighborhood is asked to live with the current solution awhile to see how it is working. There is a goal to meet again later in January after getting alternatives from Seth. There was discussion as to whether or not this was a board issue. As background, it was noted that the board worked collaboratively to resolve other traffic issues in the neighborhood which had previously languished without resolution, i.e. the stop signs outside the Capital City Club. There was further discussion about the need to have the adjacent neighbors involved. A meeting of some of those neighbors was held a few days ago, and a summation meeting (coordinated by Gordon Anderson) with Frank Clementi and Lisa Martinez is scheduled for later this morning at 11:30am so the board can get their view. It was mentioned that the city has no record of an accident reported at the intersection since they began keeping records in 2008.

Zoning

Mike Elliott presented a Zoning Committee report for DeKalb County, relative to the Bellaire/Club Drive proposed development. The property owners have hired Kathy Zickert, a well-known zoning attorney, and have filed an appeal of the determination of the ordinance. (Their intent is to build their original plan.) The appeal will be heard on February (13th?) at a public hearing. These are usually scheduled at 1:30pm.

A motion was made for HBNA to (1) draft a letter supporting the determination (opposing the appeal), objecting to the variance, with language to be recommended by the HBNA's zoning attorney and (2) for HBNA to communicate time and date of the zoning meeting to the neighborhood and (3) encourage neighbors to write similar letters in support of the determination and to attend the hearing. The motion passed unanimously.

Cathy Boston reported there were no current zoning issues for Fulton County.

Events

Frank Clementi announced he had secured a sponsor for the next general meeting. The sponsorship will generate \$500 which should cover the meeting expenses. The sponsor, Jere Metcalf, Realtor, will receive advertising via HBNA. There was discussion of planning needed for the general meeting including communication via neighborhood signs and email as well as reserving a room at the Capital City Club.

Lisa Senters reiterated her desire to have someone serve as Chair of the Events Committee.

The Street Party and Anniversary Party were discussed. HBNA would like to do both. The Anniversary Party is more geared to adult residents and the Street Party is more family oriented. Timing was discussed with pros and cons of moving the Street Party to the Spring and having the Anniversary Party in the Fall. More input from the neighborhood would be helpful. The Street Party is more planning intensive. A motion was made for Lisa and Susy to survey the neighborhood interest in the two parties and to table further discussion until the next meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

Communication/Membership

In Mark Roberts' absence Lisa Martinez asked everyone to review the website and get familiar with it. The ideas of an online directory, more mobile access and other new thinking were discussed briefly. It was observed that the website doesn't appear current or updated. Frank C., Lisa M., and Mark Roberts met with Aaron Bawcom to brainstorm ideas for communication initiatives. Aaron is currently awaiting communication with David Cawrse (our webmaster) to begin implementing discussed changes.

Other

Acadia publishing approached HBNA with the idea for a neighborhood book. The community would gather content, Acadia provides publishing and assistance. HBNA could then buy the books for resale as a revenue generating opportunity. A sample of the Acadia product was requested. A local author, Dick Dietrich, was mentioned as

someone who also had interest in doing a book about the neighborhood. There was discussion about quality of the product, level of work required and potential for revenue for HBNA. Mike Elliott agreed to invite Dick Dietrich to the next board meeting to discuss in more detail.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30am.

HBNA Standing Committee Members 2013

Community Maintenance and Enhancement (Chair: Tim Garland)

Lisa Martinez, Bob Connelly, Mike Elliott

Transportation (Chair: Mark Anderson, Vice-Chair: Wade McKenzie)

Jed Beardsley, Anne Culberson, Gay Colyer

Zoning (Fulton Chair: Cathy Boston, Dekalb Chair: Mike Elliott)

Hope Bawcom – Dekalb

Anne Culberson – Fulton

Bob Connelly – Fulton

Events (Vice-Chair: Lisa Senters)

Susy Stovin

Communication/Membership (Chair: Mark Roberts)

Frank – Sponsorship/Advertising

Karen Spitz

Hope Bawcom