

# **HBNA Board Meeting Minutes – Dec. 2012**

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A meeting of the Historic Brookhaven Neighborhood Association was held on Friday, December 14, 2012 at 8:00am at the Capital City Club.

Present were Board Members: Frank Clementi, Lisa Martinez, Wade McKenzie, Tim Gartland, Karen Spitz, Mike Elliot, Mark Roberts, Jed Beardsley, Anne Culberson, Bob Connelly, Hope Bawcom, Lisa Sinters, Cathy Boston, and interim Board Members: Mark Anderson and Gay Colyer

The meeting was called to order by Frank Clementi at 8:07am

## **Executive Committee Reports:**

Following a brief introduction by Frank Clementi, the open position of Secretary was discussed. Wade McKenzie volunteered and was elected by voice vote.

The plan to develop District Representatives for the neighborhood was discussed. It was noted that District 3 as designated on the new neighborhood map needed representation and there was agreement to recruit someone for this.

Lisa Martinez presented an overview of the current standing committees and the need for Chair/Vice Chair leadership of each. The desire to have those committees meeting independently of and present their activities to the Board was discussed in order to give the HBNA more “bandwidth” to conduct its affairs. Each Board member was given a form to fill out indicating committee preferences. These were to be completed and returned to Frank Clementi. It was noted that recruitment of committee members would be helpful. It was also noted that we could use more help with the DeKalb side of the neighborhood. Hope Bawcom expressed interest in assisting with that.

The HBNA Board meeting format and timing was discussed. The plan is to meet monthly on or about the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of each month. Lisa Martinez will send out a meeting calendar for the upcoming year. Time of day for the meetings was discussed with most attendees saying mornings worked well although a mix of morning and evenings may work also.

Karen Spitz gave the Treasurers report and presented the HBNA financial statements. It was noted that the balance sheet was in a strong position relative to recent years. The budget process for 2013 will take place in January – February. Currently there are 510 dues paying members with payments still coming in daily. Karen announced plans to transition the financial functions to Brian Ruediger who is a CPA and prospective board member.

There was discussion about the difference between the HBNA and the Historic Brookhaven Foundation (HBF). The HBF has a separate board, it is organized as a charitable entity and it's solely dedicated to funding long-term capital improvement projects to benefit the neighborhood. The HBF raises funds independently and is also the beneficiary of some matching funds from HBNA. (i.e. HBNA granted \$7,000 to HBF in 2012 for improvements to the historic monuments at the entrances to the neighborhood.) It was noted that the current board of HBF consists of Frank Clementi, Mark Roberts, Mike Elliott, Jed Beardsley and Cathy Ionnatti.

## **Committee Reports:**

### **Community Maintenance and Enhancement (CMEC)**

Tim Gartland volunteered and was elected by voice vote to Chair the committee. Tim is a landscape architect and owns a landscape business.

Discussion of progress at Club/Davidson Triangle Micro Park. Funds from a previous accident at the location were secured by Mike Elliot and helped initiate the park re-development plan. Curbing was identified as an issue and after receiving quotes from contractors HBNA (specifically, Caroline Kenny and Lisa Martinez) was able to get the city Parks Department to pay for and install the new curbs. During this work some of the plantings and irrigation system installed by HBNA was damaged by the city contractor. The Parks Dept. has committed to repair those issues and is scheduled to meet within 10 days to review the HBNA punch list.

It was discussed how the Micro Parks represent the visualization and “brand” of the neighborhood and why they are therefore a focus of the ongoing maintenance provided through CMEC. There was also some discussion about who is responsible for tree removal when trees fall in these common areas.

The new monument on the Mabry Road entrance to the neighborhood near Windsor Park is being funded by the developer of Mabry Oaks. Permits are being pulled for that construction today.

Damaged sidewalks are to be a focus for improvement in 2013. HBNA will be contacting Howard Shook (Fulton) and the new City of Brookhaven (DeKalb) for assistance.

### **Transportation**

Mark Anderson volunteered to Chair the committee, Wade McKenzie volunteered to serve as Vice Chair. Both were elected by voice vote.

The intersection at Brookhaven and Peachtree was discussed as a traffic issue with egress from the neighborhood South on to Peachtree impeded by lack of a turn lane.

The intersection at Vermont/Winall Down was discussed at length. HBNA had received a number of complaints that the intersection was poorly marked and near collisions have occurred. HBNA contacted Howard Shook to get involved and have the city look at possible solutions. A solution was received by the City of Atlanta traffic engineering in late summer 2012. It was presented at the October board meeting. It was also presented at the November General Meeting as a possible project. HBNA was preparing to inform the surrounding homeowners but before they could, the city surprised everyone and moved fast installing stop signs, painting lines and establishing a designated triangle area to direct traffic flow. Anne Culberson noted that 6 residences near the intersection are opposed to the "island". She said their complaints include, inhibited parking, bad visual aesthetic of the markings, drainage issues, potential for garbage and lack of communication with surrounding neighbors. The Board's initial request to the city was an inquiry and the Board was surprised how quickly the city acted. Frank Clementi expressed that the board could have done a better job communicating on this. There is a meeting scheduled by Howard Shook's office for Tuesday, December 18<sup>th</sup> at the intersection. After asking permission from Howard Shook, the HBNA will send out a mass email announcing the meeting so interested neighbors can attend.

Radar signs near the Capital City Club entrance are currently not working. This appears to be an electric issue and the CCC is working on the problem as they have committed to maintain these signs.

Narmore and Vermont exits onto Peachtree egress issues were discussed. The HBNA noted that the church was encouraged by the city to hire a traffic cop during services. The potential for a light is a state issue.

### **Zoning**

Mike Elliott reported on the proposed development at Bellaire/Club. DeKalb County rejected the zoning application after strong opposition from residents and after concluding the plan did not comply with the county's current zoning plan. It is understood that the property owner and the developer are now renegotiating the transaction.

Cathy Boston noted there were no current zoning issues in Fulton County.

### **Events**

The need for an Event Committee Chair was noted. Lisa Senters volunteered to Vice Chair the committee. No further action was taken.

### **Communication/Membership**

Mark Roberts volunteered to continue to Chair the committee and was reelected by voice vote.

Mark noted that membership renewal mailing went well and that approximately 10 renewals per day are coming in. He will send out another mailer to try and capture any stragglers once the renewals slow down.

The Directory is being updated and the HBNA Newsletter is ready to print.

### **Other**

Gay Colyer raised a question about Board Member terms and voting. It was noted which members were voted on at the November and April meetings.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30am.