

# HBNA Board Meeting Minutes – Mar. 2013

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A meeting of the Historic Brookhaven Neighborhood Association was held on Wednesday, March 13, 2013 at 8:00am at the Capital City Club.

Present were Board Members: Frank Clementi, Lisa Martinez, Wade McKenzie, Mark Roberts, Mike Elliot, Brian Ruediger, Anne Culberson, Bob Connelly, Hope Bawcom, Lisa Senters McDermott, Cathy Boston, Susy Stovin, and interim Board Members Gay Colyer, Carole Simpson and Maribett Varner.

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

Frank introduced Maribett Varner and Carole Simpson who are both interested in joining the board. They will be attending the board meetings as interim members until they can be voted on at the general meeting. Frank reminded everyone that the general meeting was scheduled for Monday, May 13<sup>th</sup>.

Lisa reminded the board that the main focus of today's meeting was to review and approve committee budgets. Lisa also asked that each committee V.P. decide on a standing meeting time that can be established so regular meetings can occur and the schedule of those can be published.

## **Executive Committee Reports:**

### **Secretary**

The February minutes which were previously distributed via email were presented and approved by unanimous vote of the board.

### **Treasurer**

Brian Ruediger distributed 2012 and 2013 financial statements. He noted that the budgets shown in the 2013 financial statements were draft and incomplete pending the board's recommendations and approval of committee budgets.

## **Committee Reports:**

### **Zoning - DeKalb**

Mike Elliot gave the DeKalb zoning report and proposed budget. (Hope Bawcom excused herself from the room during DeKalb and Fulton zoning and budget discussions.) Mike discussed the Brookhaven Peachtree Community Alliance (BCPA) and its role in representing the residents of Historic Brookhaven as well as surrounding neighborhoods in zoning matters impacting those communities. HBNA has historically provided financial support for BPCA for outreach and hiring counsel to represent the neighborhoods in zoning issues. Other neighborhoods contributing to BPCA are: Brookhaven Heights, Brookhaven Fields as well as individual donors. Mike noted a number of projects that HBNA has successfully coordinated efforts with BPCA on recently: Kroger Expansion, Savi Market, Vet Clinic, Hines Apartments, Wood partners Alta Apartments, McDonalds renovation, Town Brookhaven.

Mike made a motion to approve a budget of \$15,500 for DeKalb zoning (An additional \$2.5K on top of the previously approved \$2.5K [total \$5K] for BPCA legal fund for the Overlook Apartments opposition, \$10K in reserve for opposition to the Bellaire project and \$500 annual membership fee to BPCA). There was discussion on the motion and Anne Culberson suggested adding another \$20,000 to the budget request. It was discussed that if money is reserved for a specific committee and is unspent the board can vote to use the money elsewhere. Discussion concluded and the motion made by Mike passed with 8 yes, 2 No (Anne Culberson, Gay Colyer), 3 Abstain (Frank Clementi, Lisa Martinez, Hope Bawcom).

### **Zoning - Fulton**

Cathy Boston gave an update on Fulton County zoning noting that depending on the outcome of the Bellaire Drive project there may likely be some zoning issues on the Fulton County side of that property. Cathy made a motion to approve a budget of \$5,000 for Fulton County zoning. After brief discussion the motion made by Cathy passed with 9 yes, 0 No, 4 Abstain (Frank Clementi, Lisa Martinez, Hope Bawcom, Mark Roberts).

### **Events**

Lisa Senters McDermott discussed the difficulty of developing a budget for events without prior history of the committee. She discussed the recent committee meeting and their plan to recruit volunteers via a party, potentially at Capital City Club, as a precedent to the plan of a membership survey regarding event timing. They intend to get a sponsor for the party so it would be budget neutral. PY budget for the street party was discussed. It was net ~

\$3K per Lisa Martinez benefitting in part from food sales and sponsor revenue. Lisa M. will provide Lisa S-M details of the historical expenses for the street party. Lisa Senters McDermott made a motion to approve a budget of \$6,000 for the street party. After brief discussion the motion made by Lisa passed with 10 yes, 0 No, 3 Abstain (Frank Clementi, Lisa Martinez, Brian Ruediger).

There was discussion about revitalizing new neighbor welcome efforts. (Gift baskets including a copy of the neighborhood directory used to be presented to new neighbors.) Susy volunteered to revamp our new neighbor efforts. Gay Colyer will contact the person who used to help with the gift baskets to see if she is willing to continue that. Cathy Boston may have access to new homeowner information.

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

In Tim Garland's absence Lisa Martinez presented the Community Maintenance and Enhancement Committee report.

Lisa updated the status of the Club/Davidson Micro Park. There was a meeting with the city last week where the three main issues outstanding were discussed (grading, landscaping, irrigation). It was agreed at that meeting that HBNA will pay for irrigation repair if the city will grade and sod to the landscape plan developed by HBNA. The city also agreed to pay the water bill going forward in perpetuity which will save HBNA money. Lisa pointed out that the park will go through a transition period where it will look worse before it looks better but ultimately the goal is for this park to set the standard for all the micro parks in the neighborhood. Frank is seeking corporate sponsors for the parks to offset maintenance costs. Mike Elliot suggested we need to coordinate sponsor contact in order to avoid duplicating efforts. Lisa Martinez noted that coordination of communication should go through Mark Roberts at the Communication Committee level.

Mike Elliot updated the status of new monuments.

- Precast concrete for Mabry monuments is complete.
- Precast concrete for E. Brookhaven Drive monuments should be completed next week.
- Rockhaven Homes (builder in Mabry Oaks) is covering cost of labor enabling HBNA to only pay \$2K for materials for Mabry monuments.

Bob Connelly updated status of the E. Brookhaven Drive monuments. Bob has previously been a proponent of utilizing Brick Concepts due to their past experience and less project management involved in working with them. However, Brick Concepts price has increased and Bob has gotten a more favorable bid from a brick mason which is \$1,000 less per monument. The downside is there is more supervision required and Bob has agreed to provide the necessary oversight. Gay asked what the Historic Brookhaven Foundation (HBF) does to fund monuments. Mike noted that the foundation does provide some funding for the monuments. It was discussed that the HBF needs to present to the HBNA board so the board is briefed on it's operation.

### **Transportation**

Transportation Committee report was given by Wade McKenzie. An RFP was developed and sent to a number of local traffic engineering firms for the project to review and make alternative recommendations for the improvements at the intersection of Winall Down and Vermont. Anne Culberson asked for another copy of the RFP. Deadline for submission has been set as March 22<sup>nd</sup>. Wade suggested that the standing meeting of the Transportation Committee might be each Wednesday prior to the HBNA board meeting. This needs to be firmed up with the committee members. Wade made a motion to approve a budget for the Transportation Committee of \$7,000 to include, \$6,000 for up to (3) different traffic review and proposal projects and \$1,000 for cleanup of street signs etc. in the neighborhood. After brief discussion the motion made by Wade passed with 11 yes, 0 No, 2 Abstain (Frank Clementi, Lisa Martinez).

### **Communication/Membership**

Mark Roberts gave an update on the Communications/Membership Committee's actual expenses from last year and budget request for 2013. Anne Culberson suggested increasing the Committee's 2013 budget to include additional costs for mailing/postage. After including this item, Marc made a motion to approve a budget for the Communications/Membership Committee of \$9,475. After brief discussion the motion made by Mark passed with 11 yes, 0 No, 2 Abstain (Frank Clementi, Lisa Martinez).

Mike Elliot gave an update on the Bellaire Drive development. (Hope Bawcom excused herself from the room during this discussion.) The neighborhood's position was well laid out and well received at a recent meeting with representatives from the City of Brookhaven including Mayor J. Max Davis and Council Member Bates Mattison. Next step is the public hearing next week. There will be 4 or 5 emails sent out before then to remind members to attend the meeting and write letters/emails. ~80 emails have been sent in to date and will be included in the attorney presentation. Cathy Boston is doing a paper mailing with help from Anne Culberson and Gay Colyer. Costs

for the mailing are to be reimbursed by HBNA. There was discussion of providing stickers for residents to wear at the hearing.

Frank Clementi gave an update on the need to decide on a strategy for selling sponsors where more sponsor interest exists than sponsorship opportunities. After some discussion it was moved that we auction sponsorships to the highest bidder rather than price and sell with right of first refusal. This policy is to be applied in general to sponsorships over \$500. After brief discussion the motion passed with 10 yes, 0 No, 3 Abstain (Frank Clementi, Lisa Martinez, Anne Culberson).

### **Old Business**

There was a brief discussion about the potential need for a sign policy. Further discussion was deferred to the next meeting.

### **New Business**

Lisa Martinez announced there is a Park Pride Conference on March 25<sup>th</sup> at the Atlanta Botanical Garden. Park Pride gives grants for various parks around the city including support of Little Nancy Creek Park. A motion was made to fund (1) pass to the conference so Tim Gartland could attend on behalf of HBNA. The motion passed unanimously on a voice vote.

Lisa Martinez and Mike Elliot announced the following meetings:

- Brookhaven Chamber of Commerce Inaugural Mixer is March 14<sup>th</sup> at 5:30pm at Villa Christina if anyone wanted to attend.
- Friends of Brookhaven Park, next Tuesday from 6pm -9pm.
- Cleanup at Brookhaven Park, April 5<sup>th</sup> from 1:30pm -5pm. Need volunteers to help supervisor ~75 student volunteers.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:40am.