

**Duke Park Board  
Meeting Minutes**

Tuesday, October 12, 2010, 7:00PM  
1424 Acadia Street, Durham, NC 27701

**Board members:**

*Present:* Dan Read (president), Danny Jones (vice president/secretary), Brian Green (treasurer).  
*Members-at-large:* Sara Chase (newsletter editor), Ian Kipp, Jon Strack, Bill Dandridge

*Quorum present:* Yes.

**Proceedings:**

-Meeting called to order at 7:00PM by chair, Dan Read.

**Consent Agenda:**

**1) Bathhouse Workshop:**

Angelo was not present to give an update on the Bathhouse Workshop. People interested in touring the Bathhouse should contact Angelo or Bill Anderson to arrange for a viewing. Dan Read noted that residents in Forest Hills are having similar issues with their park's clubhouse and may be interested in following the lead of DPNA.

**2) Fall newsletter:**

It was decided that the fall newsletter should be distributed the weekend before Thanksgiving. Ian Kipp volunteered to coordinate advertising, and it was agreed that raising advertising rates should be considered. Bill Dandridge will provide content about the 2<sup>nd</sup> round of the Neighborhood Energy Retrofit program. If possible, the newsletter will also report on the results of the Bathhouse Workshop.

**3) Christmas activities: luminarias and party**

Ed Hubbell will host the Christmas party on Friday, December 3 or Saturday, December 4. The Night of Lights will be held on Friday, December 10. The total cost of purchasing materials for luminarias should be \$800-\$900. Given the lack of rain, lighting luminarias might be disallowed. Ian volunteered to look into LEDs or other electronic alternatives.

**4) Avondale pocket park**

Bill Dandridge wrote an offer for DPPI to purchase the last remaining lot for \$25 from the Bergman family. Bill Anderson presented the offer and has not yet heard back from the Bergmans.

**5) Neighborhood Energy Retrofit Program**

Bill Dandridge reported that Duke Park qualified for the 2<sup>nd</sup> phase of the Neighborhood Energy Retrofit Program, which will assist residents with energy-saving improvements to their homes. Bill will head up this program and is seeking volunteers to help. The first meeting with the city will take place this Sunday.

**6) E-vote on support for Old North Durham Park initiative.**

In an e-vote, the Board voted to approve the following letter in support of renovation plans for Old North Durham Park (6 voted in favor, 3 abstained). Dan Read e-mailed the letter to Rhonda Parker.

Dear City Officials and Staff,

The Board of the Duke Park Neighborhood Association (DPNA) has voted to support the renovation of Old North Durham Park which is being proposed by the newly formed Friends of Old North Durham Park (FONDP) and authorized me to write this letter to you.

The prospects for improving the presently underutilized and rough around the edges park, one of the largest public green spaces in the Downtown area, into a great city park system are exciting. The benefits of an improved park, especially with the amenities proposed, would be better social, physical, economic and environmental health for its users. As you know, the neighborhood is in transition, with a handful of multi-story residential buildings in the planning phases. The Central Park District of downtown is poised for growth and will, in all likelihood, become one of the densest neighborhoods in the city. With these large scale projects moving towards development, the need for a multi-functional park has become all the clearer.

Recently, Old North Durham Park has been underutilized and only appears to get continuous active use from a small number of groups. The proposal of FONDP, for a multi-purpose field, hands-on and interactive features, innovative and educational stormwater program, and natural play environments, will increase park usage both by existing patrons and those who will come for the interesting features that it will have.

We support, and look forward to partnering in, the planned improvements to Old North Durham Park as set forth in the Conceptual Plan created by the FONDP. When completed, it will be another great local Durham Park which, like Central Park and Duke Park, will be used by the greater Durham community.

#### **7) State Fair transit outing**

John Strack is coordinating the neighborhood trip to the state fair, which will use public transit and will be subsidized by a grant from Clean Energy Durham. So far, nobody has expressed interest in taking advantage of free transit to the fair. John will consider scrapping this plan if not enough people are interested. Robin from Clean Energy Durham has made a flier to publicize the event, and John will post some around the neighborhood to get the word out.

#### **8) Treasurer's Report: \$2700.**

#### **Adjournment:**

- Meeting adjourned at 7:40PM.
- Minutes taken by secretary, Danny Jones.
- Next meeting (of the Neighborhood Association): November 9, 2010.