

Duke Park Neighborhood Association
Board Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, April 12, 2011, 7:00PM
1424 Acadia Street, Durham, NC 27701

Board members:

Present: Dan Read (President), Ian Kipp, Sara Chase, Ed Hubbell, Brian Green (Treasurer), Barry Ragin, Jon Strack, Danny Jones (VP/Secretary)

Quorum present: Yes.

Proceedings:

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

Consent Agenda:

1) Crime wave

We discussed the recent spate of breakins on Shawnee. Captain Sykes had said that crime stats are pretty much "normal."

Barry Ragin said to general agreement that if 1 in 10 houses gets broken in to every six months, we need to redefine "normal" and have more aggressive "broken windows" policing and inspections.

There will be a meeting with Steve Hall, community contact officer for DPD, on Tuesday, 4/26 at 7 p.m. at the Bent's, 405 E. Markham Ave, and Hall has been invited to the NA May 10 meeting as well.

2) Bathhouse

Dan Read said that we need to get an architect to give us some preliminary sketches of the bathhouse renovation, which will incorporate the ideas generated by the charette. Barry Ragin will talk to Andy Shull, whom several people remembered had agreed to do this. Would expect that he would be paid at some point.

3) Coffee with Council

A brief report on this meeting was emailed to the listserv. DPNA focused our comments on funding for the bathhouse and on the deteriorating conditions along Avondale.

4) Inter-Neighborhood Council report

Ian Kipp, the Duke Park INC representative, noted that the recent INC meeting was focused on the efforts of the Durham Rescue Mission to undertake a controversial construction project in a historic neighborhood. He also noted that neighborhood dues are \$25 per year.

Barry Ragin asked if INC has drafted a resolution concerning the Durham Rescue Mission issue, and Ian replied that this is planned but has not yet occurred.

Barry also noted that DRM has purchased some houses along Avondale and that he will be following those developments.

Brian Green reported that we have \$2560 in our account.

Barry moved to give \$50 to INC, and the motion passed by consensus.

Brian will take care of the fund transfer online.

5) Beaver Queen Kickoff Party – April 30 at Casbah

Barry noted that all contestants and judges will be at the party. DPNA does not need to take any action at this time, but Barry reminded us that volunteers are always welcome on the day of the pageant.

6) Old North Durham Park

Dan Read felt that, at this point, no further action was necessary regarding OND Park. Sara Chase asked if any of the board members had attended the three recent public meetings. Sara and Ian attended all three, and Dan went to one meeting.

Sara said that she had done further research on the issue and would be happy to share that information with the board since not all of us had attended the meetings.

Danny Jones asked if Sara had this information in writing so that she could e-mail it to the Board and anyone else who might be interested. Sara replied that she could put together a summary.

Dan Read said that, unless there is a motion to re-open the discussion of this issue, then we should move on.

Sara motioned to re-open the discussion. The motion was not seconded.

7) Preservation Durham home tour

Barry Ragin said that the tour would be taking place on May 7 and that volunteers are needed. He believed that all of the docents had been selected but would check to see if any more were needed.

On Saturday, April 30, PD will hold a party and the cost of admission is \$60 for members (the membership fee is \$35).

Barry emphasized that we have an opportunity to make some money and brand DPNA at this event – we could sell shirts, mugs, etc. He will find out if we have the go-ahead to sell merchandise at the event, and if so, he'll ask the board for authorization to spend \$200 on merchandise that we could sell at a mark-up.

He also noted that the home tour costs \$20, and the bathhouse will serve as the starting point at which visitors will pick up brochures. Normally, 400-500 tickets are sold for the event.

Ed Hubbell will give away BBQ sandwiches in his front yard during the tour in exchange for a "suggested donation."

8) Short reports

1. Jon Strack reported that the neighborhood bike day, sponsored by Clean Energy Durham, was a success. There was a good mix of children and adults from within and outside of the neighborhood, and Katherine O'Brien helped make the event a success.
2. The culvert on Markham Ave is complete, but the road closure signs have yet to be removed. Barry said that a call to public works might help.
3. Memorial Day/New Neighbor Party: Will take place at the Blankenships' home on Vista. We will have a membership table and DPNA can contribute money to help cover costs if needed.
4. Dog issues on E Knox: Barry will send the correspondence from DPNA to the landlords in question in the near future.

5. Dan Read noted that the police had recently arrested a large group of scrap metal buyers, which will hopefully help to reduce copper theft in the neighborhood.

9) Adjournment

-Meeting adjourned at 7:50PM.

-Minutes taken by Dan Read (first two agenda items) and Danny Jones (remainder of the agenda)