

## Meeting minutes DPNA 10.11.11

Attendance: Dan Read, Brian Green, Joanne Andrews, Ian Kipp, Esther Bent, Danny Jones, Bill Anderson, Bill Dandridge

Called to order at 7pm

Treasurers report - \$2300 – just paid annual liability insurance premium (\$445).

Esther: Do we really need this insurance policy?

Brian: We might not since a lot of our events are on city property

Dan: We will revisit this at next meeting; Brian will bring a copy of the policy

### 1. Survey and other innovations - Joanne

47 responses to survey. Purpose was to get feedback from neighbors about what they want to see and what types of activities they would want

Joanne would like to put results on the webpage. Danny can help.

Survey: most people are members but are confused about membership. Not sure if membership is up to date, etc.

Most respondents were homeowners

Most are in the 26-60 year old range

Big events are night of lights, new neighbor party, holiday party

Interested in participating in n'hood cleanups. Partnering with Keep Durham Beautiful. Cut back branches on Roxboro to make sidewalks passable, etc. Lots of sidewalks need clearing – branches and brush block them off

People also interested in food drive coupled with luminaria sales to help support people in need. Partner with food bank?

Kudzu Crankers – Jon Strack will get this up and running in the spring. Could take a trip to Life and Science Museum for exhibit on race/ethnicity.

Share Your Christmas – people apply through social services, then we support families for Christmas. We could sponsor needy families for Christmas or

Thanksgiving.

Clothing and book swaps. Would be easy to organize informally

Crop mobs (help w/ yard work) and work exchanges – do them in Northgate Park – informal.

Civic functions – people want to communicate with city govt via email.

Assembling and distributing new neighbor kits since people don't know about DPNA. Could include bike/trail map and new neighbor brochure.

Ian: Could get a map of downtown with local businesses from visitors center.

Danny: we also have brochures that can be handed out.

Sandy Gray-Terry will organize the night of lights this year.

Dan talked with her about it. We should aim for 10 hour candles, not 2 hour candles. A little more expensive but worth it.

Dan asked Joanne to post a summary to website and listserv.

At least 10 people said they'd be willing to work on the newsletter. Joanne will try to get more content and aim for newsletter release by week before

Thanksgiving.

Joanne and Esther just need content for the newsletter.

Bill Dandridge has content about n'hood energy retrofit.

Primary concerns are speeding/traffic calming, Duke Park cleanup, crime. Most people have been to the website and received a copy of the newsletter. Concrete suggestions on how DPNA can better serve neighborhood: recognize a citizen of the year at the holiday party, reminders about dues, nametags at all events, potlucks, block parties. All current members listed in newsletter. Board approves by consensus Joanne's efforts to implement some of these suggestions

2. Bath house update – Bill Anderson

Bill's side notes: Keep Durham Beautiful needs a new director. Neighborhood Hero Awards run by INC is coming back.

Bath house: We are getting new bathrooms in Duke Park! Spend \$50,000 to build modular bathrooms, not in the bath house though. Eugene Brown and Mike Woodward should be thanked for their efforts. City will suggest to us where to put the bathrooms, but they will be open to our suggestions too. Also going to fix ground cover of playgrounds.

No commitment from the city about renovation.

Esther: should we change the vision for the bathhouse? Instead of a community center, make it a big, covered, shelter space? Open up the bathhouse. It would be less expensive and would be used a lot more because anyone could access it. Might the city go for that? It'd be low cost for creating and renovating it.

3. Neighborhood watch/crime

Dan went to OND n'hood watch/crime mtg last week. Nothing new. Will put a report out on the listserv. To make n'hood watch work, we have to do it 1 block at a time. OND is going to have block captain reports at their meetings. As each block gets set up for the watch, it'll encourage other nearby blocks.

Bill A: Need to convince people that being a block captain isn't really too much work.

Dan: We'll try to set it up on this block and see how it goes. People are encourage to set it up on their blocks. Technically need 50% participation to get a sign.

4. Xmas activities/luminarias

Dec 2 (Fri) is the Xmas party

Date: Dec 11 is night of lights. Rain date: Dec 18

Ed will host the xmas party.

Joanne can get someone to help set up the food drive.

Bill A: Could we do both on the same night?

Esther: Too much work, since the party's on a Friday.

Dan agreed and Bill thought this sounded reasonable.

Esther has the sand for luminarias.

5. Newsletter

Esther will get in touch with Sara Chase over lunch maybe.

Even if we don't get the newsletter out, we can still put up fliers for luminarias, etc, so that people know about the events.

Joanne recommended having a sandwich board in the traffic circle to advertise events. Could make one out of plywood. Dan can make it.

Joanne: How about getting a new neighbor to write an article about where they're from and why they came to Duke Park.

Holiday Party

Night of Lights

Dan's presidents article

Bill A: bathhouse

Trees on Markham

Need some photos

Ian is handling advertising.

Jeff Sell said that he would like to have new PDFs (new copy for the ads) because a lot of it is old, grainy, low resolution.

Ian got copy for an ad from Fullsteam and they prefer to pay in beer – a keg or two for the holiday party and/or memorial day new neighbor party?

Bill A: could consider adding a page of advertising to the newsletter to generate some revenue.

Newsletter articles due by end of October

6. Membership database?

Brian reached out to OND to see how they track membership and also reached out to Cheryl to see if she has some software that helps her keep track.

The PayPal link only gives us an email address and their money.

PayPal does send a reminder every year. We might have to pay to get more info from PayPal. Brian will check into that. Danny will help.

Meeting adjourned at 7:50pm by Dan.