

HBNA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

17 March 2022

Board Members Present: Maribett Varner, Mark Roberts, Carole Simpson, Cathy Boston, Bob Connelly, Mark Bryson, Anne Culberson, Ruth Skogstad, Rebecca Harvill, Courtney Schickel, Wade McKenzie, Christy Campbell (by phone), Shelby Cobb, Hope Bawcom

Board Members Absent: Susy Stovin, Gene Hooff, Tom Mallory, Cathy Iannotti, Brian Ruediger

Opening and President's Report: Maribett Varner, HBNA President, called the meeting to order at 8:10 a.m. Hope Bawcom was welcomed as a new Board member.

Maribett introduced The Signature Streets Initiative led by North Buckhead Civic Association. The initiative is also supported by Councilman Howard Shook, Buckhead Community Improvement District and other civic organizations. North Buckhead Civic Association has a long-term plan focusing on specific locations in their neighborhood. NBCA is asking HBNA to contribute funds and to support the Peachtree Dunwoody Road phase of The "Signature Streets" Project. Wade McKenzie moved to approve the funds and Mark Roberts seconded the motion. The HBNA Board approved \$2750. for the Peachtree Dunwoody phase of the initiative. Shelby Cobb invited everyone to the Transportation Committee Meeting on Wednesday, March 30 at 4 p.m. with Robert Patterson to discuss the project.

The synopsis of the project is noted below in Maribett Varner's summary.

"Signature Streets" Initiative

Lead by The North Buckhead Civic Association

Goal: To improve major arteries in terms of safety, attractiveness, and neighborhood identification

Areas of improvement: West Wieuca, Old Ivy and Peachtree Dunwoody (bordering Historic Brookhaven)

Accomplishment to Date: Hiring consultants (Pond & Co.) to create a master plan for accomplishing above goals on West Wieuca Road and Old Ivy Road

Cost of initial plan \$45,000 largely funded by BCID (Buckhead Community Improvement District)

Next Steps: Secure funding for the plans (staged and prioritized). NBCA does not intend to fund any of the changes.

Howard Shook's office is in support of this initiative and that might help with funding from the COA. Other theoretical sources: TSPLOST Initiative (on ballot in May), BCID, Liveable Buckhead, Buckhead Coalition and others.

Ask of HBNA: NBCA wants to move forward in creating the master plan for Peachtree Dunwoody Road using Pond & Company. Because much of the groundwork has been laid, the cost from Pond is \$11,000. BCID has agreed to pay half of the cost. Of the remaining cost \$5500. NBCA would like us to split the cost- \$2750. from each neighborhood organization. That would give HBNA input to Pond & Company about what's important to Brookhaven; Better parking at Little Nancy Creek Park
Enhanced strategies for dealing with cut-through traffic
Speeding
Better usability of Peachtree Dunwoody Road for pedestrians
NBCA does not expect us to put up funding for improvements. NBCA wants to have the plan in place for West Wieuca Road, Old Ivy Road, and Peachtree Dunwoody Road.

Maribett, HBNA President, also discussed the traffic light proposal at Brookhaven and Peachtree Road facing the Kroger grocery store. The Transportation Committee Chairman and co-chairman issued a recent report on the proposed traffic light for the Kroger Shopping Center. Maribett discussed the Zoom call on February 23, with Brookhaven City Council Representative, Madeleine Simmons, and other interested parties including the owners and some HBNA Board members. Currently, the proposed traffic light is directly across from the Brookhaven Drive entrance to the neighborhood. Residents in the area object to the traffic issues that will arise if the proposed traffic light invites more cars into our neighborhood. The last time this proposal was submitted, it was declined by the City of Brookhaven because it was not compliant with the Brookhaven Overlay. DOT is the first level of approval for the current request. New Market Properties manages the shopping center and Preferred Apartment Communities owns the property. There is a possibility that new leases are being issued as redevelopment may occur in the future. The Historic Brookhaven Neighborhood is looking at alternative traffic patterns if the light is approved in the proposed location.

Secretary, Anne Culberson: The February Minutes were delivered by email to each Board member prior to the meeting for proofing. Wade McKenzie moved to approve the February Minutes and Mark Roberts seconded the motion. The February Minutes were approved.

Treasurer, Mark Bryson: Mark states, "The financial position of the HBNA is strong and the organization is operating in accordance with the approved 2022 budget."
The Board discussed the deficit currently due to security camera expenses. After the discussion, Wade McKenzie made a motion to raise HBNA dues by \$50. in 2023. The motion carried and passed. The dues will total \$200. yearly. Mark Bryson states the increase will not cover all camera expenses but places the association in a more sound financial position.
The Board approved a donation of \$300. for the Krewe Parade in Club Forest. The parade will be held on March 20. All neighbors are invited to participate.

Transportation, Shelby Cobb: Shelby gave the following report.

Canterbury Court: Informational email was sent out on March 10 to the entire neighborhood explaining projected traffic flow interruption on Peachtree Rd. and Vermont Rd. due to construction of a water retention vault on Canterbury property. Neighbors were advised to avoid the area. Signage will be placed at the north end of Vermont Park to turn back drivers; a flagger will be stationed at the south end of Vermont Park to further reroute traffic.

Brookhaven Drive speeding measures follow-up from Sgt. Bayshawn Fleming: March 3 reply to query from Committee co-chair Gay Colyer: “Unfortunately due to Covid-19 and staff shortages, only two officers are currently in the traffic unit servicing the entire city. Several days a week Brookhaven officers patrol the area for Historic Brookhaven. I have notified the officers to monitor the area when on patrol. I am hoping that the traffic unit will return fully staffed in a couple of weeks. At that time, we can spend more time in our problem areas.”

City of Atlanta Department of Transportation regarding requested speed monitors on five priority streets: We have had no update on the timeline for placement. We are approximately forty-eight days into the stated sixty-six plus day fulfillment time period.

City of Atlanta, Department of Watershed Management, Historic Brookhaven Storm Drain Project: March 15 update from Susan Rutherford from my query: “I wish I had some new information for you, but we still do not have an update from our November report. Our design contract ended at the end of the year. We had hoped to have our new contract in place by now to finalize the design, but I am not sure if it will be next month or later—it is holding up every project we have, unfortunately. I have noted your request for a scope, phasing, and timeline. We will let you know when we re-engage. In the meantime, feel free to give me a call with any questions. I suggest you reach out again in 4-6 weeks; hopefully we will have more information.”

All important concerns on the projects will be communicated to the affected neighbors.

Cameras, Tom Mallory: No Report.

Membership, Mark Roberts: Mark reports all 2022 HBNA directories and spring newsletters have been delivered. The Association has 742 members who are current with their 2022 dues.

Monuments, Bob Connelly: Bob discussed the lack of follow up or availability by the contractor to proceed to build new monuments.

Beautification, CME, Carole Simpson: Carole continues to work towards completion of Vermont Park project. Park Pride and neighbors have contributed to the project. Native plants will be used for Vermont Park.

Sponsorship, Ruth Skogstad: Ruth will follow up with sponsorship for the General Neighborhood Association meeting on April 12, at Capital City Country Club.

Filming, Gene Hooff: Filming on Narmore Drive is completed. The donation of \$4800. by the production company will be made to HBNA.

Events, Rebecca Harvill: Rebecca has scheduled the April 12 General Meeting and the April 14 Board Meeting at Capital City Club. The Board will meet at Bob Connelly's home in May.

Rebecca continues to work on planning a Board Social in late spring.

April General Meeting topics of interest were discussed. Suggestions include Mayor Andre Dickens as guest speaker, construction update at Capital City Country Club, Nancy Creek Park, Signature Streets project, Kroger traffic light, City of Brookhaven City Center project, HBNA Treasurer report, and City of Brookhaven Councilman Madeline Simmons.

Zoning, Dekalb, Hope Bawcom: Hope reported the City of Brookhaven is currently in the approval process with the Brookhaven City Council for the Brookhaven City Center project. On April 6 a public hearing and comment session will be held with the City of Brookhaven planning commission.

Zoning, Fulton, Cathy Boston: Cathy discussed street closure at Vermont Road and Peachtree Road for the water retention facility at Canterbury Court. Signage will be posted in the immediate area during the street closure.

Respectfully Submitted,

Anne Culberson

Treasurer

April 10, 2022