

Minutes -HBNA Board Meeting
Thursday, May 16, 2024
Capitol City Club

Attending: Mark Bryson, John Higley, Steve Wakely, Shelby Cobb, Carole Simpson, Christie Campbell, Maribett Varner, Anne Culberson, Kevin Dwyer, Gene Hooff, Bob Connelly, Mark Roberts, Jamie Lawson, Tom Mallory

Absent: Justine Regnier, Julia Lanese, Julie Train, Rebecca Harvill, Cathy Boston

President Mark Bryson called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

For the President's report, Mark Bryson brought up the new materials provided by neighbor Jim Letson regarding the hedges around the golf course. The materials referred to a special use permit requested by Capital City Club in 2007 around the remodeling of the golf course that included mention of the BCNA (now HBNA) Board. There was a general discussion about whether the Board had any "enforcement" role regarding the CCC and the neighborhood and it was generally agreed that our role is to be a conduit for communications between the neighborhood and CCC. It was generally felt that we had served this role in this matter already and no other action was needed at this time.

The Minutes from the March Board Meeting had been distributed previously. Bob Connelly moved to accept the Minutes and it was seconded by Shelby Cobb. The Minutes were unanimously approved.

Steve Wakely presented updated finance reports and noted that we exceeded our revenue goal for memberships which secures our income for 2024. Currently we are projecting to lose \$52,000 in 2024 but we have a capital reserve to cover any losses in 2024. In addition some of the items in the 2024 budget are for contingencies (e.g., the zoning committees have a budget of \$10,000 that has not been spent for several years because we've not had a contentious zoning issue that required hiring outside services.)

There was also a discussion for Treasurer Wakely to explore whether we could put reserve funds in an interest-bearing account. It may not be feasible because of the balances we're required to hold for the surveillance cameras but the Treasurer will report back.

Carole Simpson and Christie Campbell from CM&E brought to the table an estimate from our Landscape contractors, Callahan and Company, for several major projects:

1. Major clean-up of Mayson Ravine to remove invasive species, general clean up of down trees
2. Minor clean-up of Vermont Park for similar work

3. Installation of landscaping at new triangle at Vermont and Winall Down
4. Ongoing monthly expenses to maintain Mayson Ravine and Vermont Park (over the monthly maintenance we've already contracted for)

There was lengthy discussion about all of these projects especially in light of our tight budget constraints for 2024. We broke the Callahan proposal into components and dealt with them individually.

1. Major clean up of Mayson Ravine – Motion made by Christy Campbell and seconded by Mark Roberts. Approved for \$13,500
2. New installation at Vermont and Winall Down. A budget was approved for \$8,500 assuming that the contiguous neighbors will donate funds for a bench to go into the island. (The bench will be secured by CM&E and be the same as other benches in our neighborhood). If the neighbors don't wish to fund the bench, the path landscaping around the bench will be removed from the contract with Callahan.
3. It was decided to postpone until June any discussion of clean-up of Vermont Park as there is a meeting scheduled with contiguous neighbors who would like some input.
4. CM&E committee is going to review with Callahan the new "monthly" cost for maintenance of Mayson Ravine and Vermont Park with a goal of getting more specificity around the tasks to be included and to see if the estimate can be reduced. Further discussion will be at the June meeting.

Mark Roberts commented that the Communications Committee will begin working on the September newsletter in June.

The Transportation Committee provided the following report on their initiatives:

North Buckhead Storm Drain Project: An updated timeline email for project completion and a "final call" for reparations email were sent out the week of May 13 to all HBNA neighbors. Culvert placement and curbing are complete, paving has begun, and the rebirth of the Winall Down /Vermont triangle is underway. Co-chairs Gay Colyer and Shelby Cobb, along with Maintenance and Beautification chair Carole Simpson, met with Watershed team members Brian Casner, Stacy Cyrus, and Sammy Williams and two engineers from ATL DOT on 5/15/24 to discuss safety measure protocols that could be implemented near the triangle for pedestrian and vehicle safety. A timely study is underway by ATL DOT to decide appropriate action. Gay has checked in again with our contact in Howard Shook's office regarding a timeline for paving Winall Down from the triangle to Peachtree-Dunwoody Road, and Shelby has taken photos in that block showing the need for curbing where there is none currently.

Of note: Mayor Andre Dickens recently replaced Watershed Commissioner Mikita Browning, naming the former head of Public Works Al Wiggins to the Commissioner position. We are grateful to have had a very positive working relationship with Commissioner Browning during the twenty-two months of our storm drain project and we wish her much success in her future

endeavors. Shelby sent a letter of appreciation to Commissioner Browning and copied Howard Shook's office.

Ticket to Ride: Officer Hill of APD Zone 2 answered our request for assistance with posted signage violations. A number of tickets were written earlier this month for drivers' failure to stop at STOP signs at two designated locations. Expect follow-up.

Brookhaven Drive at Truist Bank: "Don't Block the Box" striping and overhead signage are on the to-do schedule at COB Public Works and DOT.

Mabry Road Safety Committee: No update at this time.

Tom Mallory presented a surveillance camera report that our Flock cameras had a 98% uptime since the last report.

John Higley gave a COB Zoning update. The zoning variance review for 3117 Mabry Road was postponed again. He also commented that the COB Masterplan is being revamped and is available for review on the COB website. He commented that there are no major issues in it that affect HBNA.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:31 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by Maribett Varner on 5/23/24