

Minutes -HBNA Board Meeting
Thursday, September 19, 2024
Capital City Club

Attending: Mark Bryson, John Higley, Steve Wakely, Shelby Cobb, Christie Campbell, Maribett Varner, Anne Culberson (by phone), Kevin Dwyer, Gene Hooff, Bob Connelly, Tom Mallory, Rebecca Harvill, Justine Regnier

Absent: Julia Lanese, Julie Train, Rebecca Harvill, Cathy Boston, Mark Roberts, Jamie Lawson

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

For the President's report, Mark Bryson brought up a meeting he'd had with a neighbor on West Brookhaven Drive who expressed concern about the hedges on the streets around the golf club. This neighbor had hoped that the Board of HBNA would join with him and other neighbors in seeking improvements. 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. A motion was made for President Bryson to send a letter to Mr. Bill Maner, the Chair of CCC's board informing him that neighbors are still discontented and suggested that CCC meet with those neighbors. The motion was unanimously approved.

The Minutes from the August 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.

Treasurer Steve Wakely presented updated finance reports and noted that as things are currently we are going to beat our budget projections by about \$15,000.

Treasurer Wakely also submitted the 2025 budget. The budget includes an assumption that there will be a significant increase from Flock for the surveillance cameras. (Tom Mallory, chair of the surveillance camera committee, commented during this discussion that we've been told by our Flock representative to expect an increase although an exact amount has not been presented.)

The proposed budget also includes an assumption that there will be membership fee increase which was discussed at length. A motion was made by Bob Connelly and seconded by Maribett Varner to approve the 2025 budget with an increase in dues to \$275 per household per year. It was approved unanimously.

The Nominating Committee consisting of Mark Bryson, Shelby Cobb, Bob Connelly, John Higley and Maribett Varner presented their preliminary slate for new Board members and Board officers for 2025. The new member slate is: Liz Means, Anne Short, Maya Dunbar and Jim Rowley. The President-Elect for 2025 will be Bob Connelly and the Treasurer for 2025 will be

Kevin Dwyer. A couple of proposed Board members still need confirmation and so it was agreed that the Board vote would occur by email. Mark Bryson said that he would reach out to the candidates to answer any questions and get a brief biographical outline for the slate that will go to the membership when the final vote occurs.

1. Committee for Maintenance and Enhancement presented the following update:

September 2024

Lots of time and energy on the CME team this month!

Parks

Mayson Ravine:

- Curbing along ECL started. Expected to take a total of 5 weeks. 2 weeks in now.
- CME met with COA contractors to discuss cleanup of N Mayson Ravine (area that runs between Club Drive south to Davidson). Hope this will happen prior to street party.
- Requested that Gay's corner be cleaned too. Should know if this is approved by mid-October.
- Leaf letter to park residents on 9/17

Vermont Park:

- Repair of headwall/pipe construction to end soon.
- Contacted COA Park Rep and was offered a truckload of plants for all of Vermont Park. If it is approved (sounds like it will be), the free truckload of materials will be delivered on Nov 7. We prefer that Callahan plant these materials for three reasons:

- 1- they know how to plant (soil, roots broken up, face and space the plants) and we will get better results.
- 2- it will be cost effective because they can do when planting Vermont Triangle and DD markers
- 3- Callahan has offered to receive the plant material and deliver to park for planting. This was a requirement from COA because they keep having plant material stolen.

CME had a zoom with Park Pride to get money for planting free material. Can likely get \$2500 in money but only \$500 can be paid to Callahan for planting. Can use the rest of the money for materials for Garden Club for Spring workday (much/soil/plant material so that will not come from HBNA 2025 budget).

2. The Film Committee Chair, Gene Hooff introduced Cody Gilkerson and Alec Fraser (representing Club Commons neighbors) who informed the Board about potential filming to take place in Club Commons around the first of the year. They answered questions from the Board about security, traffic, noise, parking, etc. Once Mr. Gilkerson has the final go-ahead from the Production Company, he will provide schedules, etc.

3. The Brookhaven Zoning Committee Chair, John Higley, reported that new owners of 3117 Mabry Road have demolished the house but has no building permit on file as of this time.
4. The Atlanta Zoning Committee reported that the 4081 Club Drive permit for a swimming pool has been deferred.
5. Shelby Cobb, Chair of the Transportation Committee presented the following report:

Winall Down Road Vehicle Volume Study: On August 30th, ATL DOT engineer Mark Tai requested a case study number through ATL 311 for the study of vehicle volume on Winall Down Rd. The purpose of this forthcoming study (case # CS2104340) is to justify the merit of adding a STOP sign at the corner of Winall Down and Vermont Rd, facing traffic coming east from Peachtree Dunwoody Rd. A STOP sign would be preceded by a yellow prepare-to-STOP sign. I will report results, once available. Study has not been performed as of today.

North Buckhead Storm Drain Project: I regret to report that communication between the Department of Watershed Management and me has been poor since the end of August. I am trying to complete property reparations for two neighbors' driveways on Vermont Rd. and seeking removal of remaining yellow tape tying up across-the-street wires on three streets. Emails and phone calls have gone unanswered, even by the PIO, Ms. Cato, who has been a stalwart communicator during the two-year project. I am determined to have Watershed finish the remaining reparations and tasks.

APD / COB Police Assistance Request: Request for traffic violations assistance will be made in the next two weeks. I have six specific areas targeted for surveillance.

6. Surveillance Camera Committee Chair Tom Mallory brought up the issue of the upcoming September newsletter which has a page-long article about the Brookhaven Security Association. There was discussion about whether such a prominent feature might be confusing to our membership. There was a comment that many residents don't understand the difference between the patrol initiative and the surveillance camera initiative. It was agreed to postpone the article to the Spring newsletter.
7. Rebecca Harvill, Chair of the Events Committee, reported that everything is ready to go for the Neighborhood Street Party. Three sponsors have contributed a total of \$1,500 towards the event. There will be a sign-up table for HBNA membership. Justine Regnier has been shadowing Rebecca for becoming Chair of the committee in 2025.

Rebecca also mentioned that we have a sponsorship donation of \$500 for the General Meeting in October and that we will ultimately spend significantly less than budgeted. The budget for the General Meeting was \$6,650 and with the sponsorship, we anticipate coming in at \$5,751.

The meeting will be October 17th and Brookhaven Mayor John Park and City Councilperson Madeline Simmons will attend. Additionally Denise Starling from Livable Buckhead will attend and present.

This brought up the discussion of the guidelines for sponsorship that can be transparent to all potential sponsors. Tom Mallory has a proposed document that he will share with Rebecca and she will draft guidelines for review at the November Board Meeting.

8. Bob Connelly gave an update from NPU-B which is still discussing secondary properties as part of the COA Zoning Re-write.
9. In the area of New Business, there was discussion about accepting advertising in the Neighborhood Directory. There was interest in developing this and Mark Bryson will reach out to Mark Roberts (Chair of Communications Committee) about developing a policy for the Board to review.

Mark Bryson adjourned the meeting at 9:40 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Maribett Varner, Secretary