



Date: Thursday, October 12, 2006

Time: 07:30 pm

Place: Westminster Presbyterian Church

Attendance: As reflected on the attached Sign In Sheets

Welcome

President, Sheila Segal, welcomed the LVPCA membership and invited guests to the fourth and final quarterly meeting of this year.

Secretary

Melinda Marbes gave the Secretary's report. Melinda advised that the draft minutes of the last quarterly meeting were made available to the membership by publication on the website and that hard copies were also made available before the meeting. Melinda opened the floor to suggested changes but no members suggested changes to the minutes. Thereafter, a motion was made to waive reading of the minutes and approve the minutes as drafted. The motion was seconded. There being no further discussion, the membership voted to approve the minutes as drafted.

Security Patrol

Detective Shane Stanfield, of the LaVista Park Patrol, gave a brief report on the status of crime and crime prevention efforts in La Vista Park.

Detective Stanfield advised the membership that during the past quarter several neighborhoods surrounding LaVista Park had experienced a rash of thefts and burglaries and LaVista Park residents also were victims in a burglary and a car break-in. The crimes were investigated by the DeKalb County Police and those investigations resulted in the arrest of several suspects who have been charged with the crimes that happened in nearby communities. While the authorities lack sufficient evidence to charge the suspects with the LaVista Park crimes, the Patrol officers believe the suspects are also responsible for the crimes that happened in our neighborhood.

Detective Stanfield shared a few tips on how to help prevent these types of crimes. Detective Stanfield fielded several questions from the floor related to security issues and concluded the Patrol report by reiterating the need for all residents to be active participants in the crime prevention programs in place at La Vista Park.

Treasurer

Mike Snider, the Treasurer, gave a report on the financial condition of the Association. Mike reported that year to date through September 30, 2006, the Association generated revenue totaling \$58,047.68, incurred and paid \$49,317.85 in expenses and had net income of \$8,729.83. Mike stated that the net income was expected because the Association had generated revenue from collection of association and patrol dues during the second and third quarters, but that the membership

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campaign had ended and he did not expect to continue generating income in the final quarter of the year. Mike announced that copies of the financial statements, which are prepared on a cash basis, are available for review at the meeting and can be inspected at any time upon request with reasonable notice. A copy of the current financial statements for the period January 1, 2006, through September 30, 2006, will be attached to these minutes and placed in the minute book of the Association.

Elections

Sheila Segal announced the following persons have volunteered to serve as Officers of the Association:

| Office | Nominee |
|----------------------------|-------------------|
| President | Melinda Marbes |
| Executive Vice President | Bonnie Jackson |
| Secretary | |
| Treasurer | |
| Registrar | Ray Louis |
| Vice President Section I | Greta Holland |
| Vice President Section II | Charles Hankinson |
| Vice President Section III | Don Hoyt |
| Vice President Section IV | Chitra Menon |

Sheila noted that currently we have no volunteers to serve as Secretary or Treasurer of the Association and that the organization cannot effectively function without those positions filled by qualified volunteers. Then, Shelia asked for nominations from the floor for Secretary and Treasurer and any other offices. After an impassioned plea from Melinda Marbes and other volunteers who have agreed to serve, Paul Milich agreed to serve as Treasurer and Olivia Harris volunteered to be Secretary. Then a motion was made to close the nominations for the election of the officers. The motion was seconded and passed by voice vote with no opposition. Shelia advised that polling would continue until 8:00 pm this evening and then the election results would be announced.

Redevelopment & Zoning

Gene Schmidt reported on several zoning/redevelopment and traffic issues, including: (1) the redevelopment of a portion of Executive Park into a 330 unit apartment complex, which is currently in the demolition phase; (2) the denial of a request for variance of the set backs at 1385 and 1395 Sheridan Road; (3) the proposed redevelopment of several parcels at the corner of Briarcliff and North Druid Hills Road, which currently house the Lutheran Church, a gas station, and a quick service restaurant; and (4) the potential redevelopment of nearly 100 acres with frontage on both Briarcliff Road and North Druid Hills Road, including land where the Park Apartments and several DeKalb County schools are built.

Gene explained that the potential redevelopment of the 100-acre site is in the early stages and has many legal, political, and financial hurdles to clear. Gene reported that it has been difficult to get information on the project and that part of the problems is that DeKalb Board of Education representatives do not appear to have experience with sales transactions of the type proposed and the Board of Education has not finished an inventory and assessment of facilities that will be critical to this decision. Jeff Rader, a candidate for the District 2 seat on the DeKalb County Board of Commissioners, spoke up and advised that LaVista Park (and other neighborhoods) should reach out to their governmental representatives and attempt to influence the decisions that will be made on this proposed

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project. Jeff Rader highlighted the possible impact on infrastructure (water, sewer, and roads) that likely will accompany a redevelopment project of this size. Gene suggested that residents could attend one of the "meet & greet" meetings the Board of Education has scheduled, which have been announced publicly.

Steve Patrick and Shannon Johnson, residents of Sheridan Road, addressed the group about the variance requests made by the builder for 1385 and 1395 Sheridan Road. Steve advised that the builder has filed a lawsuit challenging the constitutionality of the set back ordinance that the homes violate. The court will hear the matter on October 27, 2006. Steve and Shannon both made pleas for support, asking residents to sign the petitions at the back of the room and attend the hearing.

Also, Steve Patrick asked residents to contribute to the legal fund that has been established to help LVPCA secure legal advice on various redevelopment and zoning issues that affect the neighborhood. Steve stated that LVPCA may need to engage counsel to represent the neighborhood's interest in connection with the Sheridan Road set back variance dispute.

Bonnie Jackson, Chair of the LaVista Road Redevelopment Task Force reported on the work that group has done so far. Bonnie advised that the Task Force has met and identified several objectives for an redevelopment that will be supported by LVPCA, including: (1) traffic calming and pedestrian safety; (2) single family housing; and (3) pleasing architect and harmonious design. The Task Force intends to further refine this list of goals with input from targeted residents, which will be gathered through a survey. In the meantime, Bonnie encouraged folks to contact her with their questions and concerns by emailing taskforce@lavistapark.org.

Finally, Gene encouraged all residents to report any redevelopment activities to him and stated that if any members have questions about zoning or transportation matters, they should read his postings on the LVPCA message board, Leaf Talk or contact him directly.

Traffic

Henry Batten reported on a recent public meeting the Department of Transportation hosted to address transportation plans. The projects that affect our neighborhood include: (1) traffic and intersection redesign at LaVista Road/Cheshire Bridge; (2) traffic and intersection redesign at LaVista Road/Briarcliff Road; and (3) the proposed building of a redesigned GA 400 and I-85 interchange. Henry reported that these projects have been accelerated and likely will have a significant impact on LaVista Park. Henry stated that designs are not final so public input is still important and he urged residents to watch for announcements of future meetings.

Henry also reported on an updated Clifton Corridor Transportation Study meeting to be held at the end of October. The meeting will address what kind of transportation alternatives should be considered to link the area to Lindbergh MARTA station and Atlantic Station. Again, Henry urged residents to attend.

Email/Website

Henry Batten, the Webmaster, reported on recent changes to our website hosting and email services. Henry highlighted the new email system we are using, which should cut down on bounce backs we get from broadcast emails. Henry advised that each resident must confirm or verify their email address to remain active on the email address list for LVPCA. Henry offered to help any residents to require assistance getting set up on the new system.

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Fall Festival

Melinda Marbes, Fall Festival Committee Chair, reported on the results of this year's event. Melinda summed up by saying the Festival was about fun, food, and financial success. Melinda advised that although LVPCA budgeted to spend \$1,500 for this event, the Association will have to pay less than \$500 and perhaps as little as \$250 to host this year's Festival. Melinda explained that is because of all the hard work the volunteers on the Committee did – especially the very successful solicitation program. Melinda thanked the event sponsors and all the residents who pitched in this year. Melinda then read a certificate to be awarded to each Committee member and asked those present to come to the podium to receive their awards.

Election Results

Melinda Marbes, Secretary, reported on the results of tonight's election for new officers. Melinda thanked Charles Hankinson for his fine assistance with the tabulation of the ballots. Based upon the ballots cast at the meeting, the persons nominated were elected by the unanimous vote of the membership present. Melinda congratulated the new Officers and advised that she looks forward to working with the new Board of Directors to serve the entire LVPCA membership.

Park Improvements

Shad Funkhouser reported that DeKalb County Board of Commissioners recently voted to allocate additional funds to pay for the park improvements. The total budget for this project is now \$400,000, which should pay for the entire design to revitalize the park as reflected on the drawings shared with the Association. Shad did not have information regarding when the construction would get underway, but he promised to stay involved with this project.

Other New Business

Sheila Segal called for additional new business.

Olivia Harris reminded residents of the Candidates Fair being sponsored by LVPCA and other surrounding communities. The Candidates Fair will be held at the Greek Orthodox Cathedral on Clairmont Road on October 30, 2006, from 7:00 until 9:00 pm. Gene Schmidt advised the neighborhood regarding the current status of the DeKalb Comprehensive Plan and noted no changes are scheduled that will directly affect LaVista Park.

Shad Funkhouser came to the podium and thanked Sheila Segal for the time and energy she contributed to LVPCA as the President for the last two years. Shad said that Sheila was a passionate leader who always had the neighborhood's best interest in mind. Shad presented Sheila with a lovely certificate of appreciation. Sheila graciously accepted the award and spoke from her heart when she told the membership how much she enjoyed serving as President. Sheila promised to remain involved and to stay in touch with the friends she met through LVPCA.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:07 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Melinda A. Marbes
Secretary