

Notes from LRSCA meeting on Sept 30, 2014

Meeting had good turnout. (87 was the informal count)

Meeting called to order at 7:03 PM by Susan McWethy

Dawn Forman put out a motion for by-laws to be accepted as written

Motion made and seconded to reconsider vote to accept the by-laws at a later meeting and to enter in the minutes.

Second vote was made to accept the by-laws as written and not reconsider the vote

Susan McWethy and Dawn Forman introduced themselves and had the other members of the planning committee to stand. Dawn mentioned some other members of the planning committee not present because they are attending the DeKalb Blueprint meeting. We will get info on that

Ann Finley is going to be coordinator of Neighborhood Watch

Boundaries of the neighborhood -

Major roads: Pangborn, L'ville Hwy, N. Druid Hills Rd

Railroad track

Dawn reviewed survey results

- Mr. Brian McKinley from Laurel Ridge spoke to group
 - Neighborhood resource coordinator
 - Neighborhood school

- New principal, concentrating on instruction
- Test scores have improved dramatically this year
 - On par or better than other schools nearby
 - Need to get the word out that Laurel Ridge is a good school
- Kroger Plus card - can donate money to Laurel Ridge
- New computers, classrooms have smart boards
- Other special funding
- STEM program - trying to establish
- Left flyers for folks to take
- Little Free library gardens
 - Home Depot will sponsor funding
 - Put in benches, paths, will be a library for each grade level
 - Bring In the community
- Check the web site, sign up to volunteer
- Pride in Community
- 4 areas for improvement
 - Beautification of entrance and exits
 - Better shopping and dining
 - Speeding traffic
 - Crime
- 4 areas for outreach
 - Laurel Ridge elementary
 - Druid Hills Middle School

- 678-874-7602
 - Phone number. Principal asks that we call when we students walking around during the day
 - Call and let know what time football fields are being used by outside groups without permission so they can have someone present
 - Help keep an eye on the school
- North DeKalb Mall
 - Plans - in talks with Costco, but don't hold your breath
 - Either Mall will be torn down completely or have open air
 - Movie theater will have its own entrance/exit
 - Not sure about Macy's, depends on Costco
 - Macy's owns the building, want to stay, but if Costco wants, will possibly buy them out
 - Possibly mixed use
 - Once they have plans, he will contact us and come talk to us about the plans
 - Will be more like Emory Point
 - Won't touch the flood plain, so community garden should not be touched
 - Good case scenario is 2 years
 - We will put their info on the web site
 - They do not own the property fronting N. Druid Hills, so won't be able to make better walking entrance to Mall
- Old Cub Foods shopping center
 - Actually 2 shopping Centers in one
 - The back part, that looks burned out
 - Bought by Good Will.

- The other part owned by someone else
- Trying to get in touch with them, but so far has not. Will let us know once she learns anything
- Keep DeKalb Beautiful
 - Has been contacted
 - Asked to adopt L'ville Hwy from CVS to N.Druid, to Willivee
 - We are waiting to hear from them
 - Call for Master and other gardeners in the community to help design entrances look beautiful and low maintenance
 - We will have to go several times a year to clean - once a quarter
- Neighborhood Watch
 - Dawn took over for Jan Hewitt for Pine Glen, her mail list has expanded over time
 - Ann Finley will be organizing, will get block captains for every street
 - Will need block captains to volunteer, it is not a lot of work
- Sense of Community
 - Social Gatherings
 - Beautification-major streets and entrances
 - Organize neighborhood watch
 - Civic education
 - Helping those in the community in need
 - Support schools and firehouse
- Demographics in our community
 - Most people have lived here more than 7 years
 - Organizing committee spans the demographics

- Age demographics
- Committees Needed
 - Signup sheets on the table for the various committees
- Cityhood informational meeting on Oct 14 at 7 PM at Univeristy Heights Methodist Church
 - Very important
 - We need to decide what we want and how we can fight for it
 - The Oct 14 meeting is to get information to the people in the association
 - There is a November 15 deadline to draw maps
 - If we don't get them, then Amy Carter from Valdosta will pick 5 people to draw up the maps
 - Whatever the community decides, our organization will fight for us
 - City of Briarcliff will be present. Lakeside has also been invited.
- Room is also reserved for Oct 28 in case it is needed
- How many homes are represented - says 1000 homes, but doesn't include Country Squire and it does include apartments
 - We will send post cards to the people in the neighborhood that didn't attend to meeting
 - Did not include the part of Country Squire on the other side of Pangborn because we didn't want to cross major roads for our association
 - Need to have common interests, schools
- Dawn urges to go read Brookhaven web site
- ??? Urges us to go to DeKalb County Govt site
- Discussion about Blueprint meeting Katy Wills is attending
 - How to make government more transparent, more effective, less corrupt
 - As soon as Katy sends notes, Dawn will distribute

- Communication
 - Cards with info on the table
 - Join the Yahoo group, emails will come from there, including the Neighborhood Watch
 - If you log in, you will need to use your own name
 - Will post to Yahoo and to Facebook page
- Upcoming Community Events
 - Oct 6 at 7 PM at Rehoboth Baptist Church, One DeKalb meeting
 - Oct 14 at 7 PM at University Heights United Methodist, Cityhood Informational Meeting
 - Oct 31 from 6-8PM at North DeKalb Mall, Trick or Treating
- Claudine talks about the committee signups
 - 58 receipts for memberships written
 - Social Committee
 - Planning and Zoning
 - Neighborhood Watch block captains
 - Schools
 - Question and answer time (Claudine)
 - Question about city of South DeKalb
 - We are trying to get someone to talk to us, but so far have not been successful
 - So far they haven't even gotten their money together for their study
 - Difference between beautification and planning committees
 - Beautification cleanup and landscaping
 - Planning is to deal with cityhood, mall, etc.

- Social committee plans events
 - How much longer will the meeting last?
- Take a 15 minute break at 7:55 to sign up for committees, pay dues, eat snacks
- After the break, officers introduced themselves
- Motion made, seconded to vote for the slate of officers
 - President
 - Dawn Forman
 - Vice President
 - Susan McWethy
 - Treasurer
 - Claudine Linzer
 - Secretary
 - Susan Hellinger
 - 5 board members
 - Tom McRae
 - Betty Molloy
 - Sam Freiji
 - Katy Wills
 - Jeff Johnston
- Vote for slate of officers carried
- Motion made, seconded and carried by board to make University Heights Methodist an honorary member

- Meeting adjourned at 8:18