

Minutes
Original City Association Annual Meeting
October 5, 2009 Jemison/Van De Graaf Mansion

President Robert Reynolds called the meeting to order and welcomed members and guests. The minutes of the September meeting were approved.

Brendan Moore was introduced as a member and also a guest in his role as the Planner , responsible for issues in the Historic Districts in our city. Brendan stated that he is working to streamlining and clarifying the application for a Certificates of Appropriateness to make the process more user friendly for residents seeking to have work done on properties in the Historic Districts. He was asked questions about occupancy issues and enforcement of this ordinance. This is a difficult ongoing issue that entails documentation by residents. An enforcement officer has been designated to work on this issue. Properties that are grandfathered for high density lose this status if a property becomes owner occupied. He encouraged residents to call 311 to notify the city of violations of ordinances in our city such as front yard parking, garbage carts, uncut grass and unapproved work. Each complaint is given a case number. One can ask for the case number and track its status. The 311 operators are open on game day for a four-hour period before kickoff. Residents do not have to identify themselves, which removes the resident from the situation when calling 311. He stated that he would like to build relationships with the OCA, The Preservation Society and the University of Alabama.

Presidents Report

Robert stated that OCA has more members than ever. He reminded members that our numbers give us political clout, which is helpful in working with our city elected officials on quality of life issues for our Historic Districts. Our organization is proud of the progress we have made on density issues in the Historic Districts. We are seeing fewer landlord/resident issues and new more attractive development with higher density in the adjacent campus area. He pointed out that some properties, which have been rental in the Historic Districts, may now be more attractive to families with the protection that Historic designation brings to the area. With Guild's Wood receiving Historic District designation, the campus area neighborhoods are now all in Historic District status. New downtown development may also bring interest to our area. A letter of intent has been signed for a restaurant in the city's new parking deck with the park opening there in April. The amphitheater is well underway and plans are being reviewed for the new location for the farmers market. Robert thanked Bryan Chandler for his service on the school board. He came forward at a difficult time and was an effective in bridging conversation between factions on this board.

Nominations Committee Report

Hannah Brown gave the nominating committees recommendation:

LaDonnah Roberts – President
Kelly Fitts – Vice President
Linda Albritton – Secretary
Edward Guy – Treasure

Robert asked if there were other nominations from the floor. A motion was made and seconded to accept the slate of officers. The officers were elected by acclamation.

New Business

LaDonnah Roberts stated that she wants to build on the goodwill of our organization set by Robert. She stated that she will continue to work with our city officials and University officials to build positive relationships.

Members were reminded about upcoming events, the October 25th Fall Picnic on Monnish Dr. and the December 20th Walk About on Alaca.

Members were also reminded to mail dues, using the tear off form on the newsletter.