

Minutes
OCA Board Meeting
February 1, 2010
Home of Linda Albritton

Present: LaDonnah Robers (Pres.), Kelly Fitts, (VP, Linda Albritton (Sec.), Edward Guy (Treas.), Donald Brown, (Dearing), Linda Ford (7th St.), Amy Halladay (Oakwood Ct.), Ted Miller (Druid City), Jonathan McLelland (Audubon), Robin Anne Nelson, (University Circle)

The January minutes were approved

Old Business:

City Council

Signage for historic districts, the amphitheater and street scapping projects are behind schedule because of the unusual amount of rainfall this fall and winter.

School Board Report

Kelly Horwitz reported that there are many things for the newly elected board to work on. One priority will be the superintendent's performance review. Currently there is no policy about how and when the superintendent will be evaluated. The last full evaluation was conducted in 2006. Another priority will be to adopt a set of bylaws for the board. Currently there are none. There will be a public meeting on February 18 at Central High School to discuss the new facility for the Tuscaloosa Center for Technology. Replacement of this facility has been on the 5 year Strategic Plan for the city school system. Funding could come from some stimulus money and funds that are dedicated for buildings.

Tuscaloosa Historic Preservation Commission

Jonathan McLelland reported that he has resigned from the Tuscaloosa Historic Preservation Commission. The legal department has asked the attorney for the state ethics commission to rule on how restrictive "conflict of interest" should be regarding those who serve on appointed board fro municipalities. Since our legal department is anticipating a strict interpretation and has conveyed this to commission members, Jonathan thought it best to resign rather than have to restrict his business opportunities within the historic districts. There has been some frustration by commission members with the city's legal department's changing interpretation of "conflict of interest" policy.

Standing Committees

Social

We will set a date for the spring picnic at the March board meeting.

Long Range Planning

There is a need to update the long range planning section of the OCA website.

ZBA

The ZBA voted unanimously to deny a petition by a resident on 13th St. who wanted more than 2 unrelated residents to live in a house.

Planning Commission

There continues to be a short agenda for the Planning Commission each month which is a reflection of the economy.

Board Meeting Attendance

It was noted that some neighborhoods do not send representatives to the monthly OCA board meetings. Various ideas were discussed to increase attendance.

New Business:

Website Update

Minutes have been posted. The Long Range Planning Section needs to be updated.

UA Housing and Residential Communities

Julie Elmore will continue to send mailings to OCA so that we can be abreast of the UA's policies concerning off campus housing for students.

Druid City Residents Petition

Ted Miller conveyed concern from residents living on the west side of Queen City Ave. about traffic from restaurants serving alcohol. There is late night foot traffic and car traffic traveling through residential neighborhoods. since the Focus building in that area will be sold at some point, Ted suggested that a petition should be submitted to the City Council requesting that no more liquor licenses be permitted in that location. Ted was encouraged to contact Lee Garrison and Bobby Howard and request a meeting with other city officials to discuss this matter. OFCA did not take a position on the petition drive.

Finance Report

Edward reported that we have received a \$200 donation. There was much discussion about how to get people to pay dues. Since we have changed to a one time January collection, there are members who have not transition from the "paying at the picnic" scenario. It was decided that we will place notices delivered by "foot soldiers" in neighborhoods when the weather moderates. Edward provided us with a detailed spreadsheet.