

Minutes
OCA Board Minutes
May 5th 2008
Home of Robert Reynolds

Present: Robert Reynolds (Pres.), LaDonnah Roberts (VP), Linda Albritton (Sec.), John Sheffield (Treas.), Jeannie Guthrie (Soc. Chair), Don Brown (Dearing), Rocky Cicatiello (Sherwood Dr.), Jimmy Cochrane (Audubon), Linda Ford (7th St.), Edward Guy (Pinehurst), Amy Halladay (Oakwood Ct.), Ted Major (Guild's Wood), Ted Miller (Druid City), Robin Nelson (University Circle), Mike Dobson, Lauren Lambuth, Britney Mitchell (SGA), Councilman Lee Garrison

Old Business:

Historical Preservation Commission: Linda Albritton reported that 2 houses will be moved from 9th St. to 17th Ave, and 9th St.. Several lots have been reconfigured for a condominium development composed of 4 houses with shared parking. The move of the houses will take place at the end of May.

Standing Committees:

Social:

Plans are underway for the spring picnic on Monnish Dr. on May 18 at 4 PM. There will be art activities for the children.

Long Range Planning:

LaDonnah Roberts shared a copy of the Newsletter that will be sent to all residents in the downtown historic districts. LaDonnah also presented a proposal for a service for e-mailing alerts. We can contract a service for \$17.99 a month for a formatted alert for important messages to our members. There was also discussion about how to best manage the OCA website. The current host is doubling the fee. Linda Albritton will look into alternatives.

Planning Commission:

The Planning Commission has designated the property between Audubon and College Park Historic Districts as a buffer zone. This property is located on the southeast corner of University Blvd. and Queen City Ave. The Planning Commission also requested that a developer of a condo project on Bryant Dr. meet with neighbors in the Myrtlewood Historic District as this historic district is across the street from this development. Both residents and the developer reported this to be a positive process.

City Council Report:

Lee Garrison reported that the Bryant Dr. project is on schedule. Front yard parking ban in R1 and R2 will come before the City Council in late May. This would extend the front yard- parking ban throughout the city. OCA will support this effort.

Alleys behind 12th and 13th St. have been mapped and will soon be repaved in an effort to encourage their use. This should be an incentive for cars to be in the back of houses rather than on yards in the front.

The closing of Dearing to traffic on Queen City is being considered in an effort to force traffic from 15th St. to use 21st Ave. as a north/south corridor rather than Queen City Ave.

SGA Report

SGA is working on Crimson Watch, a safety program for off campus students. This is similar to our city's Neighborhood Watch program. SGA will also work on a way for students to donate usable items to local charities when they leave campus in August. OCA will make a monetary contribution (\$250) as we did two years ago.

ZBA Issue

John Sheffield challenged the density ordinance in Circuit Court. The case originally came before the Zoning Board of Adjustment. At that time, this board did not vote to require the landlord to verify the number of renters in a dwelling in the Druid City Historic District. The court has ruled that the landlord was in violation of the density ordinance. The board thanked John and Alice Sheffield for legally making this challenge. OCA voted to pay \$500 of the legal costs because of the significance of this precedent setting case.

New Business

Riverfront Development

The developer and the city officials have met to discuss issues on this project. Currently, the developer will be required to keep the river walk path on the river side of the property, be responsible for the cost of a retaining wall and not use the PARA parking area. If these requirements are not met in the developer's proposal, he will have to begin the approval process again.

Nominating Committee:

Jon McClelland and Kelly Fitts were appointed to the nominating committee.

The June 2nd meeting will be at Linda Ford's home, 1527 7th St.

