

College Park Neighborhood Association, Inc.

Minutes-April 7, 2008

College Park Community Center
2393 Elizabeth Avenue, Orlando, FL 32804

Call to order 7:00PM - David Rose, President

In attendance:

President-David Rose, Vice-President-Bob Carr Jr.; Treasurer - Monarcha Marcet; Secretary - Miles Hardy; Directors - Alana Brenner, Cleave Frink, Michael Heavener, Bertie Hunt, Adrian La Sala, Michael Norato, Jim Pruett, Jodi Rubin, Susie Sherman, Bruce Thomas and 17 Members/Visitors.

Commissioner's Corner:

Orange County Commissioner for District 2, Mr. Fred Brummer, addressed the community's concerns for the ongoing crime in Northwest College Park. He urged the residents of the Rio Grand/Silver Star area to form Neighborhood Watch groups and to call '911' to report any crimes or suspicious behavior.

Captain Wilson of the Orange County Sheriff's Office accompanied Commissioner Brummer to the meeting and reported that he is working closely with his counter part, Captain Smith of the Orlando Police Department. The two police captains communicate daily about the Crestwood area and coordinate responses to any reported trouble. The fact that the residential area sits on the boundary of City and County introduces some complexities regarding jurisdiction.

David Rose will again call the owner of the properties in the heart of the troubled area and request her assistance in solving the problem.

Guest Speaker:

Janice Hanley announced the upcoming 'Relay for Life' event. This is the American Cancer Society signature event and eleven Edgewater High School teams have already raised \$24,000 to help fight cancer. The slogan of the event is "Cancer never sleeps why should we?" Sponsored teams will walk around the track at St. Charles in downtown Orlando all night in a 'festive' environment. The event begin at 6pm on April 11 and finish at noon on April 12. For additional information call the local American Cancer Society chapter at 407-843-8680.

Minutes:

Minutes of the March 3, 2008 meeting were approved without change.

Treasurer's Report:

Income for March 2008 was \$8,725.80 with expenses of \$7,119.41. The Association's account balance as of March 31 is \$27,230.09.

Net profit from the Sunday-in-the-Park event was about \$7,300 which exceeds the projected budgeted amount.

The Association's account is with the College Park branch of Washington Mutual. The account is not interest bearing which sparked a discussion to consider a more productive account arrangement

Motion:

A motion was made by Michael Heavener that a study be conducted to explore alternatives to our current checking account. The motion was approved. Treasurer Monarcha Marcet will head the study committee. Bruce Thomas and Susie Sherman volunteered to help.

President's Report:

David displayed a copy of the Florida Hospital's DRI for their expansion into the area bordered (essentially) by Orange Ave, Princeton, and I-4. The DRI was nearly 4 inches thick and details the Hospital's plans for a low/mid rise complex of offices, clinics and employee housing. Everyone is welcome to browse the document. Contact David for the loan.

David will contact the Downtown College Park Partnership about the possibility of 'sharing' the expense of a joint liability insurance policy between the two organizations.

The Rotary club of College Park will present it's annual Taste of College Park on April 24. Tickets are available from a variety of College Park merchants.

Sentinels of Freedom will be having a "Inaugural Charity Gala" on June 21, 2008. It will be a "Saturday Night Fever" 70's motif and dress. Dinner along with silent and live auctions and included. Cost will be \$100/seat. See David Rose for more information.

Old Business:

Website:

Adrian La Sala presented his report on website alternatives. The main areas of concern for a new website are:

- Membership management
- Newsletter distribution
- Website maintenance.

An acceptable package must also provide the capabilities to 'blast' email messages of timely issues to all members.

After reviewing several possibilities, Wild Apricot offers the best performance/price alternative.

Apricot offers a rich set of membership management tools including a data base of current membership, generation of renewal notices, online renewals via Pay-Pal and credit card and full calendar year (365 day) membership periods.

It also supports 'news blogs' and email blasts which could be used to distribute the monthly newsletter and notices of special interest or events.

Adrian has agreed to administer the website but assured Board Members that it was an easy product to maintain.

Motion:

The website committee's recommendation was to purchase the Apricot product. The Motion was approved by vote of the Board.

Edgewater High School Remodel:

Bob Carr reported that the law suit by the few remaining residents of the mobile home park continues to linger and even though the land has not yet been purchased, the School Board has instructed the design team to go forward with plans as if the land had been obtained. A Castaldi review has identified several existing buildings (Science and Business) which must be preserved and incorporated into the new design. The location of these buildings could become the nucleus of a future Ninth-grade academy.

Edgewater Drive Vision Taskforce:

David Rose has attended the last several Taskforce meetings and shared his observations with Board Members. The City Planner continues to educate Taskforce members about urban planning concepts, especially street scaping, pedestrian access and traffic control. In turn, the Taskforce members are educating the City Planner about College Park's needs and desires on the same issues. Ultimately, the City will write a 'white paper' on the findings and recommendations of the Taskforce which will be submitted to the Municipal Planning Bureau and the City Council.

New Business & Committee Reports:

Scottish Games:

Everyone is invited to attend the annual Scottish Games to be held on the first weekend of January at Winter Springs High School from 8am - 5pm

Gateway Signs:

Eric Apen of Apenberry Nursery on Edgewater Drive suggested that the Association may wish to be more involved with the supervision and design of the planters. Having a maintenance contract for landscaping is good, but some level of oversight is probably needed. New member Jennifer Eid volunteered to chair the Gateway Sign committee. Eric will be happy to help Jennifer and he will consider accepting the committee leadership next year when he has more time in his schedule.

Graffiti:

Monarcha Marcet expressed concern over graffiti which has begun appearing in College Park. She encouraged anyone who sees graffiti to call the 'Keep Orlando Beautiful' hot line (407-246-2752) and report the offense.

It was requested that a progress report of the Dubsdread Golf Course be presented by Commissioner Stuart next month. Miles made a note to include the topic on next month's agenda.

Adjournment: 8:49PM - David Rose, President

Next meeting:

Monday, May 5, 2008 at 7:00PM at the College Park Community Center

Signed:

President - David Rose

Secretary - Miles Hardy