

College Park Neighborhood Association, Inc.

Minutes-May 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 - Jorge Borrelli, Alana Brenner, Cleave Frink, Michael Heavener, Bertie Hunt, Tom Jaeger, Adrian La Sala, Michael Norato, Jim Pruett, Jodi Rubin, Eben Self, Susie Sherman and 33 Members/Visitors.

Bob Carr introduced the Edgewater High School Rowing Team who announced that they had just won the state championship. The team is now preparing to go to the national competition in Tennessee.

Motion: A motion was proposed by Bertie Hunt to award the Rowing Team a grant of \$150 to be used toward the trip. The motion was approved.

Commissioner's Corner:

District 3 City Commissioner Robert Stuart announced the Inaugural District 3 Picnic to be held on Saturday May 10th at 530 E. Princeton Street in the Lock Haven area from 10:30am-2:00pm. A new Cultural Park and sculpture garden will be dedicated.

No definite date is scheduled for the reopening of Dubsdread golf course, but the Commissioner hopes it will occur in the early to mid July (a date of July 11 has since been mentioned on the City's website for the opening). Although the front part of the course looks fantastic, the back part of the course still needs to 'grow-in'. Fees and memberships will likely be raised modestly, but an annual membership is still being offered at the old rate until the course is reopened. The commissioner stressed that this is the first rate increase in many years.

The commissioner spoke about the situation in the 1500 block of Crestwood. He researched the crime report data base for the past 4 years but could not find a recorded incident of an arrest being made at the address in question. Without a documented arrest or substantiated history of crime the city's nuisance abatement laws can not be applied. But the Commissioner announced that he and the Orlando Police Department were reviewing the situation with some new perspectives and hoped that new policies may be forthcoming to help protect the Crestwood area.

Orange County District 5 Commissioner, Bill Segal, introduced himself and his two staff members, then gave a brief summary of the major events unfolding in Orange County including the Burnam Institute, VA hospital, property tax reform impacts, commuter rail, and Central Florida water management issues. Commissioner Segal believes that fresh water availability will likely be the single factor with the most impact on growth in Central Florida over the next 15-20 years. The best water management techniques will be conservation along with inland and coastal desalination. Lawns will likely undergo a transformation over the next two decades. St. Augustine grass will slowly be replaced with native and more drought tolerant plantings.

College Park Neighborhood Association member Jennifer Eid asked the Commissioner

Segal if more street lights could be placed around the Crestwood area. The Commissioner said he would drive by the area after the meeting and look into the situation.

Residents in the Crestwood area thanked the Commissioner and Orange County Sheriff's Department for their efforts and the success in controlling crime in the 1500 block of Crestwood.

Guest Speaker:

Guest speaker Anne Geiger did not appear.

Minutes:

Minutes of the April 7, 2008 meeting were approved.

Treasurer's Report:

Income for April 2008 was \$370.00 with expenses of \$1,397.58. The Association's account balance as of April 30 is \$26,202.51.

Most of the income during April came from membership renewals which was in turn attributed to new website membership management features.

Monarcha asked for more time to review alternatives to the current checking account now residing in the College Park branch of Washington Mutual. She does not yet have sufficient data to make a recommendation.

President's Report:

Association President, David Rose, spoke with Jim Kersey, President of the Downtown College Park Partnership, about sharing the expense of Partnership's liability insurance in return for liability coverage at Association events. The Partnership seems satisfied to accept sponsorship status at CPNA events in exchange for extending its liability coverage. The matter will likely rest at this point.

The private land owner who has allowed the Association to use his water meter to irrigate the College Park Gateway sign at Princeton Street submitted a bill for water consumption for the period beginning April 2005 until the present. The total was \$497.96.

Motion: a motion was made to pay the bill . The motion was approved.

Old Business:

Website:

Adrian La Sala presented an update on the new Association website.

The old URL should be transferred to the new site this week.

The news and calendar sections have been updated with live data. Since it is the intention of the Association to invite the public to list events on the calendar, this begs the question of screening or certifying events. Events should be located in College Park and open to the public. But events which are purely commercial in nature and without benefit to the College Park community are probably not suitable for the neighborhood calendar. Ideas were tossed around but no firm consensus of a policy was reached. Discussion will continue.

Edgewater Drive Vision Taskforce:

The next meeting will be held on May 8th at 3:30pm at City Hall. Mr. Jim Kersey will present the Downtown College Park Partnership's vision for Edgewater Drive.

New Business & Committee Reports:

Treasurer Monarcha Marcet announced that a bid had been presented to pressure wash the neighborhood Gateway signs. The job cost totaled \$500 for all 4 signs. It was suggested that more bids be gathered.

David Rose led a discussion on Public Forums for several upcoming elections. It was agreed that the Association would sponsor three forums.

A public forum for School Board Candidates will be held on August 4th in lieu of the regular monthly College Park Neighborhood Association meeting. Bob Carr will see about obtaining the auditorium of Edgewater High School or a room in a local church for the event.

A 'Politics In the Park' public forum will be held on August 16th in Albert park for the August Primary.

A second 'Politics In the Park' public forum will be held on October 25th in Albert park for the November general election.

President David Rose will invite the candidates to attend and Tom Jaegar will arrange permits, reserve Albert Park and secure liability insurance.

Adjournment: 8:48PM - David Rose, President

Next meeting:

Monday, June 2nd, 2008 at 7:00PM at the College Park Community Center

Signed:

President - David Rose

Secretary - Miles Hardy