



NEWSLETTER

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August 2008

President's Update

Posted July 22

By David Rose, President

It is a Presidential Election year and the country has entered into the political season with great gusto. For the next four months, policy, personalities, and gossip will be the topic of discussion everywhere you go. Here at the College Park Neighborhood Association it is no different.

CPNA is Active

We are a group of community activists that are bound together in a true desire to be a part of College Park being the best neighborhood it can possibly be. We gather at least monthly to work on projects for College Park and one of the things that is always interesting about those meetings is that neighbors that are on opposite extremes of the political spectrum work together in harmony – with a few sharp barbs flying occasionally – for the good of College Park.

It is no wonder given this collection of people that we decided early on to remain neutral as to political races for offices; we may take a position on an issue that affects our neighborhood. After a while though, we also realized that we could play a significant role in the political arena by simply providing a venue for the candidates to interface with the College Park voters.

Politics in the Park

This election cycle we are holding two election related events, both what we have come to call "Politics in the Park".

We hold these in Albert Park and one will be on August 16th before the primary election and one on October 25th before the general election. Those are both Saturday evenings and the event will run from 6:00pm until 9:00pm.

All the candidates from President to Soil and Water Board will be invited and although we have yet to have the "top of the ticket" show up. We keep thinking serendipity will kick in and a President elect will be there – so this could be the year. At some point in the evening all the candidates will be given a microphone for three minutes max but the main exchange is one on one mingling in the park.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

For more detail and the most up to date information, visit the **Calendar** on www.collegeparkorlando.org

CANCELED: August CPNA meeting

Monday, August 4, 7:00 pm

This had been replaced by a Candidate Forum which is no longer necessary as the School Board position is no longer contested.

National Night Out

Tuesday, August 5, evening

Check with Neighborhood Crime Watch captains for events in your area.

Politics in the Park

Saturday, August 16, 6:00 – 9:00 pm

Come on down to Albert Park to meet and hear the candidates.

September CPNA meeting

Monday, September 1, 7:00 pm

All are welcome!

College Park Community Center

National Neighborhood Day

Sunday, September 21

Plan an event with your neighbors on your street, cul-de-sac or immediate neighborhood. Pull out the grill, have a BBQ, a picnic or lawn party!

With the exception of the "top of the ticket" we get great attendance from the candidates at these affairs as well as from the community.

Come on Down!

So mark the dates on your calendar and come out to Albert Park for a good old fashion neighborhood political evening in the park.

If you have an event or item of community interest that you think should be included in our CPNA News or Calendar please send it to cpnaadmin@gmail.com.



I-4 Design - Lake Ivanhoe Pedestrian Bridge - Update from June 26 Meeting

Posted on 1 July 2008

By John Ruffier, I-4 Committee Chair

Hello everyone! The I-4 Design Review Committee met Thursday (June 26, 2008) and saw a presentation on three (3) potential designs for the pedestrian bridge.

Meeting Summary

Lots of good information on the project, so here's a summary:

1. The project itself is a ways off - would not begin until the I-4 expansion starts, which looks to be (at the earliest, I'd guess) 2012. So, figure the pedestrian bridge would begin construction around 2014-2016 (depending on construction scheduling, etc.).
2. There were some questions on funding for the bridge - it's all through Federal roadway enhancement funding. The only local funds anticipated (at this time) will be for maintenance once constructed. The City had representatives at the meeting and making sure the design is easy (and relatively inexpensive) to maintain is in the forefront of all discussions (including the paint color of the "bridge feature").
3. The path of the bridge starts at the intersection of Magnolia and Orange (near the Statue of Liberty) and runs along the lakeshore where the I-4 eastbound entrance ramp is. It then curves out into the lake basically following I-4 and ends near the funeral home. Height-wise it will be below I-4 and set around 40 feet away from it. With the I-4 design, there are also sound walls that will keep the noise from making the experience on of simply hearing the roar of traffic. There will be no access from the walkway to the underpass portions of I-4.
4. They anticipate very heavy landscaping with low maintenance, drought-tolerant plants where possible. We discussed using lake water for watering. The designers are very aware of the need to and have crafted their design to discourage transients and potential criminals. The design is based on "CPTED" - "Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design."
5. A bridge-lighting specialist has created the lighting design - with knowledge of the surrounding neighborhoods and the effect of any lighting, they have designed their lighting plan to limit uplighting and reduce "skyglow" for the structure. I emphasized the need for very

traditional lighting and no "color wheel" business like at the Lake Eola fountain.

6. The design itself remains somewhat in flux - but essentially there are round "nodes" of approximately 5,000 square feet at either end which are entry points to the walkway. Along the walkway there are (currently) two smaller nodes with shade/rain protection. Of the three designs, the first (twist arch) was the consensus preferred choice for the moment - but design continues and no choice has been made at this time. The good point (to me) was that the bridge feature cannot be seen from any area to the West of I-4 except for a little bit when you are looking from the shoreline near the Renaissance (and, of course, if you live in a higher story of the Renaissance).

And that's about it. Although not exactly a fan of having anything in this location, I think this project has the potential to really enhance College Park and the Lake Ivanhoe area. When I-4 is expanded, most if not all of the existing trees which currently obscure the interstate will be removed, so this will at least provide a more interesting sight than just the highway. Everyone seems very focused on creating a product that people in College Park will be able to enjoy and that does not become a draw for transients. Also, we are fortunate that one of the City's planners lives near Lake Ivanhoe on the West side of I-4 and is very aware of and vocal about preventing negative impacts on College Park. There will be public meetings on the designs later in the Fall - and certainly one will be at CPNA, I'd think.

Images

This article was originally posted on July 1st. along with images of the three proposed bridges (one of which appears below).



In the online version of this article you can view all of the images and also download a detailed presentation of the proposals.



Help define our "Main Street"

Posted on 17 July 2008

By Diane DeWalt, Executive Director, Downtown College Park Partnership, Inc.

Congratulations on your new designation as one of Orlando's first Main Street Communities. The Main Street Program creates many opportunities for the Community to make a difference in its Downtown. What do you like best about Downtown College Park? What would you like to change? Have you thought about what Downtown College Park will look like in five years? Ten years? Forty years?

Change happens. You can let it happen, or you can join Downtown College Park Partnership, and participate in the



planning and guidance of change. The Main Street Program methodology provides a framework for Volunteers to come together, make plans, and work together to reach common goals.

We have a BIG to-do jar filled with wonderful ideas from College Park residents and businesses. Now, we are looking for neighbors to help us prioritize and implement these great ideas. Think of it as a do-it-yourself community revitalization effort. That's how the Main Street Program works, by achieving small, incremental improvements.

This may prove to be one of the most rewarding actions that you undertake. The quintessence of a vibrant Downtown College Park will reflect a glow that brightens every street in the College Park Neighborhood. Whether you invest your time, or money, or both, it's an investment that will increase the value of your neighborhood, your property, your home.

Make it a family affair. From youth to seniors, anyone can help. To find out more, please visit our website, www.downtowncollegepark.com. We would love for you to join our organization, but you don't have to be a Member to participate.

Now that College Park has become a Main Street community, the scope of the Downtown College Partnership has expanded. We will be working closely with the Neighborhood Association and hope to build neighbor participation. We want the neighbors to have a strong voice in how Downtown College Park changes and grows.

To find out more, contact me by email at diane@downtowncollegepark.com, or by phone at 407 625 7402. Tell me how you would like to become part of Orlando Main Street in Downtown College Park.

August Candidate Forum Canceled

Posted on 24 June 2008

By David Rose, President

One of the things that keeps life interesting is that it never goes as we expect. CPNA had canceled our planned August meeting in favor of holding a candidate forum for Orange County School Board District 6.

The incumbent Anne Geiger had filed to run for re-election and challenger Nancy Robinson had also filed; both had agreed to participate in the forum. Qualifying for all county positions was last week starting Monday at noon and ending Friday at noon. Anne Geiger failed to qualify leaving Nancy Robinson unopposed and the winner of the seat, by default. We are looking forward to working with Nancy as our new representative on the School Board and extend to her the same standing invitation that every elected official has to join us on the first Monday of every month at 7:00pm.

There is no longer any reason to conduct the forum and the Board of Directors decided at the July meeting that there will not be a meeting in August.

OTHER NEWS

*We are regularly adding **News** articles on www.collegeparkorlando.org. Here are some other recent articles that we could not fit in this issue. Visit the site to read the full articles.*

Dubsdread's Reopening Ceremony

Posted on 15 July 2008

Dubsdread reopened its fairways to the public on July 10th. Read this first-hand account.

Miss June's Meeting?

Posted on 11 July 2008

If you miss a meeting, be sure to check out the meeting minutes and treasurer's reports—it's not the same as being there, but it keeps you "in the know".

ORLANDO POLICE DEPARTMENT CRIME ALERT

Posted on 3 July 2008

Read this alert from the Police Department to learn more about several vehicle burglaries in the College Park area and how to protect yourself.

July Happenings in the City of Orlando

Posted on 30 June 2008

Commissioner Stuart let us know what to expect in July.

Downtown College Park Partnership Update

Posted on 12 June 2008

The DCP has been busy this year. Find out more about their College Park ad campaign.

Stay up to date by subscribing to our News feed!



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Please sign up [online](#) or send this form with your dues to: **CPNA P.O. BOX 540859 Orlando, FL 32854-0859**

NAME: _____

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Email is required for web site member access and will only be used by CPNA.

Enclosed is my check / cash for \$ _____ for the 2007-2008 CPNA budget year.

As a CPNA member, I would like to supplement my dues with a contribution of \$ _____ .

Dues are \$15 a family or \$10 for Seniors (65 and over) for a year's membership.