GPSMNA Board Meeting

May 4, 2022, Virtual Meeting

Board members present: President L. Arevian, Vice President D. Nave, Treasurer C. Cline, Secretary L.A. Schwietz, immediate past president S. Escovitz, CAN representative A. Escovitz, T. Dunnuck, J. Quinn. Meeting called to order 7:05 pm by President L. Arevian.

I. Consent Agenda

a. April 2022 minutes and Treasurer’s report.

b. A. Escovitz asked if we made 2022 annual donation to CAN. C. Cline confirmed payment was made Jan 3, 2022.

**Motion to approve April 2022 minutes and treasurer’s report made by T. Dunnuck, seconded A. Escovitz. Approved.**

II. GPSMNA Administrative Updates

a. S. Escovitz mentioned it may be more functional to send separate emails for the home tour and for dues information,

rather than a single email covering more than one topic.

b. President Arevian mentioned his goal to construct a neighborhood database to make membership updates easier.

III**.** CAN Meeting Updates

a. A. Escovitz reviewed highlights of the April 2022 CAN meeting. The first issue is a neighborhood guide proposed by CAN that

specifies developers must meet with neighbors living within 200 ft of a proposed new development. CAN feels developers

should meet more than once if there are changes to agreed-upon details, such as roofing, landscaping, etc. Changes in density

or in traffic patterns should automatically trigger a meeting with neighbors who would be impacted. The city appears to

support this initiative.

b.The Jones Park playground, just outside our neighborhood, was dismantled due to its age. Neighbors have raised necessary

funds to rebuild it, however the city parks department does not support a new playground due to concerns about ongoing

maintenance (mainly mowing and trash pickup). CAN has started a letter writing campaign in support of a new playground.

c. As mentioned last month, the city wants to revamp the number of city boards. Currently about 200 people volunteer on

various city boards and committees. CAN believes this issue requires further study by those affected prior to allowing the city

to unilaterally reduce the number of committees. A reduction would disenfranchise volunteer citizens, forcing them to become

less participatory in city plans. A reduction would also reduce city transparency.

IV. GPSMNA Membership Drive Update

a. President Arevian commented there are about 1300 residents in our neighborhood. He asked for an $845 expenditure for a

mass mailing to solicit more neighbor involvement in the GPSMNA.

**Motion to approve $845 for membership drive mass mailing made by President Arevian, seconded by D. Nave. Approved.**

V. Open Space Legislation Updates

a. A. Escovitz discussed a city-proposed Open Space Amendment, which would allow developers to use nearly an entire lot for a

structure, leaving very little green space. This amendment is being pushed by the city council at the city’s planning and zoning

commission. The issue is expected to be decided in June.

b.There was discussion regarding establishing neighborhood conservation overlay district (NCOD) zoning for our neighborhood.

This would be a way to preserve the character of our neighborhood. Overlay zoning can specify the ratio of structure size to lot

size, density of the population, and other factors. C. Cline hopes to obtain guidance from Raleigh regarding the procedure for

establishing overlay district zoning.

VI. Parks Updates

a. A. Escovitz mentioned recent vandalism on the Grove Park Inn golf course. A. Escovitz also heard there were a few breaking

and entering incidents in our neighborhood, though he had no other details.

b. The scarlet oak recently planted in Sunset Park sustained bear damage. It will need to be replaced.

c. Improvements to the flat area of Sunset Park are under consideration by a steering committee. Sprinkle Creek Landscaping

is expected to offer expertise for a simple design. T. Dunnuck suggested a split rail fence be substituted for the unsightly

barricade near the Sunset Park ravine. He suggested a local Boy Scout Troup may be willing to help clean that area up.

**Motion to adjourn made by T. Dunnuck, 8:05. Seconded by J. Quinn. Next meeting June 1, 2022. 7pm.**

Minutes submitted by Leigh Anne Schwietz