

Historic College Park Neighborhood Association
Notes from Monthly Meeting
October 14, 2008

Welcome from outgoing President Tom Fulkerson who thanked members and Board Members for their support for the past two years. He praised the Board for working well together to successfully accomplish goals of HCPNA

Sandy Causey spoke on behalf of the Nominating Committee to announce/nominate the officers for 2008-2009:

- Eileen Murphy - President
- Leslie Haskins - Vice President
- Stephanie Murphy - Secretary
- John Broom - Treasurer

Nominated Board members include

- Jane Randolph - Government Liaison
- Tom Fulkerson - Outgoing President
- Kim Cline
- Phyliss Ray (*yes, this is correct spelling*)
- Sandy Causey

All nominees were elected by acclamation.

Eileen Murphy then conducted the remainder of the meeting.

Announcements:

- Cleo Hudson: The Kiwanis Club Waffle House Breakfast will be on November 15 at the Methodist Church from 7 to 11 AM. Cost will be \$5 per person, with food provided by the Waffle House.
- Randy Ellison: Praised the Arts Festival and the community spirit he saw there. He has started a company that offers many services online, including travel arrangements, cruises, and flowers. Web address is goabroadintl.com . Part of the proceeds from each transaction with a College Park resident (5%) will be donated to HCPNA.
- Phyliss Ray: Pasta Night at the College Park Woman's Club on October 23 at 6:30 PM. Food will be prepared and served by the men of College Park. Tickets available from Tina Deaver.
- The HCPNA Holiday Party will be on December 7th at The Feed Store.

- February 14, 2009 will be the Public Safety Ball at GICC. Monica Pearson will be the speaker.

Arts Festival Report: Jean Gibb Clay reported on the Arts Festival, which was profitable. The gross income was approximately \$6,500 with expenses of about \$3,400, which netted nearly \$2,000 as seed money for next year's Festival. Eileen Murphy added that HCPNA had made \$1,800 from food sales at the Festival. Both Jean and Eileen thanked the many volunteers who helped make the Festival possible.

Report from the Public Safety Committee:

- Charlie Vaughan reported only 3 burglaries in the past month, including one copper thief who was caught.
- Merri Sheffield spoke about the Neighborhood Watch Meeting. After a very successful meeting in September, no one came to last week's meeting. She is working with Stone Herrington to continue the effort and encouraged everyone to sign up. She passed a sign up list from table to table.
- Russ McIver said real time communication would be a key factor in fighting crime. Patty McIver is nearly finished with a new HCPNA website, which will come out next month, and will include a message board. They are still looking for Block Captains.

Police Report:

Officer Cam Mongroo encouraged people to continue emailing and calling her. Her phone number is 404-427-5578. A sad incident occurred last week involving an 85 year old woman who was found strangled at her home near Victoria and Virginia. Her son has been arrested.

Re: Halloween— Cam Mongroo asked for volunteers to help with the Police Department's annual party for kids at Camp Truitt off Herschel Road. They expect hundreds of local kids for a Haunted House and free food, beginning at 6 pm on Friday, October 31. Call her to volunteer.

Chief Yandura responded to questions about crowd control on Rugby for Halloween night, saying that they have discussed options from closing Rugby to auto traffic to making it one-way. The Police Department's consensus is that parents like to follow their children in the car or park on Rugby and walk just a block or two. The Department will have the entire force out to control traffic and protect the public.

A discussion ensued about the curfew law in College Park. A new ordinance was recently enacted by the City Council, but both Councilman Clay and Councilman Wyatt said that the curfew will be revisited in future Council meetings for clarification.

Fire Department Report

Chief Cedric Scott said that the Department has received a grant for free training for a Community Emergency Response Team (CERT). This program will offer free training in first aid, limited search and rescue, etc. for all kinds of disasters. It is a 20 hour class and participants will receive a free disaster preparedness kit. To register for a class, call Kevin Harris at 404-766-8248.

Government Report

Councilman Ambrose Clay talked about aircraft over-flights. The FAA has violated their promises to College Park by allowing planes taking off to the west to take a fuel saving short-cut by turning north before they get to I-285. This puts them directly over College Park residents, especially those in Ward 4. Clay asked citizens to write letters of protest to the FAA; he will send out templates.

Councilman Clay also urged citizens to go to court to back up neighbors who have been crime victims. The thief who broke into Charlie Vaughan's house was recently freed by Judge Alfred Dempsey because the arresting officer was not able to testify due to illness. This was despite a record of 12 previous arrests. If a large number of citizens show up in court, the results might be different next time.

Councilman Wyatt had several brief announcements. The improvements to Zupp Park will begin in November. The groundbreaking for the new hotels at GICC was last Thursday. The city's bond rating has been upgraded. A new fire station will be built to replace the current Sullivan Road building. Wyatt then praised Councilman Clay for his intelligence and dedication to city business, pronouncing him "The right guy for the job."

Treasurer's Report:

New Treasurer John Broom is in the process of acquiring the records from Robert Golden and will give a report next month.

Membership Report:

As of Oct. 14, there are 201 households who are members of HCPNA including two new members tonight: T. J. and Jaci Sharitz and Molly Livingston. Dues for 2008-2009 are due now.