

Greenway Downs Citizens Association
Board of Director Meeting Minutes

Location: Home of Sara Kelly
Date/Time: Wednesday, March 9, 2016

Present:
Bruce MacNair
Ross Farnham
Scot Walker
Sara Kelly
Asha Beh
Jenny Girard

Old Business:

Board approved the January 20, 2016 Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Marshall Street Traffic Calming

Bruce reported that the Marshall Street Traffic Calming community informational meeting will be Monday, April 4, 2016 at the Thomas Jefferson Library, 7:00 pm.

Discussion items will be:

- one new speed hump[adjacent to 2808 & 2809 Marshall St.
- relocation of the existing speed hump from 2824 to 2825 and 2828 to 2829 Marshall St.
- one new speed hump adjacent to 2847 Marshall and 6924 Custis Parkway.

A VDOT representative will attend the meeting.

After the community meeting the Traffic Calming Task Force can distribute ballots to the effected residents in the Marshall/Custis zone and residents will then mail the ballots directly to Linda Smyth's office.

ACTION ITEMS:

SARA: Post meeting information on Facebook

BRUCE: Post meeting information on Next Door

Residential Parking Restrictions

Scot reported that he has received positive feedback from neighborhood residents who have received the new residential parking restrictions. Cavalier Trail is now a much safer street because of the increased visibility around the curve.

Rachel Bassford, on Summerfield, contacted Scot about the effect of the new RPPD on her side of the street. She may be the person to take over phase two for RPPD on her street.

New Business:

Treasurer's Report

Scot reported that the GDCA treasury currently has \$8540.
The last set of expenditures were for 3 sandwich boards and garbage grabbers.

Sara reported that she is storing the 3 new GDCA sandwich boards and will dispose of the old heavy wooden one.

Press Conference

Bruce reported that in February he attended a press conference at the McConnell Public Safety and Transportation Operations Center (MPSTOC) in Fairfax.

The event was hosted by the Fairfax County PD, Chief Roessler and Next Door rep Mr. Joseph Porcelli)

The discussion was about how the local populace via Next Door (and other means) could better support crime prevention and public safety initiatives/efforts, and how to use Next Door to help neighbors more effectively connect and communicate with each other and to share valuable information with the PD.

Bruce will continue to work with the Next Door rep and our local FCPD rep to find ways to improve

a) the Next Door app to allow neighbors to more easily enter valuable information on significant activities (5 W's - where, when, what, why, who) geospatially

b) the ways that FCPC receive, sort though, prioritize, "grade" and make greater use of all info they receive from citizens (social media or otherwise).

Proposed Change to Bylaws

At the January 20, 2016 Board meeting Sara proposed that the Board take a month to consider amending the By-Laws and vote in the March meeting.

Proposal: add the following sentence to Article VII, Section 6 - "President."

"The president shall serve no more than 3 years."

The Board discussed several questions:

Question:

Is it best to leave the wording concerning "3 years" vague?

consensus

- yes, because the amendment will give future boards a little more teeth to prevent "lifers" from holding on to the presidency.

consensus

- yes, because it may be beneficial for a President to "come and go" several times, but will encourage other residents to step up to the plate at the end of the 3rd time.

Question:

Is the GDCA at risk without the By-Law change?

consensus

- no because the By-Laws are available on our website and the rules governing the Board's power to remove a president are clear.

Question:

Should the vote by the membership be a simple yes or no?

Consensus

- the wording for the vote to the membership will be either yes or no. If the vote is no, the issue will be for a future Board to consider.

The amendment will need 2/3 of the current membership's approval.

Sara asked the Board to consider allowing her to notify the membership (as defined in the By-Laws as dues paying members) via email and allow email for purposes.

Board Vote: vote in favor of taking the proposed change to the membership.

Board Vote: allow the notification and vote via email.

ACTION ITEM:

Sara will set up membership database for emailing

Sara will send the Board a copy of the ballot email for comment before going public.

Sara will have voting done before the May meeting.

Bruce indicated he would step down as president in May, but would like to stay on the Board as a member-at-large.

Dog Poop Bag Dispensers

Asha asked the Board to explore the idea of supporting the establishment of more dog poop bag dispensers, perhaps like the one Cathy Thatcher set up at the top of John Mastenbrook Park.

Sara suggested asking some of the homeowners along Cavalier Trail if they were willing to "host" dispensers.

Board Vote: in favor of supporting adding more dispensers.

ACTION ITEM:

Asha will look in the specific issue of private/public permission for locations and find a means to ask residents to "host" such dispensers.

Spring Newsletter

The April "Downs" Newsletter will be the last one for the current Board.

Sara projects the cost to be about the same as the last one.

Sara asked that the GDCA invest in a dedicated PO Box for our official mail.

Board Vote: approved funds to rent a P.O. Box and to allot the 2 keys to the persons who hold the offices of Secretary and Treasurer

ACTION ITEM:

Sara will check out the P.O. Box

Sara suggested that the greenwaydowns1@gmail.com email address, which currently goes to Bruce, also get sent to several officers on the Board because it is our publically published email and several people receiving such emails ensures our timely response.

Board Vote: to toggle the email to go to the executive officers

ACTION ITEM:

Bruce will toggle the greenwaydowns1@gmail.com to go to the executive officers— Scot, Sara and Ross.

Sara asked for articles for the April newsletter.

Greenway Downs Website

Asha asked for more content for the Greenway Downs website.

Some ideas for content were

- a list of commendation letter receivers thanking people for service
- winners of the holiday decorating contest
- more photos
- RPPD and other neighborhood accomplishments
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ACTION ITEM:

Scot will write something to go with the pictures of our new RPPD signs.

ACTION ITEM:

Scot will write something up about the senior lunches and perhaps include menus

ACTION ITEM:

Sara will send Asha pictures and the scout report on the bamboo cleanup for the website

ACTION ITEM:

Sara and Asha write up a blurb to solicit Greenway Downs residents to contribute to the website and put the blurb out on Facebook and Next Door.

Spring Cleanup and Bamboo Project

Sara reported that she had signed the necessary papers for the St. James Eagle Scout to effect his bamboo removal project at Mastenbrook Park on April 23.

Shawn will notify the the immediate neighbors about the project, and welcomes community help.

Since the Scout project is at the same time as the GDCA Creek Clean-up, Sara will set the basketball court as the staging area for our event to keep young children out of the way of the scouts.

ACTION ITEM:

Sara will ask Shawn for a copy of his research paper on the bamboo project and pictures for our website.

GDCA Social Committee Requests for Funds

Scot presented a list of expenditure requests from the GDCA Social Committee

Board Vote: approve expenditure of \$150 for Easter Egg Hunt in April

Board Vote: approve expenditure of up to \$150 for snack/coffee and trash supplies for Spring Cleanup in April.

The social committee asked for \$1000 budget for the Lunch in the Park

The Board was concerned a project that was fraught with a number of potential issues related to spending GDCA money without any details about how the money was going to be spent.

Board Vote: not to approve a high dollar expenditure for this event without details from the social committee.

ACTION ITEM

Scot will ask the social committee to work out the details concerning "Lunch in the Park."

ACTION ITEM

Scot is going to procure snack/coffee supplies for the Creek clean-up.

ACTION ITEM

Sara will buy trash bags for the Creek clean-up.

Letter of Commendation

Scot proposed a Letter of Commendation to Sara for cleaning out the mid part of Cavalier Trail.

Board Vote: approve aforesaid letter.

ACTION ITEM: Scot will send the letter to Bruce to sign.

Senior Lunches

Scot reported that the Greenway Downs Senior Lunches have been a great success, and he has extended the invitation to Jefferson Village.

The GDCA Annual May Meeting

Since the Board meeting was going rather late, the Board decided to work on the details of the Annual Meeting via email, and make the final decisions at the April Board meeting.

Prepared by Sara Kelly

Secretary, GDCA

Amended:
Asha Beh