

Greenway Downs Citizens Association
Board of Directors Meeting
Minutes

Location: Home of Lisa French, 2809 Marshall St.
Date/Time: Monday, July 13, 2015 8 pm

Present:
Bruce MacNair
Ross Farnham
Scot Walker
Sara Kelly
Lisa French
Jenny Girard
Paul Hart

Absent:
Asha Beh
Bob Mansker

Old Business:

Board approved the June 8, 2015 Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

SWINGS PROGRESS REPORT

Scot reported that he sent the GDCA \$2000 portion of the Swing Project to the County, and they were seeking bids on the installation. Could be 6-8 weeks after that for installation. Greenway Downs will also solicit donations at a later date to offset the GDCA portion of the cost.

ACTION ITEM: the social committee will organize an event to mark the swing installation—and invite Jefferson Village to attend.

MARSHALL STREET

Marshall street traffic calming is on hold because the dissenting house owner died and the house is empty and not on the market yet. After some discussion on whether the traffic study had an expiration date, Bruce suggested we go for the variance. The letter to that effect had been drafted earlier, and the Board approved moving forward paperwork for variance. The series of events after VDOT approval -- a community meeting, including residents of Marshall St. and Custis, followed by a ballot.

ACTION ITEM: Lisa has the variance letter and will re-date it and move it forward.

CAVALIER TRAFFIC WOES

Scot handed out copies of the traffic report done on Cavalier Trail, part of Winchester Way, Summerfield Road, and Greenway Blvd. The Board voted for Scot to send the letter on to the County to determine the applicability for the expansion of the Greenway Downs Residential Parking Permit Parking District. If a majority vote is garnered by the residents, then the issue goes back to the County. At some point Bruce or a community member will go to the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, which will hear and vote on our petition. (copy of traffic study attached to the hard copy of the minutes)

ACTION ITEM: Scot will send members an electronic copy of the traffic study so we can see the color coding.

Not all of Summerfield is included in the study, and Paul noted that in the past partial streets were not approved, but apparently the rules have changed and the parking restrictions can now apply to a partial street. The businesses are exempt from the restrictions.

Parking enforcement: Scot has requested “no parking from here to corner” signs on Winchester, Bolling and Cavalier. There was some confusion on the part of the police about how to measure a corner on a curved road, and the signs will help.

Scot brought up the issue of the VDOT owned property next to the Italian Café. A trailer has been parked on that property for over a year and a half. We need longer term solutions to the parking on that small muddy strip. Suggested remedy - VDOT to allow us to plant bushes to prevent cars.

There is also a strip of VDOT land behind Budget Inn that VDOT does not maintain properly or regularly. The high grass and chopped tree debris are a problem. Scot sent VDOT a complaint.

ACTION ITEM: Scot will explore getting the trailer towed away as a “derelict” vehicle--

MAP CORRECTIONS & STREET PAVING

Jenny has submitted two corrections to Bing about the Greenway Blvd bridge that isn't, but is having difficulty contacting Yahoo. Google has it correctly. She will continue to check the status. Anticipates 6 to 8 weeks after making the corrections to actually see maps corrected.

Scot raised a question about the incorrect mapping of Greenway Blvd at Custis on the ADC map.

ACTION ITEM: Scot will check the ADC map and let Jenny know if it is incorrect.

Jenny noted that we have several roads that qualify as in poor condition, but the lack of VDOT funding and the system by which they prioritize roads paving, especially in terms of safety issues, means we are not likely to see any repaving this fiscal year. We can continue to push our case involving our worst roads, but Jenny's feeling is her contact at VDOT has little clout in this matter.

There was some discussion about patching of roads.

ACTION ITEM:

Board members report specific places that need patching to Jenny.

Scot raised the question of a “no thru” sign on Greenway Blvd. Sara reported that she had put out that idea on social media to stir some interest in the idea, and hopefully a Greenway Blvd resident would take charge. So far, no takers.

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH

Scot has reached out to the dog walkers for neighborhood eyes and ears, and raised the possibility that some form of that may replace the “driving around” neighborhood watch model. Ross was able to patrol with Paul Garcia, and did remind those people whose cars on Jefferson who suffered side-swipe damage that Paul was in need of patrol volunteers. Apparently, the car patrol is on Friday and Saturday nights. A call for more volunteers is going out in the Newsletter.

Sara reported that she gave Paul 2 ways to end his Newsletter article—the first, “would like to retire”, the second “will retire.” The latter let people decide how important it was and maybe someone would step up to the plate. Paul chose the first option, thought the second too harsh.

Bruce brought up the recent rash of car break-ins and explored the idea of mapping the clusters, to make sense of them. The break-ins occur during hours that neither dog walkers or Neighborhood Watch are out. Paul raised the idea of looking into a security firm to patrol periodically to address the issue of crime happening at odd hours of the night. Ross raised the issue of who would pay and the conclusion was the

GDCA. Enough interest was expressed in the idea to pursue it because random sweeps might act as a deterrent.

ACTION ITEM: Paul to look into the process and costs associated with hiring a Security Firm.

New Business

TREASURER REPORT

Scot thanked Paul, the GDCA's previous treasurer, for his excellent keeping of the books—Scot was most appreciative of the fact that the books were clear, lucid and in excellent order.

Scot reported that there are 3 checks outstanding: Fairfax County Gardeners for \$50, Fairfax Federation of Civic Associations for \$40, and the Swing check for \$2000. Remaining in the GDCA account \$7,259.37. (treasurer report attached to minutes)

Scot, advertising committee, headed by Cathy Thatcher, raised \$100 for the Newsletter by selling business card space at \$25 each. Scot passed on 3 of them to Sara for the Newsletter.

ACTION ITEM: Sara to contact Heather Embrey to get a hard copy of her business card.

Scot reported the projected revenue for selling ad space for the Greenway Downs Directory at the following prices

\$50 for business card (= ¼ page)
Half page \$100
Back cover \$300
Inside cover \$250, each
Full page \$200

Board approved the pricing structure. Lisa thinks she can get the Directory printed for free. She is willing to trade that for an ad page.

ACTION ITEM: Lisa to explore free option for printing the Directory.

Sara reported that the GDCA website is a work in progress, and that the Board may have to pay around \$100 year for a decent site. After much discussion the Board determined that Sara would spend \$ to reserve greenwaydowns.org for our name, and Lisa would see if her husband, Jeromy's place of work could host our site for free.

Bruce expressed concern about the previous website under our name—to avoid the issue we decided to shorten ours to greenwaydowns.org. Lisa determined that we could get a .org.

ACTION ITEM: Sara to purchase greenwaydowns.org domain name at around \$12-15.

ACTION ITEM: Lisa to ask Jeromy about hosting site.

NEWSLETTER AND MEMBERSHIP FORMS

Board approved the Newsletter and membership forms Sara had circulated for review by email.

On the issue of how many houses there are in Greenway Downs, Scot and Sara counted 485. Scot added businesses to arrive at a 500 count.

Paul raised the issue of whether households who do not pay dues get the Directory. GDCA can't require dues and to this effect the wording in the membership form is "donation." The Board voted to give every household a Directory regardless of membership status.

ACTION ITEM: Jenny thought she saw "dues" in one of the subpoints—she will try and find it and notify Sara.

Sara suggesting mailing the newsletter and membership form to every household in Greenway Downs. This would cost a .49 stamp. Mailing cost would be \$237.65, box of 500 envelopes \$12, printing \$251.50—total = \$501.15, offset \$100 with selling ad space.

It was noted that this would be the last mass mailing since we can go electronic on the next one. (only printing for non-email people).

Paul suggested we include a return envelope, and after much discussion the Board concluded that we should include a stamped addressed return envelope to garner more membership form returns. The Board voted to allow the possible increase in postage, and Lisa suggested going metered mail, rather than buying stamps. The consensus was to address the mail to the resident based on the current directory with "or": eg. Jenny Girard or current resident. Board voted in favor of the above.

ACTION ITEMS:

SARA: complete newsletter and membership form and get them printed

SARA: buy enough envelopes and avery 5161 labels to cover mailing

SARA: enter the Directory into an excel sheet provided by Lisa.

LISA: upon receipt of the database in excel format and the mailing labels Lisa will use mail merge to print an address label for each Household, and a return label for the mailing.

SARA: will buy stamps for the SASE and meter the mail for postage

SARA: change return date on membership forms to August 30.

Sara reported that we still need some street reps, and has put a notice in the Newsletter. Bruce offered to take Marshall. Cathy Thatcher has offered to take Woodlawn. Lisa suggested asking Andrew to take Marshall.

CALENDAR ITEMS:

Question of the distinction between the Dog Parade and the Kids Halloween. Sara relayed Cathy Thatcher's safety concerns when both happened at the same time, so Cathy scheduled the Dog Parade on Sunday. JV is apparently going to organize the Kids Parade. We do not have the dates for that yet but we do not anticipate a problem. We will extend an invitation to JV for the Dog Parade.

Scot reviewed some of the social items on the calendar. Some discussion of timing the caroling with the fire truck/Santa event. The board moved to discuss the details of these events at later time.

Scot had raised the idea of extending the September Creek cleanup to the Tripp's run end of GD but upon reflection decided to put that on the Spring clean up agenda. It may involve coordinating with JV.

DAILY WALK:

Scot read a letter of Commendation he had drafted to Filemon and Editha Marmol at 2807 Greenway Blvd for clearing the portion of Cavalier Trail outside his lot. Filemon had done a great job clearing, and even planted lillies. The Board approved the letter, Bruce signed, and Sara will mail.

ACTION ITEM:

Sara to mail the Marmol letter

Meeting was Adjourned
Submitted by Sara Kelly