

6-1-2016

Board of Directors Minutes DDN

Call to Order: 6:30 PM by George Dusenbury

Minutes of last meeting were Approved.

Attendance: George, Buddy, Judi, Nikki, Sara and Kathie. Pete absent but sent in a report

Treasurer Report: \$1100 in Bank. Discussion around how to affiliate with a non-profit as we begin to raise money for a Park. Decatur is doing a Land Trust to purchase and hold title to the Cottage Court property. Park Pride is an option.

Holding a Social/Membership event in October was suggested. We had a generous donor so discussed a donor award. Pete, Sara and Kathie were suggested to organize.

Communication Report: Would like to list donors on the website but it doesn't receive much traffic. An annual award at an annual membership social event would receive publicity. The Award needs a name.

Buddy/Planning: Will request an update on Comp Plan from Jim Diez our rep on the stakeholders group. Next Planning meeting is 6/15. Buddy sent in a request to Lena for update on Crosswalks. The City has hired a sidewalk planner. Decatur Renaissance Board (Buddy is Pres.) wants to meet with Selig regarding the property they own on Church St., behind the Condos. I will call Selig Corp for a contact.

General Meeting in July: Will invite Sidewalk Planner to present. We can introduce her to our Crosswalk Plan.

Pete's Report via email/Codes and Ordinances: Meeting with Decatur Police on June 15 to discuss Crosswalk safety.

Nikki/Parks and Greenspace: Committee has expressed frustration with no movement on part of City despite hundreds of postcards and thousand of emails and presentations. All they received was a pre written speech. Requested an official response. Instead City went to the AJC with a response of No Park! Mayor Garrett did send a response later that again inferred no downtown park but should do a Plan. Nikki, George, Neil Norton and Paula Collins will continue to work on strategy focusing on Commissioners Powers, Drake and Boykin.

Next step is an Open Forum in August, inviting the City to a "collaborative working session." We want to announce a fundraising campaign "Time is of the Essence." Need a Chair. Kathie is to ask Judy Turner and see if Judy could persuade Elizabeth Wilson. George will talk to Gale Gellerstat. George will present at the city budget meeting re: cost of a park vs. cost city is putting into the Cottage Court green. There has been talk of the City studying "impact fees."

Pope and Land meeting went well. One owner helped write the towncenter plan, thought of streetscape as park-like. Bank America has a 99 year lease and won't participate in redevelopment unless they get a drive-thru so a variance would be needed. George is to get back to them to talk further.

Next Meeting: General Membership on July 13. Will invite Sidewalk Planner.

By: Kathie Gannon