

Dilworth Community Development Association (DCDA)

Minutes of March 2, 2011

Members Present: Brian Nadolny, Jenna King, Kira Deter, Kevin Deter, Kate Andrews, Nancy Kramer, John Fryday, Quincy Acklen, Betsy Turner, Sis Kaplan, Wes Kenney, Tom Donaldson, Carla Ashton, Ron Peterson, Ron Skufka, Debra Glennon, Hal Kempson, Jennifer Bailey

Members Absent: Jill Walker, Brennan Hay, John Mayo

Community Sign-Ins: Bjorn Greene, Melanie Custer, Art Breithing, Charlie Chiachiaillo, Jason Galek

President Tom Donaldson called the meeting to order. Matthew Pera of The Liberty Restaurant was recognized as having provided refreshments for tonight's meeting.

David Kelley and Heather Taraska of the District Attorney's office updated the group on initiatives under the direction of recently-elected DA Andrew Murray. There will be additional emphasis on sentencing for habitual offenders. The District Attorney's office maintains a website, charmec.com, with updated news releases.

Tom Sorrentino of the City of Charlotte Department of Transportation reviewed plans for a section of East Boulevard from Dilworth Road West to Scott Avenue. Work is scheduled to begin between April and June to make the section more pedestrian/bicycle-friendly. A website at charmec.org is available for ongoing updates about project progress. A public forum is planned and support by DCDA was requested.

In the Treasurer's report, Kira Deter reviewed a detailed 2011 budget for each DCDA Committee. After discussion, it was suggested that Tom hold a conference call for all Committee Chairs to obtain additional information.

Events planned for 2011 were reviewed:

Kira updated the group on the Home Tour scheduled for September 16 and 17. The focus for March will be locating homes and sponsors.

Previous event chairs were being researched by reviewing Dilworth Quarterly newsletters from preceding years. Once a list of past-chairs is compiled, they will be invited to a social event.

Josh Rimany and Jason Galek presented plans for the Dilworth Criterion on May 7th. This bicycle race attracts an international field of participants. Several ideas as to how to reengage the neighborhood were discussed. A written proposal for DCDA involvement is to be presented at the April meeting.

Sales of the commemorative streetcar spikes have slowed and it was proposed that each DCDA member buy one and sell one. Dilworth Drug will have the spikes for sale.

An update on sculpture(s) to be placed in the neighborhood commemorating the Dilworth Line Art Sculpture and/or Edward Dilworth Latta will be given in April.

Quincy Acklin reported for the Communications Committee. The newly-designed website is nearing completion.

The Neighborhood Environment Committee updated the group on discussions with City Landscaping personnel. The Committee proposed replacement of recently-planted maple trees in the East Boulevard median with oaks which have a longer life span. The estimated cost for this change is approximately \$4,500. A motion was made and approved to ask the City to remove the maples with up to \$6,000 from DCDA supporting the change, if necessary. City landscapers agreed to work with the Committee to develop a master plan for trees in the neighborhood to continue the heritage of large shade trees.

There was a motion made and approved to endorse four locations for various traffic-calming installations: Euclid Avenue at either Lexington or Templeton Avenues; Dilworth Road and Berkeley Avenue; Dorothy at Winthrop and Park/East Park at Romany or Carlton. The City Department of Transportation will address these locations at the April meeting.

The Land Use Committee noted plans for Long Animal Hospital to build a new facility at South Boulevard and Ideal Way. A motion was made and passed to support Long's usage and John Fryday was to submit a letter on behalf of DCDA.

Officer Jim Gilliland and Sergeant Rich Stahnke gave an overview of crime and safety issues. For the Providence Division of the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department, a comparison of reported crimes for January and February 2010 and 2011 showed property crime was down 9%, residential burglaries down by 38%. Vehicle break-ins were lower than average.

Nancy Kramer reported on activities of Dilworth Cares. "Dilworth Wine and Water", a wine-tasting benefit for Marion Medical Mission which builds wells for clean water in Africa, will be held March 24 at the Wine Shop on Park Road. The Dilworth Ladies Spring Party to benefit Dilworth School will be held April 7th.

A motion was made and passed to accept the recommendation of the Nominations Committee for a new Board member, Hal Kempton, appointed to the class of 2012. Further discussion focused on attendance requirements of members. There was a motion made and approved to remove one Board member, John Mayo, for not meeting attendance requirements; there will be two vacancies to fill for 2011.

Respectfully Submitted,

Carla Ashton, DCDA Secretary

