

Woodland Hills Quarterly General Assembly Meeting – January 29, 2009 – 7:30 PM

Location: Peachtree Baptist Church

Jeremy Mador called the meeting to order at 7:35 PM and introduced Officer Jenny Miller to discuss the crime report.

Crime Report:

Crime has decreased compared to a year ago. Officer Miller finds the improvements impressive. She attributes the reduction in crime in the neighborhood to the increase in “check location” and “suspicious person” calls residents make to the police. She introduced “CrimeTrac”, located at <http://www.dekalbpolice.com/crimetrac.html>, to General Assembly. Fliers were distributed to the assembly with details regarding “Crime Track”. CrimeTrac is a new mapping system that allows citizens to access crime statistics in DeKalb County.

Officer Miller gave out her email address, JAMiller@co.dekalb.ga.us. Car break-ins are becoming more common. Officer Miller reminded assembly not to leave valuables in cars. There was a question from an attending resident about copper theft. Per Office Miller, copper theft is generally more common in abandoned houses, but if you are concerned cages are available for sale at Home Depot. She also reminded residents to close blinds to prevent burglaries from the home. There were voiced concerns from the attending residents about the increase in heavy commercial traffic on Shepherds Lane. Officer Miller will address with the Sergeant in charge of commercial traffic. This concluded Officer Miller’s crime report.

Local Business Update:

Jeremy Mador introduced Jody from the Exxon station at Lindbergh and Piedmont. Jody offered a discount to WHNA members. They are a full service auto care facility. Coupons were distributed to the attending residents.

LLCC/Blueprint Update:

Jeremy Mador introduced Henry Batten from Lindbergh-LaVista Corridor Coalition. LLCC is an umbrella organization made up of concerned residents and businesses of Lindridge-Martin Manor, LaVista Park, and Woodland Hills, and was formed to study the issues facing the corridor and have an influence on the changes that face the area. In December of 2008 LLCC completed the *Blueprints for Successful Communities* planning project in partnership with the Georgia Conservancy and Georgia Tech’s City and Regional Planning Program. Henry provided detailed slides of the study’s findings and recommendations for the area. Part one of the final report can be found here:

http://www.lindberghlavista.org/Blueprints%20Files/Meeting%204%20Presentation_Part_1.pdf .

Part two of the final report can be found here:

http://www.lindberghlavista.org/Blueprints%20Files/Meeting4%20Presentation_Part_2.pdf . Or by going

to the LLCC website, <http://www.lindberghlavista.org>, navigating to the Blueprints Study tab, then to Meeting Four, and finally to the Final Report 1 and 2 tabs. During the presentation there were many comments from the attending residents about the recommendations of the study. The study was very structured and involved four meetings between August and December of 2008 where residents had opportunity to voice concerns and suggestions. These concerns and suggestions were heavily considered when the Georgia Conservancy and Georgia Tech’s City and Regional Planning Program formed their final recommendations.

Henry stressed the need for more involvement from Woodland Hills residents to execute the recommendations. Currently there is only one resident of Woodland Hills on the LLCC board.

Introduction of New Board:

Jeremy Mador introduced new board as follows:

Brad Grulke, President
Sarah Hailey, Vice President
Amy Chism, Registrar and Membership Coordinator
Kate Martin, Secretary and Neighborhood Watch Co-Chair
Bobby Ward, Treasurer and Neighborhood Watch Co-Chair
Jeremy Mador, Social Chair and Zoning Coordinator
Jesse Thompson, Webmaster

After introduction of the new board the floor was turned over to Brad Grulke. Brad recapped what the board has been up to since the last quarterly meeting in October. In December the board got to know one another and discussed individual goals for WHNA. In January the board elected officers and laid out the main goals for 2009.

Goals for WHNA for 2009:

Immediate Goals:

- **Redo bylaws to be more practical to our needs.**
- **Membership Drive:** Sarah Hailey spoke about membership drive and the social committee in lieu of Amy Chism who was absent from the meeting.

It is the goal of the WHNA board to achieve 25% paid membership of the 600 homes within Woodland Hills and raise \$4000 for the 2009 fund. The membership year will run from July 1st to June 30th. Prior to the next year we will increase WHNA exposure by face to face contact with 75% of prospects.

Action Steps:

- 1- Form canvass committees.
 - 2- Create and mail postcard to all residents 2 weeks prior to drive.
 - 3- Create handouts for prospects that includes:
 - a. Flyer:
 - i. Mission Statement
 - ii. Overview of WHNA priorities and goals
 - iii. Benefits of membership
 - b. Membership Form
 - i. Basic contact information
 - ii. List of volunteer opportunities
 - 4- Canvass neighborhood
 - 5- Obtain follow-up information if necessary
 - 6- Promote on WHNA web-site
 - 7- Follow up postcard or flyer with results of membership drive, volunteers for community events & dates of upcoming meetings/events.
- **Increased Social Events:** Jeremy Mador discussed social goals for 2009. Social events for 2009 to include a membership drive kickoff cookout in April or May, a movie night in July or August, Halloween trick or treat, and Holiday Luminaries during the holiday season.

Long Term Goals: Create a community, make area more pedestrian friendly, have a say in development of area.

Attending residents provided feedback regarding the need to keep website updated. One attending resident suggested WHNA member yard sign/door stickers as a means to increase membership. Sarah again stressed the need for WH involvement in LLCC.

Update on Surrounding Area:

Brad spoke about upcoming meetings in the surrounding area.

A meeting regarding the Executive Park Project will be Tuesday evening, February 24th 2009, 6:30 PM at the Maloof Auditorium of the County Administration Building on Commerce Drive in Decatur. There will be a full hearing before the Board of Commissioners including several rezoning requests in addition to several matching Special Land Use Permits (SLUPs) associated with the project.

Briarcliff/N Druid Hills Technical Advisory Committee Meeting: Three meetings are coming up and offer opportunities for our input. The dates and locations are:

2/6 from 7-9 PM at the Westminster Presbyterian Church
2/21 from 7-9 PM at Post Briarcliff Community Room
2/28 from 7-9 PM at Executive Park #4

NE Beltline Event: There will be a meeting regarding the NE portion of the Beltline project at City Hall East 1st floor on 2/12 at 6 PM.

Residents were encouraged to attend these meetings to represent Woodland Hills interest.

There were no further questions or comments from the attendance and the meeting was concluded.