

# Elizabeth Community Association Board Meeting Minutes

## January 18, 2010

### Hawthorne Recreation Center

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Board Members Present: Nancy Albert, Beth Haenni, Amanda Loftus, Kristin Magas, Matt Nurkin, Maya Packard, Susan Plott, Todd Rubenson, Melanie Sizemore,

Board Members Absent: John Albert, Kara Gooding, Dana Inge, Debbie Johnson, Terry Lett, Ruffin Pearce, Suzanne Phillips, Peter Tart, Roxie Towns, Amy Williams, Freda Zeh

#### Guests

- Patsy Kinsey – City Council
  - Officer Sprague – Crime Report
  - Melissa Vrana – CPCC
  - Antoine Ensley, candidate for County Sheriff
  - Winn Maddrey, Cliff Settlemyer, Monte Ritchey
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Matt calls meeting to order.

Crime update – Officer Sprague – For Dec., 39 incidents. Nine larcenies from autos. Three residential burglaries. On 7<sup>th</sup>, three women smashed a window, took electronics. Another was family members. Clarice was a storage shed. 15.5% drop in crime for the year. Residential burglaries down 38.5%.

Antoine Ensley – Candidate for County Sheriff. Charlotte resident for 20 years. CMPD for 12 years – actually helped train Officer Sprague! Left to be a police chief in Fletcher, NC for a few years. Norfolk, VA, served in juvenile programs. Partnered with a series of outside non-profits (Casey Foundation, Burns Institute) to decrease rate of juvenile detentions, helped turn around young lives. “Mecklenburg has a good sheriff dept, but needs more leadership. We can’t build enough jails to solve our crime problem. Need to start with young people, and help them get on a better path... and focus on decrease recidivism. Want to do the same thing here we did in VA – break down the silos, work together in collaborative fashion. I’m a consensus builder and think that’s what we need.” Primary is May 4. General is November. Filing period starts in February.

Melissa Vrana – CPCC – Arts Festival – Sensoria...will shut down Elizabeth Ave on Saturday... partnering with Clean & Green so it will be very environmentally focused... April 12-17... will have the U.S. Poet Laureate... will have a Pulitzer Prize winning historian... many other attractions. One goal is to keep it green, keep it sustainable. Everything will be recycled, food will come from local growers, etc. Music during the day on Saturday will be free/open to public... but Tosco Music Party on Saturday night will be a ticketed event. [melissa.vrana@cpcc.edu](mailto:melissa.vrana@cpcc.edu).

Presbyterian Lenten Series – Caldwell Memorial, Presbyter Hospital, etc. Wednesdays at lunch from mid-February through end of March. Contact Reverend Cleghorn at Caldwell for details.

Girls on the Run scheduling an event this spring May 8. But we have an agreement with them to not try to double-book sponsors in conflict with Elizabeth 8K Road Race.

Elizabeth Road Race is scheduled for April 17. \$3500 in sponsorships committed so far. Presbyterian Orthopedic Hospital will be key sponsor. Hawthorne's also will be a key sponsor. Looking at having some post-race live music. Race course mostly the same.

Recycling-Hazmat Day – Need to pick a date. Beth Haenni will handle.

Easter Egg Hunt – Beth will schedule for either one or two weeks before Easter.

Progressive Dinner – Floating as either April 24 or May 1.

Pet Food Drive – Barbie Leach wants to do neighborhood pet food drive. Should coincide with the Easter Egg Hunt as we usually have a petting zoo. Barbie will coordinate.

Nancy – Winter issue of the newsletter came out – mostly good, but print quality not as good as in the past. Grayed out a little bit. Kinko's has agreed to give us a discount on next issue to compensate for poor print quality. February 15 is deadline for the March issue.

### Zoning

Winter Properties Update – December mtg, we discussed the development notes...they're looking for rezoning to a MUDD-CD zoning. Bottom line is after feedback, we're conditionally supporting, if developer work out some remaining issues, e.g., trees, setbacks, materials, etc. At public meeting, we gave this feedback with conditional support. Important caveat – We went on record that we do not support the proposed density of the project and do not want this to set a precedent for the neighborhood. We negotiated some concessions on height, trees and setbacks, but will still be up to 4/5 stories at various points.

Russell proposes that we send a letter to City Council regarding our concerns on Bascom extension. (Matt reads text aloud.) Letter asks for a full, detailed traffic study to evaluate potential safety impacts. Board debated question of whether to send letter or revise. Consensus to check facts and go ahead and send, but only to CDOT. Matt will distribute to group by email tonight for fact-checking. Motion and second to send with factual corrections. Motion passed.

Area Plan – Meetings continuing every 3-4 weeks...Matt and Winn met with Debra Campbell in December to level set on process. Elizabeth Bevan, Ken Lambla, Monte Ritchey and others have been meeting before and after formal meetings to discuss issues and strategies. Have been through four or five meetings so far. Process has made it very difficult for meaningful community participation and feedback. Additional issue is that there are far too many independent, unconnected and uncoordinated planning processes operating in parallel...and too many current development projects already underway that are moving ahead with no consideration of longer-term area plan guidelines.

CPCC expansion plans – Lots of issues with overall expansion ambitions for CPCC... new parking deck at 7<sup>th</sup> and Charlottetown is only one example...but we still have many issues to navigate and negotiate regarding future of greenway development, Uptown connectivity, etc. ECA members should at least come down and speak at the public hearing regarding the disposition of the various components of the parcels of land including Memorial Stadium and surrounding acreage.

Matt adjourns the meeting.