

Northgate Park Neighborhood Association Meeting – July 20, 2006

- Meeting held at 6:30 PM on July 20, 2006 at the Civitan Club on Glendale Avenue
- 16 people in attendance
- New Officers are as follows:

President – Caitlin Archdeacon

Secretary – Jennifer Kleckner

Vice-President – Nancy Rizzo

Treasurer – Jeff Dougan

Board Members – Mark Ambrose, Banks Dixon, and Nancy Grandjean, and Cheryl Shiflett

- Treasurer Report: \$2134.67 (last report)
 + \$300.00 (memberships)
 + \$1.13 (interest)
 - \$282.96 (two checks)
 = \$2152.84 (balance as of 07/20/06)
- Dues are \$10.00 per year for each household.
- No minutes available from the last meeting (June picnic at Northgate Park/ election of new officers)

- **Old Business:**

1) Dog Park (and Northgate Park in general)

- Uncertainty as to when dog park will open → waiting on General Services to sign off on it, possible groundbreaking in August.
- The dog park will be located where the ball park is presently located.
- Other renovations to Northgate Park in general will wait until the stream rehab is done. The stream rehab will not be complete until work on I-85 is done.
- Caitlin will contact the city regarding adding disposal bags and additional trashcans to other areas of the park.
- There is currently a moratorium on fertilizer and *Round Up* used in the park.
- There is a concern about the increase in poison ivy → request for city to notify us of the park's maintenance schedule.

2) Speeding in the Neighborhood

- E-mail Caitlin at caitlinarchdeacon@hotmail.com with intersections, streets, and blocks that are of concern.
- Caitlin will contact Phil Loziak with the city to see what can be done with a monitoring system to implement speed bumps or four way stops.

- A question was raised as far as the impact of the dog park and traffic. Twenty parking spaces will be allotted in the parking lot for the dog park.

- **New Business**

1) National Night Out

- NPNA will host National Night Out on Tuesday, August 1 from 6:30 – 8:00 PM on Ruby Street on the block between Washington Street and Ruffin Street.

- As a large neighborhood, we move the location of this event to better promote meeting one another.

- National Night Out is “a unique crime/drug prevention event sponsored by the [National Association of Town Watch](#) (NATW) . . .” Its purpose is to heighten crime and drug prevention awareness; generate support for, and participation in, local anticrime programs; strengthen neighborhood spirit and police-community partnerships; and send a message to criminals letting them know that neighborhoods are organized and fighting back”

- You can find more information at <http://www.durhampolice.com/nno/> or contact Officer Eric Hester for more information.

- Signatures from the people who live in that area are needed → Nancy Rizzo has taken on this responsibility.

- Ideas for advertising were discussed – Red & White, Don Becero, the board at Club Blvd. Elementary School, a plastic banner on the bridge, www.ilovenorthgate.com, flyers in the kiosk, and signs from the police department.

- NPNA will provide paper products, utensils, and beverages. Everyone who attends should bring a dish to share with those in attendance.

2) Durham Inter-Neighborhood Council's Honor Your Neighborhood Hero Awards

- Nominations must be received by August 10, 2006 → e-mail Caitlin at caitlinarchdeacon@hotmail.com with an explanation of who you want to nominate and why.

- More information is posted on the listserv or at <http://www.durhaminc.org/>

3) INC and Animal Control Issues

- The next INC meeting will be on July 25. The meeting will, in part, focus on animal control issues, in particular, inhumane tethering of dogs.

- As per INC's website - INC meets on the **fourth Tuesday of each month** (except November and December of this year) at 7:00 PM in the Community Room of the Herald Sun Newspaper office (this is a new location beginning in June, 2005), 2828 Pickett Road in Durham.

4) Bragtown Animal Hospital on Roxboro Road

- This is an investment property that is in unkempt condition and has been vacant for five years..

- Commercial properties are under different restrictions from the city → how to approach this?

Northgate Park Neighborhood Association Meeting – August 17, 2006

- Meeting held at 6:30 PM on August 17, 2006 at the Civitan Club on Glendale Avenue
- 16 people in attendance
- Treasurer Report: None available
- July meeting minutes were approved.
- **Old Business:**

1) National Night Out

- NNO was held on Tuesday, August 1 from 6:00 – 8:00 PM on Ruby Street on the block between Washington Street and Ruffin Street.

- It was not very well attended (~25 people) possibly due to the heat, short notice, and people not knowing about the event.

- Last year's event had a much larger turnout possibly because NPNA paired with CVNA.

2) INC's Recommendation on Dog Chaining/ Tethering

- INC met on Tuesday, July 25 to discuss dog chaining/ tethering.

- The organization recommended a complete ban on “continuous” dog chaining/ tethering. It will go to the County Commissioners to vote on.

- INC will need to spell out “continuous” to ensure clear wording for the ordinance.

3) Dog Park and Other Northgate Park Renovations

- October was promised as a key date for the park.

- Cheryl Shiflett will contact the city/ park architect about coming to the October meeting to clarify what is going on with the park.

- **New Business:**

1) Section 8 Housing Used as Drug Houses

- Information on Section 8 housing can be found at the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's webpage (<http://www.hud.gov/offices/pih/programs/hcv/index.cfm>)

- Landlords have to be certified to rent Section 8 houses. They accept vouchers from the Federal Gov't instead of rent which provides the landlords with guaranteed income.

- There is concern that tenants at some of these houses are using them as drug houses; if they are caught doing so, they will be evicted. Call 911 if there is evidence of someone maintaining a drug house.

2) Washington Street Bridge

- The Washington Street bridge was widened, in part, because of the bicycle plan and in case of future expansions.
- The city thought the street would be a two lane road with wide shoulders and a turn lane for it on Club Blvd.; however, it was striped incorrectly by the state. The city wants the re-striping done at the state's expense.
- Line Dempsey will draft a letter to the city and the state traffic departments encouraging them to make the bridge more bicycle and pedestrian friendly. The NPNA board will read over it and make changes, if necessary, before it is sent to the traffic departments.

3) Upcoming Events in Northgate Park Neighborhood

- PAC (Partners Against Crime) Meetings are held the second Monday of each month at 6 PM at E.K. Powe Elementary School. More information on these organization can be found online at <http://www.durhampolice.com/districts/d2pac.cfm>
- This fall, meetings will be held on September 21, October 19, and November 16 (potluck).
- The annual "Clean Sweep" of Ellerbee Creek will be on Saturday, October 7 from 9AM – 12PM. Participants will walk down the creek from Lavender to Avondale to clean out trash/ debris. The trash/debris is then taken to collection points for pick up by the city. Cheryl or Mike Shiflett are the coordinators of this event.
- "Trunk or Treat" will also be in October. In the past, "Trunk or Treat" was held in conjunction with Parkview Baptist Church. Trick or treaters go from trunk to trunk to gather their candy, providing parents with a safe place to take their children. Last year, approximately 150 children came to the event. Mark Ambrose will contact CVNA and invite them to join us for this event.
- The Night of Lights/ Luminaries will be on December 10 in the park.

4) NPNA Newsletter

- A newsletter should go out in September to boost attendance at October's meeting. It can be printed with two weeks notice.
- Email Chris Husack at chris@bettercarolinahomes.com if you want to submit an article for the newsletter. You can list your name at the end of the article or do it anonymously.

5) Yellow Jackets

- This year is a bad one for yellow jackets because of the mild winter. Be careful as they burrow in the ground and are extremely aggressive.

6) Crime Prevention

- Master Officer Eric Hester has asked Cheryl Shiflett to head up crime prevention initiatives in the neighborhood.
- Cheryl will invite Master Officer Hester to September's meeting to discuss ways to prevent crime, including a Neighborhood Watch.

- Master Officer Hester will perform free home security checks. E-mail Cheryl at scjdurham@aol.com if you are interested, and she will forward your information to him.
- Master Officer Hester has also said he will come to the neighborhood one Saturday to walk it with residents, critique it, and offer suggestions on how to improve safety.
- Residents should also consider who they are bringing into the neighborhood. Assess who is “safe” and who is not.

7) NPNA Membership Recruitment

- Concern that membership in NPNA is low – why?
- Find out what people want from the NPNA through a survey. Also, what programs would people like to have at the meetings?
- Possibly take a map of the neighborhood, divide it into segments, go door to door, and invite people to attend meetings.

8) Elderly Neighbors and How to Help Them

- Nancy Rizzo will chair an Elderly Outreach Committee with assistance from Mike Shiflett.
- NPNA can possibly assist elderly neighbors with safety projects, etc.

9) Roxboro/ Avondale Business District

- The Beaver Pond Business Association has held three meetings with business owners in this district.
- Vagrants, drug dealers, and prostitutes are among the problems facing these businesses.
- The BPBA is currently focusing on the area from Club Blvd. to I-85.
- There will be an October cleanup with citizens helping the businesses to show that we want to use their businesses; however, we will not tolerate our safety being compromised.
- It was suggested that NPNA, CVNA, and DPNA could come together at next year’s National Night Out in this area.

Northgate Park Neighborhood Association Meeting – November 16, 2006

- Meeting held at 6:30 PM on November 16, 2006 at the Civitan Club on Glendale Avenue
- Neighbors in attendance: Mark Ambrose; Caitlin Archdeacon; Abigail Blosser; Jeff, Kirsten, and Leo Dougan; Jennifer Kleckner; and Lisa and Jacob Pitts
- Treasurer Report:
 - Balance → \$2154.28
- September and October meeting minutes were approved.

- **Old Business:**

- 1) *Trunk or Treat*

- Low turnout this year because the event was held on Saturday, October 28.
 - NPNA will work with Parkview Baptist Church to hold the event on October 31 next year.

- 2) *NPNA Welcome Packets*

- tabled until the January meeting.

- 3) *Rezoning of House on Lavender by Northgate Park*

- Nancy Rizzo not present to report on Board of Adjustments Hearing.

- 4) *Northgate Park Clean Up*

- The clean up will be held on December 9 to get things in order for the Night of Lights on 12/17.
 - If you are interested in participating, meet at the tennis shelter at 8:00 AM
 - Contact Mike Shiflett for more information.

- 3) *Dinosaur Trail at the Museum of Life and Science*

- The museum has not allocated funds for the preservation of the two remaining dinosaurs on the museum's property.
 - The museum is willing to work with NPNA to help preserve these structures.
 - There was an article about the dinosaurs featured in the *Durham News* several weeks ago.

- 4) *Neighborhood Watch*

- Contact Cheryl Shiflett or Master Officer Eric Hester for more information.

- **New Business**

- 1) Night of Lights*

- Night of Lights will be held on December 17 from 2:00 – 5:00 PM. There will also be a potluck on that date.

- Lisa Pitts will e-mail Cheryl Shiflett about supplies needed – white bags, candles, sand.

- Mark Ambrose will check to see if sand is available at his work.

- 10 luminaries are \$5.00 for NPNA members and \$8.00 for non-members

- Possibly pro-rate membership at this event.

- 2) Donation to the Civitan Club*

- Since the Civitan Club lets NPNA meet for free, NPNA will donate \$200 to their organization.

- 3) Sympathy to Family of Marvin Martin*

- Marvin Martin lived on Higbee Street and was killed by a street sweeper.

- Jennifer Kleckner will contact the NPNA Board of Directors to determine whether NPNA should send a card and/ or a donation for a charitable cause to his family.

- 4) Coastal Federal Credit Union*

- CFCU will be the new bank for NPNA.