

Northgate Park Neighborhood Association

Board Meeting

January 16 2020 7PM

Friendly City Civitan Club 2510 Glendale Ave

Attending: Neighborhood members Cheryl Shiflett, Annie Burtoff, Bobby Stone, Kim Snyder, Jennifer Hill, Carol Henderson, Dan Singer, Chris Higgins, Angel Romero, Eleanor Mills Board Members: Alice Kolacinski, Bernie Page, Deb Hawkins, Ian Pond, Jeremy Jorgensen, Kara Andrade, Mike Shiflett, Sue Gilbertson, Tom Melby

6:30 Bill Judge_Durham Department of Transportation Assistant Director and Pete Nicholas Transportation Engineer III spoke regarding traffic concerns around the neighborhood

The Durham Dept. of Transportation is responsible for lights, signs. Not potholes. Inside Durham most roads are city or state roads, not county. State roads in/near our neighborhood include Roxboro, Avondale, and portions of Club. The lights on 85 are state.

The Durham DoT has 2 big initiatives: 1) switching out current street lights for LED lights 2)Vison Zero, which is a program working toward zero traffic fatalities

DOT is investing in alternative transportation like bike and pedestrian. Near our neighborhood, the city is putting in a sidewalk on the west side of Roxboro going from Murray to Pacific.

2017 City Council did updated bike walk plan. Focusing on highest priorities, they are working on multiple projects. Some sidewalk and intersection projects are in progress and some complete. 25 corridor project (longer bike and pedestrian) will also be done. One is a sidewalk on N Duke St by N Duke mall.

The city is also installing a new traffic signal system. The current traffic signals are from 1997; many are not able to be maintained or repaired. An example of a more up to date system are the flashing yellow arrows at night on Roxboro. When a bus passes, it may extend duration of a light a couple of seconds. Also new traffic cameras which might be able to reroute heavy traffic or divert people around rising flood walkers. There is a new flashing pedestrian crossing at Roxboro and Knox; most are at schools. One at Club Blvd was installed a year ago.

Questions/comments from attendees:

Angel: Stop light at Lavender and Roxboro: has a long wait time and a very short walk time. Since many cars run the red light there, the walk time seems insufficient.

Deb: light timing at Leon and Duke. Also westbound on Club near Northgate Park. The lights are not timed for going west on Club.

INFO: A light must allow a pedestrian 3.4ft/ sec to go from one side to the other, so it is different for different width intersections. A person should still be able to cross the street if they move at 3.4 ft/sec when the “don’t walk” starts to flash.

Ian: There is an inconsistency of stop signs.

Response: if stop not really needed, people will do rolling stops and just go through.

Carol: school crossing issues on Club

Kara: There are yields at roundabout which cause confusion. Why not stop signs? People are parking on the bridge at night. How to get information into transportation department system?

Response: Use Durham one call or call transportation department directly at 919-560-4366

Jennifer: Bus rapid transit is part of transportation dept. plan Thanks.

There are a lot of accidents and one death on Roxboro and Avondale. There are plans to address this but the plans are unfunded and will be environmentally difficult to do. How to advocate since Roxboro and Avondale are state roads?

Response: NC DOT does that funding, however it funds more large interstate projects, less local ones like this. Perhaps give input to the Metropolitan Planning Organization, a regional planning group with city council and county commissioners on it.

Mike: it would be good for us to have a joint traffic committee with Colonial Village. He would like to know statistics for where hot spots are.

Sue: Thanks for striping Murray for pedestrians.

Tom: Need a better crosswalk at Acadia and Club.

Dan: Traffic circle on Leon is too large.

Kim: Could we get a left turn signal at Leon and Duke? From Duke to traffic circle there are no stop signs and people go way too fast. Speed humps?

Response: speed humps: To have speed bumps installed, there has to be a petition signed by 75 % of owners on the affected street. Also, the fire dept. can veto speed humps if they think they will interfere with their ability to arrive at fires expeditiously.

Bobby: at least 10 cars have crashed into his yard on Leon east of Duke. Something needs to be done to slow traffic!

Alice: need more sidewalks because of age of neighborhood.

Cheryl: corner of Club and Acadia is a problem. Would like an accident report count for the last 5 years of 1) 85 entrance ramps and 2) Roxboro and Club intersection

Bernie: Could we get a stop on Shenandoah at Lavender and Shenandoah? Could something be done to slow traffic on Club by the school? More/brighter striping?

Eleanor: Glendale and Lavender needs a crosswalk painted.

Response: There are no ramps for the sidewalk there, so there cannot be a painted cross walk until there are ramps. It will take a while to do that.

Chris: Could we get a traffic circle at Highland and W Club to slow traffic on Club? And can we slow Farthing in some way?

Bill and Pete welcome more discussion. Call 919 560 4366

NPNA Meeting called to order

November Minutes approved

Treasurer's Report accepted

Report period:	Dec 1st 2019-Dec 31st 2019			
Fiscal period:	April 1st 2019 - March 31st 2020			
Memberships:	91 Current, since April 1st			
	7 Pre-paid for 2020			

					Total
Operating fund:		Contingency fund			
Beginning balance	3546.07	Beginning balance	4196.18		7742.25
Income	111	Income	4.56		115.56
Expenses	1494.29	Expenses	0		1494.29
Transfers	0	Transfers	0		
Ending balance	2162.78	Ending balance	4200.74		6363.52

Deb: NPNA is below parity on income vs expenses for newsletter due to conclusion of relationship with Northgate Mall - and should as a group consider pursuing replacement advertiser(s); and that we - per Ian's feedback - appear to have current annual expenses that are well above our cumulative income streams and should address this during our budget review when that happens.

Committee Reports

Holiday luminary celebration went well

The consensus is that it would be good to coordinate with CVNA issues.

Neighborhood Compass

Angel Romero from Colonial Village presented on neighborhood compass: Multiple factors affect health including income, education, social, environment, community, where you live etc. Funded by Blue Cross, Duke has developed a Neighborhood Compass web site that can be searched for a lot of different data. <https://compass.durhamnc.gov/en>

They are trying to make data about health accessible to communities. Community health indicators is organized by neighborhoods. One measure is done by census tract. Northgate Park is in two census tracts. Angel would like around 10 people interested in going to hour long presentation and having a discussion. Then it is up to community to

decide what they would like to do. This initiative is sponsored by Duke Division of Community Health. It wants to share the information with neighborhoods, but does not have funding to carry out further actions desired by neighborhoods. It might be able to lend its expertise in how to obtain help. Angel will put request on list serve and collect names of people interested in attending presentation.

Unfinished business

Ancient history of neighborhood: Bernie reported that there is a small group, including a historian living in Northgate Park, who are interested in exploring the distant history of the area and writing short articles for the newsletter regarding the distant past of the area. The most distant history that we know is that the Eno people lived here when the first Europeans passed through. Within a century, the Eno had disappeared and the Occoneechee people were living here. Bernie moved that future Northgate Park Newsletters and letterhead have a subtitle stating "Located on Eno and Occoneechee Land". The motion died for lack of a second.

Update on NIS trail grant- Chris Huggins: There have been three work days so far. They have rerouted a section of trail, built a boardwalk and a new entrance off the Ellerbee Creek bike trail. The final work day is scheduled for Jan 25. The plan is for six signs: 3 "Welcome to Rock Quarry Park Nature Trail", and 3 that tell names of loops.

Food truck rodeo will continue next year. Trucks will be organized by Farrah.

New Business

Ian: Coordination with ECWA on creek projects: City has announced that it has funds to mitigate the erosion from Ellerbee Creek. ECWA is considering the idea of asking if they should make a wetland in the triangle between the streams.

Membership and advertising rates discussion. Leave membership rates as is. Advertising rates: we need to renew our advertisers, but will discuss rates when we discuss budget.

Suggestions for future meeting speakers Deb will speak to Annette Smith at DPR about a visit to speak on dog park status at our March meeting.

(I couldn't hear the responses about this)

Northgate Park Mall Cheryl: The developers are gathering information from neighborhoods. Suggest they be invited to speak to us. She has contact information.