

Northgate Park Neighborhood Association Board
Draft Meeting Minutes
November 21, 2024, 7:00 PM
Civitan Club - Glendale Ave

Board Members

Keith M Cochran (President), Kari Grace (Vice President), Eric Miller (Treasurer), Claire Alexander Smith (Secretary), Alice Kolacinski, Andrea Davis, Charlie Smith, Dwayne Taylor, Lisa Boggs, Nancy Kneepkens

Other Attendees

Jaimie

Tom

Finn

Kara Solomon, Conservation coordinator

Call to order - pm

Welcome/Introductions

Hearing from our neighbors / Open Discussion:

- [Kara Solomon – Conservation Coordinator / NC Wildlife Federation: Protection of Wildlife Using Sustainable Gardening Practices](#)
 - State organization with local chapter
 - 3 categories of work
 - Wildlife projects
 - Local chapter lead ‘boots on ground’ projects
 - Wildlife introductions
 - Nature walks, ed programs, online seminars
 - Voice for wildlife
 - State and federal voice for wildlife
 - Many different local NCWF community chapters
 - Welcome Durham wildlife stewards! (new chapter)
 - Butterfly highway program
 - Statewide conservation restoration initiative for pollinators
 - Register as pit stop, size does not matter!
 - Certified wildlife habitat program
 - Certify land as wildlife habitat
 - Must be food, water, cover, and places to raise young for many different species
 - Specifics can be found on NCWF website
 - Keep it clean, make it green.
 - Trash removal program
 - Every pound that is collected, they will donate a tree or pollinator plants.
 - Sustainable gardening tips!

- What are the problems??
 - Habitat loss
 - In 2023 Durham County lost 267 hectares of natural forest
 - Creates impervious surfaces and lawns where there was forest with food and shelter for animals
 - Pesticide use
 - Pesticides suppress immune system and reproductive output of pollinators
 - If you must spray, avoid flowers, spot treat, don't spray when pollinators are most active (dusk or dawn), don't spray before rain, read the label and follow directions.
 - Invasive species
 - Competes with native organisms for limited resources, causes native plant and animal extinction, reduces biodiversity and alters habitats.
- What do we do??
 - Everyone can help!
 - 85% of land in NC is privately owned.
 - Small decisions can lead to big gains!
- 5 ways
 - Food, water, cover, places to raise young, sustainable practices.
- Reduce turf grass and expand pollinator habitats!
 - Gardens over grass
 - Native plants are more sustainable and less work. They do not need much work to be fruitful.
 - Plants essential to pollinators
 - Oaks, Nectar plants,
- Great resource for native plants
 - North Carolina extension gardener plant toolbox
- Don't forget to register your garden!
 - NCWF sells seed mixtures to help you get started!
- WWW.DurhamWildlifeStewards.org
- Kara Solomon email
 - kara@ncwf.com

Took questions from board

Discussions on how to help old dog park or work with P&R

Committee? Neighborhood led meadow, Keith to get in touch with parks and rec to see how we can create that space.

Administrative:

- Minutes from September 2024

- If they haven't been shared, Claire has them and can send
- October minutes - video shared, formal notes can be shared when Claire is well if desired
- Monthly Finance Summary October 2024 shared

Report period:	Sept 1st 2024 - Sept 31st 2024			
Fiscal period:	April 1st 2024 - March 31st 2025			
Memberships:	Current, since Feb 421st			
Operating fund:		Contingency fund		Total
Beginning balance	3131.62	Beginning balance	2441.58	5573.20
Income	419.00	Income	6.63	425.63
Expenses	261.57	Expenses	0.00	261.57
Transfers	0.00	Transfers	0.00	
Ending balance	3289.05	Ending balance	2448.21	5737.26

- Monthly Finance Summary October 2024 shared

Report period:	Oct 1st 2024 - Oct 31st 2025			
Fiscal period:	April 1st 2024 - March 31st 2025			
Memberships:	44 Current, since Feb 1st			
Operating fund:		Contingency fund		Total
Beginning balance	3289.05	Beginning balance	2448.21	5737.26
Income	48.00	Income	6.85	54.85
Expenses	387.14	Expenses	0.00	387.14
Transfers		Transfers	0.00	
Ending balance	2966.91	Ending balance	2455.06	5421.97

Committee Reports:

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Old Business:

- Yard Sale (Kari)
 - Record number of participants, (27 households)
- Newsletter – new/renewing sponsors(all)
 - Thank you, Nancy and Andrea, for help with sponsors; we might actually make money now\$\$\$\$
 - Ads good for spring
 - Print newsletters for businesses, but do not add to routes.
 - Newsletter delivery needs to happen quickly hopefully before luminaries (December 8th), please review quickly
- Lead in the Parks update
 - See web page for lead updates
 - Keith is now our liaison with DPR and poison parks
 - Question for board to advocate DPR and DEQ for individual plan to remediate park.

- Once plan has been established by DPR and DEQ, NPNA will hold meeting to hear input, comments, and concerns on proposed plan
- Question for board to support asking for having more autonomy or at least notification on projects that happen in Northgate Park.
 - Keith will ask what can be done to further this

New Business:

- · Budget approval (Eric)
 - Defer money stuff to next month
- · Luminaries (December 8th)
 - Luminaries have been prepared, need help distributing and educating neighbors on their responsibility to set up their luminaries and read the instructions that are included in the packs.
 - Kari made a map!

Announcements:

- David and the Too Many Cases band performing at the October Food Truck Rodeo earmarked the proceeds of evening to hurricane relief in western NC - they raised \$350 which they donated to the United Way of Henderson County
- Chantelle Fisher-Bourne, organizer of the Elgin St Halloween Party thanked NPNA for contributing funding

Open discussion:

To be recorded in the minutes:

- Keith Cochran proposed an online motion “that the NPNA provide funds up to \$200 to support the Elgin St Halloween Festival for 2024.” Motioned seconded by Alice Kolacinski. Quorum established; motion passed unanimously during online voting period
- Charlie Smith proposed an online motion “that the NPNA host a free lead testing event in conjunction with Durham Public Health at Keystone Church on Thursday, October 24th from 5:30 to 7:30 pm.” Motion seconded by Keith M Cochran, Quorum established; motion passed unanimously during online voting period

Adjourn - 9pm