

**Columbia Heights Civic Association
Minutes of 9/28/09 Annual Meeting (1st draft, 11/09/09)**

Member Attendees: Geoff Gerhardt, Ron Haddox, Sarah McKinley, Ed Miltenberger, Allen Muchnick, Linh Ong, Tutu Phim Vieg Kham (tphimvie@gmail.com).

Guests: Kelly Brown, County staff for the Neighborhood Conservation Program.

1) Call to Order: The meeting was held at the Walter Reed Community Center (WRCC) and began shortly after 7:00 PM.

2) Election of the Board of Directors: Ron moved and Sarah seconded that the slate of six candidates (Geoff, Ron, Sarah, Ed, Allen, and Linh) for board election listed on the ballot mailed to the entire 2008-09 CHCA membership be approved by acclamation. The vote to elect with slate was unanimous (6-0). One board seat remains vacant and should be filled ASAP. The new CHCA president will announce this vacancy to the CHCA membership.

3) Election of NCAC Representative and Alternate: Ed moved and Linh seconded to elect Sarah as our Neighborhood Conservation Advisory Committee (NCAC) representative, and Sarah was elected by a unanimous (7-0) vote. Ed then moved and Geoff seconded to elect Ed as our NCAC Alternate Representative, and Ed's election was also unanimous (7-0).

4) Election of ACCF Delegates and Alternates: Sarah moved and Ed seconded to elect Linh and Allen as our delegates and Geoff and Ron as our alternates to the Arlington County Civic Federation (ACCF). This vote was also unanimous (7-0). CHCA is entitled to four ACCF delegates and four alternates.

5) CHCA Meeting Minutes for 2008-2009. Allen and Sarah will collaborate to complete and compile draft minutes of every CHCA meeting held during the past year for board approval at an upcoming meeting.

6) Treasurer's Annual Report for 2008-2009. Outgoing treasurer Geoff Gerhardt submitted a written financial report for our fiscal year, 10/1/08 through 9/30/09. Total income was \$813.00 and expenditures totaled \$620.94, yielding a net gain of \$192.06. Accordingly, the CHCA bank account at BB&T grew from an initial balance of \$545.62 to a final balance of \$737.62. CHCA had "57 paid members". Sarah moved and Ron seconded to adopt this annual financial report as submitted, and the vote to do so was unanimous (7-0).

7) Report and Discussion of Neighborhood Conservation Projects: Sarah and Kelly reported that Arlington's Neighborhood Conservation Program allocated funding to two CHCA projects during the past year: the Walter Reed Community Center (WRCC) fence and gateway project (\$350,000) and an upgrade of the street lighting along S. Barton St, along 16th St S between Barton and Edgewood Sts, and along S. Edgewood St between 16th St S and 13th Rd S. (>\$350,000).

* **The WRCC fence and gateway project** will be ready to advance to construction once Arlington Village decides whether or not to keep its existing wooden privacy fence.

* **CHCA Neighborhood Signs:** Sarah said that it may be feasible to incorporate a CHCA neighborhood sign into the WRCC project, and CHCA should eventually receive funding for at least three neighborhood signs. Linh, who owns a sign production business, agreed to coordinate the design of our neighborhood signs.

* **Streetlight Project:** Kelly reported that the streetlight project will install 43 Carlisle streetlamps in place of the existing Colonial streetlamps along both sides of the above-mentioned streets. To the extent feasible, the new streetlamps will be located in the same general locations as the existing streetlamps, and project development will be closely coordinated (e.g., for easements) with the three affected condominium associations, the largest of which is Arlington Village. Directional boring technology will install the wiring conduit underground. Sodium vapor lamps will be used, but these could be upgraded to more efficient light emitting diode (LED) lamps in the future.

* **Sidewalk Project:** The next CHCA project will be to build a missing sidewalk and may include new streetlights too. The CHCA board must nominate a candidate sidewalk project by mid-November for the project to be eligible for the next (spring 2010) funding round. Kelly has identified two sidewalk projects with good potential: 11th St S between S Cleveland and S Edgewood Sts and 13th St S between S Cleveland and S Edgewood Sts (Geoff's block). Kelly distributed a handout with aerial and ground photos of the two candidate blocks along with lists of the advantages and challenges associated with the two blocks. These projects could be limited to just one side of the street. Geoff suggested that a new sidewalk along 11th St S should connect to the Arlington Village sidewalk along the east side of S Cleveland St, and Allen asked whether the project could be scoped to include that short additional missing link. Kelly had also looked at the missing sidewalks along 12th St S between S Cleveland and S Edgewood Sts but the potential loss of the mature trees along that block could be a significant problem. Sarah said CHCA must submit a letter nominating a new NCAC project by November 15 for that project to start accumulating points toward a funding award.

8) Election of CHCA Officers and CHCA Monthly Meeting Schedule: In Ron's absence, the remaining CHCA directors agreed to divide the 2009-2010 officer positions as follows: Ron as president, Sarah as vice president, Ed as treasurer, and Allen as secretary. We also agreed to schedule our monthly CHCA meetings for the second Monday of each month.

Respectfully submitted,

Allen Muchnick, CHCA Secretary