

August 31, 2016 7:00 pm- 9:00 pm

Greater Glenwood Neighborhood Association Minutes

In attendance: Elizabeth Benton, Mitzi Griffin, Becky Kates, Principal Kim Leake, Casey Thomas, Patricia Wisneski

The meeting was called to order.

Discussion on Schools Serving Glenwood

- Principal Leake visited us from Peck Elementary School to discuss how Peck is doing, what their needs are, and how the GGNA and Glenwood residents might pitch in. The vast majority of the students who attend Peck live in the Greater Glenwood area.
- Peck needs tutors, and they must pass a background check to be eligible. They also need clothing for the clothing closet they keep at their school. Additionally, they have clean up days for the grounds, and volunteers would be appreciated.
 - This summer, Glenwood Presbyterian passed out bagged lunches for kids on Friday, when the schools were closed.
- They are in the process of starting the PTA! They have not had a lot of parental involvement because a lot of students move around, making it difficult to build or sustain a PTA. A teacher at the school is in the process of writing bylaws and recruiting parents.
- Additionally, Peck sits on one of the biggest pieces of land compared to other Guilford County Schools. Principal Leake thought would be great to have a state of the art school. The school itself has really aged, and needs more upkeep. She said that Peck has the potential to be a great school and in many ways is a great school. She would like for people to have a more positive image of Peck and for test scores to improve. One issue facing the school is that they are losing kids to charter schools. Peck does not have sports teams.

Reading of the Minutes

- The minutes were approved.

Safety/Police Report

- Officer Larry Roberts gave the police report.
- There was a homicide at 1308 Glenwood in which the victim was beaten to death. There was a report of gunfire, but they are not sure if it is related. Currently, their leads are vague, but CSI got some leads.
- The police are watching for gang activity near Grove St. They suspect anarchists. The 1300 block of Grove St. will be a “score location” with high visibility cars. It is an area that has a high activity of crime within the past

month that they have decided to focus in on. There were two car-burglaries recently. Additionally, there were gunshots on August 30th in the evening.

- There is a speeding radar on Oak and Aycock Street that will be there for approximately the next 14 days.

Housing Report

- Beth Benton gave the housing report.
- The Housing Department is currently looking for a field officer to hire.
- There are 24 Nuisance lot clean up cases that were brought into compliance. 16 vehicle cases were brought into compliance. 9 Zoning cases were brought into compliance, and 5 housing/rental cases were brought into compliance.
- Currently there are 48 active nuisance/lot clean up cases. There are 8 active vehicle cases, 8 active zoning cases, and 61 Active Housing rental cases. Of the 61, 25 are in process, 2 in a housing rehab program, 6 referred to or pending MHC, 5 are pending demolition, but are under construction with new owners. An additional 22 are pending demolition with no action. 1 Demolition is in process.
- There are investors who are purchasing a variety of houses in Glenwood that are in the neighborhood, and who are interested in renovating them and selling them.

Treasury Report

- The primary share account has \$666.44. The Share Draft account has \$2469.66.
- No funds were expended.
- We received a check for \$12.00 for a T-shirt from Elizabeth.
- Alice Ashman has requested that we refund her donation to the legal fund that never developed. We are looking through past records and will reach out to her to determine how much she is owed.
- *Tangent- We have t-shirts and bumper stickers as well and will strategize around selling them.

Transitions & Open Board Positions

- Our previous president resigned after frustrations with the delay in getting her put on the bank account. Over the summer, the previous president, Elizabeth Keathley and Secretary were travelling, busy, and not available to go to the bank as quickly as Kathryn would have liked. Although accounting definitely impacts transparency, there is no attempt to hide anything about the GGNA finances. Becky Kates noted that things happen slowly in the summer and that this is a volunteer organization where people are volunteering their precious time.
- *Tangent- There was discussion of putting plants are drought resistant, and do not require maintenance or pruning, to put in front of Peck Elementary school. To see if there is a grant that we might be able to apply. Mitzi noted that large bushes would be a safety concern. Casey noted that we should try

to engage with the things that Principal Leake mentioned. Patricia noted that cleaning up the yard was something the principal mentioned. We may pursue this as an opportunity.

- There is a Vice President Position Open, and a Treasurer position open.
- Kristin Cooper is interested in running for treasurer. She is very sick this evening. I have worked for a nonprofit organization, Bio Excel from 89-96, I was boy scout leader from 96-2000. I have T&Red over 70 ferals and adopted out over 200 kittens, 32 since moving to Greensboro. I am dedicated to making Glenwood Better. I have a bachelors in Social Work from William Paterson University.
- Patricia nominates Kristin Cooper, Mitzi Nominates herself for Vice President.
- Voting is happening next month. Self Nominations are due September 16th.

Discussion on Changing the Meeting Day

- We will send out a poll out on the list serve to see when people are available to meet. The people's market has been very successful and is engaging people. A change to Wednesday might be helpful in getting more attendees. This would potentially enable Ray Trapp, our County Commissioner to attend some of our meetings. Mitzi brought up the consideration of Wednesday nights being a difficulty because of the football games and the church's meetings that are on Wednesday evenings.

Movie Night

- We will reach out to the Principal of Peck Elementary to see if we might host a movie night there. We will aim for September 24th, but find out what days work for the Principal.
- We are considering having food, hotdogs or popcorn- at the event. Selling hotdogs. Casey proposed that we sell them for 50 Cents to be able to recoup some money. Becky suggested we do an analysis to see what we would sell them for to break even, and sell them for that price. Southern Foods has helped the GGNA with discounts on food in the past.

* Tangent* We discussed the transition to a 501c3. It was discussed that we need to organize our accounting system beforehand.

Fall Festival

- The Fall Festival will be on Friday, October 21st from 6-9 pm. Patricia volunteers to paint games glow in the dark. We will reach out to Hope Academy and Jackson to see if their students are interested in helping with face-painting. We will use games from previous GGNA events and solicit games from other sources. We will also reach out to the Mosque, the Interactive Resource Center, churches in Glenwood, and other community organizations to see if they would be interested in running a booth. We will use a laptop/ipod DJ. We will ask a grocery store to do pumpkin carving

station (Deep Roots). Advertising – Patricia suggested that we request that the Chancellor help with printing yard signs, a mailing to advertise it.

Little Food Pantries

- We will research locations, prices, and how to get one built so that we can explore the idea of building little food pantries. They look like the little libraries, but are for food, toiletries, dried goods etc. There were concerns about food safety, even of non-perishable foods. We are considering asking UNCG to throw some in, as part of their construction project. There are also people who do carpentry. Maintenance was a consideration, as well as moisture that might get into it.

Announcements

September 17th is Community Housing Solutions Paint the Town Event! Email Gwen Frisbee Fulton at gfrisbiefulton@gmail.com to volunteer to paint!

The meeting was adjourned.