

HILLSBORO-WEST END NEIGHBORS

HWEN Minutes

5/01/17

Members Present: Tom Cash, Susan Shipani, Mary Skinner, Tom Grooms, Jenny Cheng, Paul Picelli, Wesley Wilson, Burkley Allen, Mickey Panucci, Mary Crichton, Lois Fleming, Jan Bushing, Phil Ryan, Gill Murrey, Lois Fleming, Tim Douglas, Miriam Mimms, Ted Davis III, James Moore

1. Tom Cash welcomed board members and guests: Burkley Allen, Vivian Wilhoite, and Joe Prochaska.
2. April minutes were approved
3. Treasurer's Report was presented. No changes were made.
4. Guests

- **Councilmember Burkley Allen** discussed 2 bills coming up regarding **short-term rentals**: -One would phase out nonowner short-term rentals in the city's residential districts by 2019; the other bill would place lower limits on occupancy in short-term rentals. She said that on the state level, there is a proposed amendment that would take away a city's right to regulate short-term rentals. She said that Nashville has the highest percentage of people who have registered for short-term rental permits in the state.

- Allen also discussed the following items: There is an upcoming meeting scheduled with parties interested in the Catholic diocese property. There is a preconstruction meeting scheduled concerning the Orleans project. Friends of Elmington Park has a meeting scheduled to discuss issues such as adding portable toilets. The sidewalk bill has passed. Builders are required to build a sidewalk if a beginning of a sidewalk exists or if not, pay a fee to Nashville's sidewalk fund. In regards to the city's art work, there is an inventory planned to determine funds necessary to maintain existing art work.

- **Vicky Wilhoite, Davidson County property assessor**, said that two mailings of the new **property appraisals** have gone out, one of which the appraisals had the greatest impact on property taxes. Homes in HWEN's zip code were not in the highest of impact areas. She said that residents can request a review if they are dissatisfied. She said that it is important to let her office know if there is anything wrong in the report. May 19,2017 is the deadline to file an informal review, and residents will be notified of the results by June 13, 2017. If people are not satisfied with the results of the informal review, they can schedule an appeal to the Metropolitan Board of Equalization. She distributed a pamphlet with information such as phone numbers and web sites to complete this process. Wilhoite added that the tax rate was reduced in order to offset the increased property appraisals. If property value increased less than 37%, residents could pay less in property taxes this year.

- **Joe Prochaska** spoke about **Fairfax Flats**, at the end of Fairfax Ave., adjacent to an alley behind the Continental Apartments. It is visible from West End Ave. but there is no car access to and from that street. Because this parcel has 22 and a half inches on Fairfax, its address will be on Fairfax. The developer is proposing a building with 21 units, 4 stories

tall, and with underground parking. Each 1 bedroom apartment will have one parking space and 2 bedroom apartments will have one and a half. There will also be parking spaces backing up to the alley. This is the same alley that residents in Continental use to enter and leave their parking lot. Joe and other neighbors are organizing an appeal that it fronts on Fairfax Avenue. A motion was made to support this appeal, and it was seconded and approved.

5. **Beautification Committee** – Wesley said that Clean-up Day will have to be rescheduled due to a storm. It is rescheduled for May 13. The Plant Swap is this Saturday at 407 Chesterfield.

6. The **Dragon Parade and Ice Cream Social** is on **Sunday 5/21** – Phil said that we need volunteers to scoop ice cream and to be the Dragon Wrangler. He passed around a volunteer sheet. We need 6-8 people for ice cream.

7. **Dragon Music Sundays** –

- 4 Sundays in a row – 5/21-6/11 -We have acts lined up, including El Macho for 5/21.
- Communications will push the dragon concerts in order to draw attention to the dragon.

8. **Streets** –

- **Jenny** said that the signs will be up soon for the **Walking District**. The Vanderbilt shuttle is still a concern because it goes down Belcourt and Acklen. We need to get them off the residential streets. Data show high number of cars on our residential streets.
- The **intersection at 25th Avenue and Ashwood** will be next issue to discuss with Public Works. We need to get an official accident count at that intersection. Burkley said we funded a parking patrol to enforce parking but that team hasn't been hired yet. We will ask to see a schedule. Gill said better bus routes would help with Vanderbilt employee parking.
- Burkley said that plans for a **crosswalk at Belcourt and 21st Avenue** in Hillsboro Village are underway. An informational meeting is scheduled for May 17, at 6 pm at Belmont United Methodist Church to show several designs for possible signalized crosswalks.

9. **Save Our Dragon** –

- Jan reported that work is completed on the first arch. Parks has removed all of the play surface. The foundation has needed a lot of work because of drainage problems. They are now working on the second arch.
- Vanderbilt had printed the prospectus and it is ready to go to large corporations and donors. We only have enough money for 2 arches now.

10. **Communications** –

- Mary S. gave a **newsletter** update, commending Gill and Hank for a great job.
- **Walking District**-Amy Burch has asked for us to give her public relations firm more time to generate press. Jenny said that the signs had to be redesigned but should be

completed in the next few days. The signs will be up for 3 months, and then the program will be evaluated.

- The Dragon Parade is usually not advertised but there will be advertisement for the Dragon Music Sundays.

11. **Adjournment**-Meeting was adjourned at 8:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Mary Crichton.

