

CLEVELAND PARK HISTORICAL SOCIETY
Minutes of Board of Directors' Meeting
January 23, 2007
Cleveland Park Congregational Church

In Attendance: Alison Barr, Camilla Carpenter, Eleni Constantine, Jane Treacy, Patrick Gonzales, Joan Habib, Ann Hamilton, Diane Hartley, Christine Hobbs, Rachelle Levitt, Susan Lynner, Danna McCormick, Kathe McDaniels, Rick Nash, Amanda Ohlke, Lois Orr, John Poole, Peggy Robin, Lewis Simons, Carol Simons, and Gwen Wright.

President, Joan Habib, welcomed all present and called the meeting to order at 7:40 p.m. with a promise to conclude the meeting before the State of the Union Address. Joan stated that expenses were approximately twice the amount in the past year as in previous years but that CPHS's income had doubled as well. The costs of additional mailings are a large part of the increase in expenses, but much of the rise in income is due to increased membership.

In fact, Joan and the mailing committee mailed 1600 flyers today to the community announcing the CPHS Appraisal Day on February 24th. Joan will mail a reminder in a few weeks to the CPHS membership and also post it on the list-serve. The Potomack Auction House will run the Appraisal Day.

Joan also distributed copies of the CPHS Mission Statement and asked the Board to consider any changes they may want to make to the statement.

As a member of the Nominating Committee (The other members are Danna McCormick, Camilla Carpenter, Diane Hartley and Kathe Daniels), Joan also informed the Board that the committee is looking for the best candidates to serve on the Board and the ARC and asked that any suggestions be forwarded to the Nominating Committee. Each Board member was asked to fill out a short form stating his/her background and interests to ensure that the Board remains well rounded with a diversity of interests and expertise. Finally, Joan stated that candidates would be told of CPHS's expectations of a financial and a time commitment for serving on the Board. The Nominating Committee distributed a list of committees on which it would like Board members to serve. They are: Governance/Administration, ARC, Member Volunteers, Programs, Merchant Outreach, Mailings, Trees, Beautification, Communications, Fundraising, and Publicity. At least four people must rotate off the Board because their second term will expire in May.

Joan raised the issue of the role and nature of the ARC vis a vis the Board. A few years back, the Board asked the members of the ARC to join the Board. Many did. Since that time, the ARC has informed the Board monthly of the projects that are coming before it. Before the end of May, Joan would like to bring the Board together with the ARC to discuss the interaction between and the responsibilities to each entity. Although the ARC's recommendations carry no legal weight, the HPRB generally takes into consideration the ARC's recommendations because they are thoughtful and well reasoned.

CPHS has 53 new members and has received a fair response to switching the membership year to a calendar year.

Eleni Constantine is working on putting together a panel discussion on how to apply for conservation easements that will be filmed and provided to other groups to view.

Carol Lynn Ward-Bamford is working on the house tour for 2007. It will be held the first weekend in November.

The annual meeting will be held on May 31st. It will include the premier of the Cleveland Park film. Gwen Wright will ask if the meeting can be held at John Eaton.

Voices is at the printers.

The website is 95% completed and will be up and running completely by the end of the month. Danna McCormick asked the Board to send anything of interest along to her for posting. She will ask Michael Goldstein to read over the website for legal purposes before it goes public.

Rachelle Levitt spoke with her contact at the downtown BID. That BID is in the process of setting up multiple BIDs along 14th Street. The same can probably be done along Connecticut Avenue assuming the property owners agree to form a BID. The Board agreed that it would like to schedule a time for the head of the downtown BID to come and give a presentation for the Board.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Alison Barr, Secretary