

CLEVELAND PARK HISTORICAL SOCIETY
Minutes of Board of Directors' Meeting
November 28, 2006
Cleveland Park Congregational Church

In Attendance: Alison Barr, Roz Beitler, John Buchanan, Maria Casarella, Jane Treacy, Michael Goldstein, Christine Rose, Joan Habib, Ann Hamilton, Christine Hobbs, Rachelle Levitt, Susan Lynner, Danna McCormick, Kathe McDaniels, Rick Nash, Amanda Ohlke, Lois Orr, John Poole, Lewis Simons, Carol Simons, Carol Lynn Ward-Bamford, and Gwen Wright.

Joan Habib welcomed all present and called the meeting to order at 7:45. She first asked Rachelle Levitt to present the Treasurer's Report. Expenses are \$35,133, which is up from last year as is revenue (\$37,715). As of now, the net is about \$2500 but will be up to about \$3,000 when all the moneys are in from the House Tour. This net is an increase of about \$2,000 over last year.

The house tour was quite successful and raised about \$3,000 with expenses being between \$500 – 700. The major expense was the one-day insurance.

Increasing membership has been successful. The database of residents of all Cleveland Park houses has been instrumental in this success. Thirty-nine new members have joined since the database has been operational. Many of the apartment residents are now in the database as well. Approximately 1700 neighbors have been sent a copy of *Voices*. Joan will switch annual membership to a calendar year from the May to May year so that membership dues are easier to keep track of.

The film is proceeding well and is focusing on community involvement stories, such as how the community stopped the city from turning 34th Street into a major six-lane thoroughfare.

Danna McCormick is working out some glitches in the navigation of the website. Presently, she is adding the content to the website and asked everyone to pass along any news or information they have that should be included on the website.

Joan Habib requested the Board to consider volunteering for, at least, two of the various CPHS committees, including a Merchants committee, a House/Garden Tour committee, a Mailing committee, an Antique Appraisal Day committee, a Membership committee, and a Publicity committee. Joan stressed the importance of having a Board that is active. Roz Beitler volunteered to chair the Merchants committee; Carol Lynn Ward-Bamford volunteered to chair the House/Garden Tour committee; Kathe McDaniels and Susan Lynner volunteered to chair the Mailing committee; Amanda Ohlke volunteered to chair the Appraisal Day committee. A chair for the Membership committee is needed and should be filled with someone interested in moving membership forward and fully using

the database. A Board member with good connections with the Press would be an ideal candidate for the chair of the Publicity committee.

The Board agreed that CPHS should hold three events a year to increase membership and to raise funds. The House/Garden Tour and the Appraisal Day could be two of the events. A family day event was suggested and could perhaps be co-sponsored by CPHS. The family day could perhaps include the DC Youth Orchestra. In addition, the Cleveland Park Club might be a good venue for such an event, which could help Cleveland Park Club with its fundraising needs. Roz Beitler suggested bringing back the lecture series that CPHS used to hold at the Cleveland Park Club.

Rick Nash proposed looking into whether a BID could be formed along Connecticut Avenue to help with the commercial strip improvements. The Merchant committee could take an active role in pursuing this proposal. Rick Nash and Rachelle Levitt will research if a BID composed of several small merchant districts (such as Woodley Park and Cleveland Park) is feasible.

Finally, Joan Habib proposed that Board members consider making a sizable donation to CPHS as is the common practice on many non-profit Boards.

Christine Rose updated the Board on 3700 Rodman Street. The HPRB ruled that the house no longer contributes to the historic district. However, the National Park Service holds a scenic easement on the property that restricts its development to a single-family house. The developer is trying to put together a package that includes the 3700 house and the house next-door on Rodman for development. No further action, however, can be taken on 3700 Rodman until the NPS weighs in on the scenic easement.

Gwen Wright informed the Board that John Eaton will celebrate its one hundredth anniversary in 2011. Discussions are just beginning on a proposal to raise funds to redesign the playground for that anniversary.

Michael Goldstein informed the Board that the Tenleytown firehouse is completed and work will begin on either the Cleveland Park firehouse or the MacArthur Boulevard firehouse next. Work is scheduled to start in the first or second quarter of next year.

Lois Orr brought to the attention of the Board an article in *The Northwest Current* regarding Tregaron and its plans. Roz Beitler told the Board that she has been in touch with the Indian Embassy about scheduling a visit to the *Homestead*, which is the Indian Ambassador's residence. It is possible that CPHS may be permitted to hold its annual meeting there. Joan Habib has spoken with the Uptown about showing the CPHS film.

The meeting adjourned at 9:20. The next meeting is scheduled for January 23, 2007.

Respectfully submitted,

Alison Barr