GUILFORD ASSOCIATION BOARD – DECEMBER 2012 MEETING MINUTES

December 6, 2012

7:00 PM

Westcott Room, Second Presbyterian Church

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Margaret Alton, Bruce Barnett, Elizabeth Comer, Howard Friedel, Lisa Garten, Anthony Gill, Tom Hobbs, Jeremy Hoffman, Larry LaMotte, Geoff Lord, Lynda Riley, Bernie Shutty, and Ann Tyler

PRESIDING: Tom Hobbs, Guilford Association President, welcomed attendees and called the meeting to order.

New Board members Lisa Garten and Anthony Gill were welcomed.

The minutes from the September 27, 2012 meeting were approved.

Officers for 2013 were elected:

President: Tom Hobbs

Vice President: Margaret Alton

Treasurer: Heather Fones

Secretary: Lynda Riley

Meeting dates for 2013 board meetings were chosen:

March 20

June 19

September 18

December 10

The 2013 Annual Meeting will be held Wednesday, November 13.

Architecture:

The house at 4304 St. Paul Street is being repaired. Tom Hobbs and Anthony Gill met with the owners, their lawyer and contractor to discuss repairs.

4402 Greenway has been purchased and has been completely gutted inside. The new owners wish to replace all the windows. Members of the Architectural Committee will work with them.

Streets and Traffic:

Greenmount Ave/York Road from 29th St. to 42nd St. is having a refurbishing of the streetscape with new paving, new lighting and tree planting. The Baltimore City Department of Transportation is presenting the plan on December 14.

The City has asked for our priority for street and sidewalk improvements.

Rugby Road and North Charles St. from St. Paul St. to Stratford St. are on the list as well as any other locations previously identified that have not yet been repaved.

Security:

An open meeting with the neighborhood was held November 11 at Second Presbyterian Church to discuss security and the change of security providers from Securitas to McRoberts Security. Most of the attendees noticed a positive change in security since McRoberts took over on August 1. The new guards are friendlier and more articulate. They appear to be better trained.

All Guilford Board members committed to participating in the Guilford Security Patrol. The Board voted to publish the names and thank all participants in the Guilford newsletter.

On December 3 around 7 PM there was an armed robbery of a Guilford resident walking in the 3800 block of Juniper. Felix Dawson met with Captain Richard Worley of the Northern District Police and Tom Hobbs spoke to Mary Pat Clarke who is staying involved. McRoberts is rerouting the security guards to cover this area more frequently. There have been five armed robberies on Greenmount over the past ten days. Captain Worley told us it is common to have increased crime around Christmas. An e-mail was sent to all of Guilford explaining the situation. Seven e-mails were received from concerned residents.

Other Parks and Trees:

There are two dead trees in York Courts. The treasurer needs to determine whether there is sufficient money in the York Courts fund to cover the cost of their removal.

Margaret Alton said streetscape trees will be placed where there are gaps. However, she noted it is difficult to find funding to get free trees anymore. A suggestion was made to contact homeowners to see if they are interested in purchasing trees and having them planted in the area between the sidewalk and street.

2012 Wine Tasting:

Ann Tyler said we lost about $600 in hosting the 2012 Wine Tasting. This is the first time this event lost money. In previous years we made about $10,000 but that was when we had a silent auction. No one has been willing to coordinate a silent auction in recent years. Attendance was somewhat down to about 90 people. In addition, no one went around the room requesting pledges for Sherwood Gardens. Some people think the ticket price of $125 is too high.

The Board voted to not have a Wine Tasting in 2013 given the large number of Centennial events and to reinvent the party for 2014.

Holiday Party:

The annual Guilford Holiday party was held Sunday, December 2 at Millicent Tyler’s house. At the party Beverly Quinones presented Lynda Riley with a check for $10,000, proceeds for the 2010 and 2011 Holiday parties. Lynda thanked Beverly for her years of dedication to Guilford in organizing these parties.

Sharon Smith, who coordinated the 2012 Holiday party, said we raised about $6,500.

Annual Meeting:

The annual meeting was held on Wednesday, November 14. In addition to the Board members the meeting was attended by both our City Council Representatives, Mary Pat Clarke and Bill Henry, Richard Worley, Captain of the Northern District Police, Meredith McRoberts, President of McRoberts Security and Allan Fine, Branch Manager of McRoberts Security.

Welcoming Committee:

Lisa Garten is going to contact new Guilford residents to welcome them to our community. She will contact them by phone or in person and will answer any questions they have regarding area schools, shopping, entertainment and provide information on the Guilford Deed and Agreement, Architectural requirements, the Guilford Security Patrol and the need to pay maintenance fees.

Other Issues:

Phil Spevak, President of the Roland Park Civic League, contacted us about getting involved in an effort to increase broadband options in north Baltimore. Howard Friedel will attend the meetings.