GUILFORD ASSOCIATION BOARD –JUNE 6, 2017 MEETING MINUTES

June 6, 2017

7:00 PM

Westcott Room, Second Presbyterian Church

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Margaret Alton, Joshua Angulo-Bartlett, Adrian Bishop, Curtis Campbell, Francesco Castellano, Elizabeth Comer, Carl Coscia, Howard Friedel, Clarke Griffin, Angela Hamilton, Tom Hobbs, Chris Lyon and Lynda Riley and Francie Spahn.

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Jarrod Bolte, Cathy Boyne, Tim Chriss, Jeremy Hoffman and Anthony Gill.

PRESIDING: Tom Hobbs, Guilford Association President

The minutes from the March 7, 2017 meeting were approved.

Kevin Gillogly, a liaison from the mayor’s Office of Community Engagement, spoke to the Board. His role is to bring neighborhood issues to the attention of the Mayor and perhaps negotiate problems between the neighborhoods and the city. He has no enforcement power. He reported that the Mayor has created Transformation Zones. These are six block areas of high crime. Grants are offered to these areas to clean up the neighborhood and install cameras.

**Financials:** Tom Hobbs and Clarke Griffin

About 91% of Guilford residents have paid the mandatory maintenance charges as of this date. Of these residents, 54% have paid the Guilford Association dues (62% of residents excluding houses on Greenmount) and 45% have paid the Guilford Security Patrol fees (52% of residents excluding houses on Greenmount).

**Parks**: Margaret Alton

Whitfield residents whose home abuts the Sunken Park have made extensive landscape improvements enhancing the Park. The residents of Bedford Place have donated two drifts of azaleas to enhance the cul de sac while the Association has replaced a dead Cherry Tree. The triangle park at Newland and Suffolk has been added to the Association’s maintenance contract. In the Little Park neighbors have planted magnolia trees, hydrangea and crepe myrtle.

The St. Paul Street Median trees need replacement as usual. In addition, the drift roses which are slowly dying from mites will be replaced overtime with hardy and salt resistant pink spirea.

The ash trees on the 3600 block of Greenway have died due to infestation by the Emerald Ash Borer and are scheduled to be replaced by the City.

The Sherwood Garden Tulip Dig on Saturday, May 27 was successful and attended predominantly by people who live outside of Guilford.

Sherwood Gardens has a partnership with the Y in which Achievers design and plant flower beds that compete in Project Olmsted and summer campers water and fertilize all the flowerbeds as a community service project.

**Signs**: Tom Hobbs

The signs for all the parks have been ordered and will be installed by this fall. Anti-graffiti paint is not being used due to its expense.

A suggestion was made to purchase duplicate signs in case some need to be replaced. The cost of additional signs will be explored.

The repairs to three Bretton Place columns have been completed and the ironwork has been repaired.

**Traffic**: Carl Coscia

The city has completed a study that proves traffic speeding is a problem on 39th Street. The proposed program to ameliorate the speeding problem has not yet been identified

Stratford Road along Sherwood Gardens was repaved and Overhill is next.

**Architectural Committee**: Tom Hobbs

There have been 42 applications for exterior changes in the first six months of 2017 (23 in the last three months). These applications include several major renovations. The first newly constructed house on St. Paul Street is completed and the owners have moved in. The second newly constructed house (next door to the other new house) has begun construction. A number of houses with covenant violations have completed their repairs.

**Security**: Angela Hamilton, Curtis Campbell and Chris Lyon

There have been a number of meetings between Guilford and U.S. Security because we have not been happy with their service. They have had a difficult time keeping a team in place (probably due to the low wage paid to the drivers). Alan Fine, the senior manager we have worked with for a number of years, has left the company. It may be that the Guilford Association is a very small account for this large company. We are considering getting bids from other security companies including at least one local company.

The Guilford Association is going to explore getting security cameras for certain areas in the neighborhood. We will also look into security cameras for homeowners to purchase and install.

**Newsletter**: Tom Hobbs

The content of the summer newsletter is complete and it will be printed and distributed in early July.

**Social Events:** Tom Hobbs and Lynda Riley

Dinner at Dusk was held on Sunday June 4 in Sherwood Gardens with music performed by Ken and Brad Kolodner with another musician. There was a moon bounce and games for children and adults including an egg toss, three legged race, sack race and egg and spoon race. It was suggested that next year no admission would be charged for this event for Guilford residents.

On Saturday, September 16 a Family Day will be held in Sherwood Gardens. There will be a junior ranger program and the Baltimore School of Music will perform.