

Merry Hills Homeowner's Association

Spring Membership Meeting Minutes/Summary – May 9, 2007

Refreshments from 7pm; Called for 7:30pm

- Welcome to new residents and visitors from other associations
- Kathie Gannon – District 6 Representative (~half of DeKalb)
 - Merry Hills is very vocal
 - Commission passed legislation, not actual day-to-day discussions/choices
 - Looking to do public budget hearings to educate the public
 - Budget prioritization for county needs
 - Project selection criteria
 - Police issue ~100 positions vacant
 - Difficulties in recruitment and retention
 - New officers vs. filling vacancies
 - Split +25 each
 - Anticipating “community policing” plan
 - Development – quadrant study
 - Kathie and Jeff have planning backgrounds
 - Like the Conservancy

[Enter Jeff Rader]

- On Sembler news, immediate action taken
 - Engaged community planning
- Change will come, at least around existing zones
- Developers engaged so building can include and benefit the community
- Need study data from public to feed the developers' plans
 - Especially matching zoning plans to a new comprehensive plan
- Work up front will make an easier and less-hassle development

Q: Who pays for study? Is plan binding?

A: Known outside contractor called in. Cost ~\$300K. Landowners asked to contribute. Livable Communities non-profit is the third-party client to control the data and gather priorities.

Q: Sidewalks – future plans? Jody poorly done? Sembler vs. traffic?

A: Traffic prime in any development. Region-wide traffic analysis upcoming. Issues must be understood to provide analysis and solutions. Sidewalks are biggest request overall. Prioritization done. Still slow process.

Q: Any rumors of our community? Like highways?

A: None known, nothing from highways. Representation is held on DOT board. Let commissioners know if there are rumors.

Q: Best forum to address quadrant study/commissioners in general?

A: Inter-community dialogue. Livable Communities survey online. Neighborhood associations do represent.

Q: How do I get my voice heard?

A: Quadrant meetings. MHHA. Contact commissioners, Livable Communities. Please communicate your wants!

Q: Sidewalk timetable?

A: Jody Lane done as priority, other priority lists not timetabled.

- Mike Jacobs – State Representative
 - Email list circulating for direct communication
 - Bond floating to require referendum even if at a more localized government
 - Proposal for assembly to have more direct impact on agenda rather than CEO
- Daniel Wenger - Secretary
 - Fall meeting minutes online
 - Motion to approve, seconded, passed 😊
 - Email addresses allow for MHHA communication
- Sholly Feifer – treasurer’s report
 - \$6674.24 to \$7134.24 with upcoming deposit
 - Marc Goldin sponsoring flags
 - 84 renewals, 15 are new
- Debra Edelson – zoning report
 - Gatchell School/Ohr Yisrael
 - 4-year occupy but not construct
 - parking for park, lighting issues as conditions
 - boy’s high school
 - Green Street was approved
 - About to sell to another developer
 - Conditions should stand
 - Young Israel
 - Nothing new yet
 - Will come to MHHA with plans
 - The Druid
 - Withdrawn for quadrant study
 - Can still build there under current zoning
 - LaVista house construction across from shopping center
 - Temima to submit SLUP to upgrade 9K sq. ft. to ~24K
 - President and planner in attendance
 - Shaarei Shamayim – nothing to report
- Quadrant study asked MHHA to contribute \$500
 - Not sure what it would buy us

- Board did not take action
- Does budget allow for it?
 - \$2000 budget items, so can go to membership to approve
 - enhances relationship to commissioners
- Motion to allocate, seconded, approved 😊
- MHHA may need attorney to help us on zoning/development issues
 - Thought to increase dues from \$20 to \$25 from 2008
 - Motion to increase
 - 350 households available to MHHA minus rentals
 - 100-120 are members
 - One attorney issue can cost \$1500
 - Is there another source of income?
 - Motion seconded, passed 😊
- Block party – Sunday, September 9th, 2007, 3pm
 - Need volunteers, a chairperson, and ideas
 - Contact MHHA (or Flo directly) to discuss
- Nominating Committee – elections in November
 - Flo must step down as per bylaws
 - Non-board members must step up
 - President tasked to organize
- PDK Watch – flight path and noise impact
 - Trying to restrict paths and times
 - Concern about environmental issues
 - MHHA asked for monetary and/or written support
 - DeKalb sued to open airport records
 - 200 flights/day over the plan weight limit
 - lawsuit planned to stop this
 - MHHA promotes them in concept
 - We are within 5 miles of the airport
 - Motion to approve written resolution, seconded, passed 😊
 - Watching to prevent runway expansion
 - “Open DeKalb” to file lawsuit: do we contribute?
 - Discussion amongst membership
 - Motion to table decision, seconded, passed 😊
- Bylaws – 10 years old; do we want to change ourselves?
 - Maybe a bylaws committee

Q: Location at TDSA gym not acoustically good. Alternatives?

A: Always looking for a space large enough.

Q: Isn't Avis Williams budgeted to expand?

A: Working towards 2008.

Q: And Kittredge Park?

A: Money still not spent. Perhaps a Conservancy can help develop/maintain.

Q: News on tire slashing?

A: No News.

Q: Moving speed bumps?

A: Random indeed.

Q: Police details?

A: Still awaiting quarterly report.

- MHHA has county contacts if you have questions or concerns
- 3-1-1 system to be set up by county sometime
 - Meantime, a customer service center is standing up

Adjourned – 9:15pm

As scribed by Daniel Wenger