

WOODLAND DRIVES ASSOCIATION—ANNUAL MEETING



SUNDAY APRIL 14, 2023—MEETING SUMMARY REPORT

Opening

Greg Youchock, President, opened the meeting at 3:10 pm and welcomed attendees.

Constitution and By-Laws Revisions

Jeff Blair read the proposed By-Laws changes including changing the timing of the Annual Membership Meeting from the first quarter of the year to the first four months. It further clarifies board nominee and membership requirements, and length and number of terms. A motion was made, seconded and unanimously passed to ratify the By-Laws changes.

Election of Board by WDNA Voting Members

Greg Youchock presented the eight nominees for Board of Directors. (Greg Youchock, President; Jeff Blair, Vice President, Tomas Berger, Treasurer; Sue Conte, Secretary; Nasrin Belbasi, Director; Deborah Lawson, Director; John Lemons, Director; Zach Teders, Director). A call for additional nominees went unanswered. A motion was made, seconded, and unanimously passed with a show of hands to elect the eight nominees.

Financial and Committee Reports

Treasurer's Financial Report

Tomas Berger reported there is currently just under \$30,000 in our account. We have approximately 90 members.

Association of Tallahassee Neighborhoods Update

- Jeff Blair reported the **ATN** is proceeding with its Community Engagement Process Policy. They met with Ashley Edwards (Director, Parks, Recreation, and Neighborhood Affairs), who was receptive and agreed to set up a meeting with Artie White (Director, Planning), and John Reddick (Director, Growth Management). The meeting will take place on May 3 and should provide insight on the level of support from City department heads. The Committee will decide on next steps after the meeting.

Governmental Affairs Update

Jeff gave an update on projects impacting our Neighborhood as follows:

SW Corner of Country Club and Magnolia. Construction of a 400-unit, multi-family homes project on the corner of Country Club Drive and S. Magnolia is currently under way. This will increase through traffic in Woodland Drives, especially for Country Club and Old Fort Drives. WDNA is working on traffic calming initiative.

Magnolia Drive Trail Project Status.

- Phase 1 and 4 are complete (Monroe to Pontiac)
- Design for Phase 2 (Pontiac to Diamond) is complete and construction is currently scheduled to begin in the first quarter of 2023.
- Phase 3 (Diamond to Apalachee) is 90% complete and right-of-way acquisition is ongoing.
- Completion scheduled for first quarter 2025.

Beautification Committee Update

Deborah Lawson reported that spring maintenance, including pruning, weeding and mulching of all entrances was accomplished at the Spring Workday, on March 11. The City has adopted a new policy that they will not mow rights-of-way until grass/weeds reach 30". If we want to keep the entrances at Santa Rosa and Lafayette Street looking good, Woodland Drives will need to hire someone to maintain the areas. She said that in her perfect world as Chair, she would have one person responsible for each of the traffic circles/triangles, maintaining the signs etc., and a contract to clean up litter and mow the Santa Rosa triangle and Lafayette Street entrance. She said she knew she was preaching to the choir but asked the members to take some membership forms and encourage their neighbors to join the Neighborhood Association. She also asked that the members let the board know how they want their dues money spent, noting that paid membership is a very small fraction of the total membership. A member requested that the Board encourage the removal of invasive species in the neighborhood, specifically Coral ardisia.

Neighbors Helping Neighbors.

Martha Weinstein thanked the many volunteers and Committee members who have worked hard to launch this new endeavor. Informational flyers and a kitchen magnet have been distributed to each of the 466 homes in Woodland Drives. This initiative will potentially change WD for the better due to efforts by caring neighbors. She also said that we have everything in motion and over 30 volunteers. What we don't have are people requestion services so please spread the word that we are here to help. Also, we are offering a limited number of services at this time. If there are additional services you think should be considered, please let the committee know.

Safety Committee Update

Greg Youchock reported that committee chair, John Lemon, could not attend today's meeting and assured attendees that the committee is actively engaged in neighborhood safety issues. The committee is perusing the neighborhood to share with Talgov any areas that are "messy". This

includes street signs, roadway impediments, etc. Greg encouraged the use of DigiTally to report issues. He has found them to be responsive.

Update on Board Actions and Summary of Key Issues

Website

Greg Youchock reported that the initiative to update and modernize the Woodland Drives Website has been completed by a contracted web designer. Sadly, shortly after completion, our web designer was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer and succumbed to the disease. We are grateful for the excellent work he did. In the meantime, we are in need of a neighbor with some expertise in WordPress to help us manage the learning curve for maintaining the site. Please contact Greg at gangreen57@comcast.net if you can help.

Traffic and Noise Calming Initiative

Zach Teders reported that the necessary Petition signatures for traffic calming on Country Club Drive, Old Fort Drive and Myers Park Drive were secured from residents in February. The Country Club Drive request has been submitted to the City in hopes that the traffic calming would be included in the repaving that is already scheduled.

Jeff Blair reported that the City's Excessive Sound Ordinance is past due as a Commission Agenda item to evaluate its efficiency, and to discuss concerns regarding the exemption from the Ordinance in the Urban Core from 7:00 AM to 2:00 AM. So far, that has not happened. He reported that noise issues in the neighborhood have diminished since the City Ordinance and a new State law (Section 316.3045, F.S.) gives police more authority to address noise even without a complainant. It was noted by at least one member that excessive noise from the Urban Core does remain an issue.

Other Key Issues and Actions

A question was raised about use of the association funds. A showing of hands was requested asking whether the members supported spending money to hire someone to mow the areas Deborah had identified. The response was positive and unanimous in support. A suggestion was made that the Board should come back next year to the members with an actual proposed budget.

A motion was made, seconded and passed to spend money this year for mowing and needed beautification initiatives and to bring back an actual proposed budget for members to approve next year.

Adjournment

Greg Youchock, President, adjourned the meeting at 4:05 p.m.