November 2021 TPNA Board Meeting
Minutes
Wednesday, November 3rd at 7:00 pm

Attendees: Waugh Wright, Karalyn Colopy, Diane Amato, Adam McLellan, James Dobbin, Missy Crawford-Smith, Beth Shepherd, Mollie Flowe, Bill Brown, Mimi Kessler, Kevin Kearns, Caroline Bishop, ChayLa Hart, Margaret, Beth Emerson, Laurie Williamson, Evelyn Bloch

Review of October Meeting Minutes
   ● Approved

Waugh Wright explained how wonderful being the secretary is.

Treasurer's Report ~ Adam McClellan
   ● Year has been good.
   ● Got some ad revenue in this week
   ● Halloween was ~$260, which was under budget
   ● We are on track to have more income for the year than expenses and have ~$15,000 in the bank.
   ● Budget for next year
Made some small adjustments to the 2022 Budget.
- Not many changes, but assuming we will have Spring Egg Event and other events (Duke has been requiring insurance for that, around $390)
- Still not sure on Pops in the Park, which has been around $2,000 in the past

Guest Speaker ~ Ellen Reckhow, Leave the Leaves
- With ChayLa Hart, for NCCU who is a community ambassador with New Hope Audubon Society (www.newhopeaudubon.org)
- Also working with Keep Durham Beautiful
- Leaving your leaves supports biodiversity and climate resilience
- Leaf blowers create huge amounts of air pollution and noise pollution

**Our Deciduous Ecosystem**

- The leaf layer is its own mini ecosystem.
- Insects evolved with native plants.
- Life cycle includes growth and dormancy — overwinter.
- Birds, bees and other wildlife also evolved with this same seasonal cycle.

**Leave Your Leaves Benefits**

1. Help Fireflies, Bees, Butterflies and Moths, Birds, Turtles, Frogs, and other wildlife.
2. Leaves improve tree and soil health.
3. Reduce pollution and help climate change.
4. Homeowners, City and County Government Save $$$.

**Leaves provide organic matter**

**Leaves fertilize the soil**

**Leaves provide nutrients**

**Improve Water Quality**

- Promote soil moisture.
- Reduce flooding.
- Improve water quality.

**Leaf Blowing**

- Reduce the noise.
- Reduce the air pollution.
- Reduce the dust.
Homeowners save $90 yard cart fees
- Free fertilizer
- Free mulch to keep the weeds down
- City doesn’t remove them, saving taxpayer dollars
- Less blowing and raking in the fall. Put your feet up and relax!

Do nothing!
- Protective mulch
- Rake them around the base of trees and shrubs
- Rake them in perennial borders
- Compost and use as mulch

Composting Leaves
- Compost bin – can be very simple – need to be able to turn materials
- Balance leaves (carbon) and nitrogen (grass clippings)
- Layer 6-8 inches thick with leaves with one inch soil ad one inch of manure or a green nitrogen source such as grass clippings
- Mix the pile every 2 weeks and keep moist
- Gardeners think that leaves are black gold for the soil

- Leaveyourleaves.org
- Does the depth of the leaves matter?
  - No, but it does help to have it high enough to keep the nitrogen in
  - Don’t put mulch on top right away
  - Leaves on the grass - the grass will come back
  - You can use the mulching blade on your mower to move them back into the grass
  - But move them off the sidewalk and gutters!

  https://keepdurhambeautiful.org/leaveyourleaves
- If you take the pledge, you will get a yard sign
- Parks & Rec are looking into leaving the leaves at more parks.
- Can we lobby Trosa and the city and others to get them to stop using gas-powered leaf blowers?
- They have reached out to DPS and they are interested as well

Communications ~ Kevin Kearns
- Newsletter update
  - Some checks have come in and expect $1500 of checks to come in soon
  - Duke School has dropped out as has Self Help
○ Designing the newsletter now (have content) and should have it out by Thanksgiving

• Advertisers
  ○ One person asked about the small space ad, but hasn’t followed up yet.

Community Building ~ Waugh Wright

• Halloween
  ○ It was a wonderful time, put together by Steve Falzarano, giving out candy and glowsticks to ~200 kids
• Creek / neighborhood Clean up - Julia Borbely-Brown
  ○ This Saturday
• Luminaria would be in December, if any group is interested
  ○ Does anyone have connection to a possibly interested group?
  ○ It usually raises $1,000 to $1,500

Traffic ~ Beth Emerson

• 147 connector is scheduled to be open in 2022 (I-885)
• She followed up on the pothole issues on Watts, Demerius and other streets - you should called Durham One Call
• Water projects down by Main Street should have improved striping afterwards to help bikers
• Waterline project will happen in Spring on Main Street along the edge of Trinity Park
• No updates on Downtown Loop trail
• Watts Street Shared Street is over and the barricades will be going away soon
  ○ Who do we talk to about making it permanent? Beth will send out contact info.
  ○ Dale McKeel, AICP
  ○ City of Durham/DCHC MPO
  ○ P 919-560-4366. ext. 36421
  ○ Dale.McKeel@DurhamNC.gov
  ○ Dale is the bike/ped person and shared streets contact.

INC ~ Philip Azar

• He sent minutes separately

TP Foundation ~ Shelley Dekker, Karalyn Colopy

• Ordered and received 3 brass plaques from the Duke Durham Neighborhood grant and they will installed soon in the park
• There is a new website trinityparkfoundation.org
• There will be a fundraising campaign soon

Membership ~ Beth Sheppard

• The database is up and running after being down for a while, with Marc Phillips’ help
• Members are still coming in

Safety ~ Ron Gallagher
• N/A

South Ellerbe Creek Wetlands ~ Mollie / Scott
• N/A

Duke-Durham Neighborhood Partnership ~ James Dobbins
• Arts-Oriented Projects
  ○ Duke has a new grant program, $500 to $2,500 and can partner with a non-profit (and so could double that)
    ■ Some artistic endeavour, event, piece of art, concert, etc.
    ■ E.g., Pops in the Park
• They also talked about how to increase membership in neighborhood groups.

Old Business ~
• Should we meet again in person?
• Should we have the annual meeting in January in person?
  ○ Will it get bad again?
• George Watts School is not allowing groups like us for now?
• Next to Beth-El? Beth-El?
• Trinity Presbyterian?
• Kings Daughters Inn?
• Watts Baptist?

New Business ~
• Guest speakers for upcoming meetings?
• Nominations for next year’s board members
• Two separate meetings in January? Regular and Annual? We can probably do them on the same night. 6 then 7? On January 12th?

Adjourned 8:41