

ECA Board Meeting
October 19th, 2020

Location – online via Zoom due to COVID-19

Call meeting to order – 7:35pm

Board members present – David Barnes, Jeffrey Drichta, Huda Montemarano, Bridget Foist, Joyce Gwadz, Susan Hendrickson, Linda Wenger

1. Approval of September Meeting Minutes – motion to approve minutes, seconded, PASSED
2. Follow up on Hampden Lane ROW (David) – The family whose driveway encroaches on the ROW were aware of the ROW when they brought the property in 2014 but under the impression that their driveway had been present for long enough that they were grandfathered in. The idea of improvement was discussed and they were supportive if the driveway and shrubs were not affected. They don't have a survey of the property showing the borders. The board agreed that we should work to make a path in the ROW but would investigate to see if it is possible to do this without affecting the current driveway/landscaping. The next step is for David to discuss the property line and ROW with the other residents along the path to decide exactly how much space there is for the path and their opinion on the project, then submit a request to the county for the ROW.
3. Update on Halloween plans (Jeffrey, Huda, Bridget) – 87 people have responded and requested treat bags, Jeffrey will start to put together the bags this week. Huda, Bridget and Jeffrey will deliver the bags on October 30th afternoon.
4. Update on outreach to new residents (Huda, Sue) – the first several baskets have been delivered and have been well received. Huda and Sue will continue to deliver baskets to neighbors that have moved in within the last couple months and new neighbors going forward. Huda and David will work on wording for a letter that accompanies the baskets.
5. Report on Montgomery Civic Federation meeting (Joyce) – meeting last Monday night regarding Thrive Montgomery 2050, planning people are looking to urbanize areas within one mile of metro stops, in the long term it would be likely that they would be much more likely to want high rises rather than single family homes on the Sidwell property. The board should keep this in mind and be aware of this view on the county planning level.
6. Preservations of Historic Edgemoor Homes (David) – A neighbor asked if ECA would be interested in getting involved with developing a Historic District within Edgemoor in order to help preserve older homes, the board agreed that this is not something the ECA is interested in getting involved with. David will relay that decision to the person who asked.

7. Caroline Freeland Park – large groups of high/middle school students are gathering close together and largely without masks in afternoons and evenings. There have been some complaints on Nextdoor. Should the board get involved? David will contact Montgomery Parks about park rules and to see if there is anything that they can do, possibly starting with adding signage around the park. Also, we'll include a reminder for parents in the next ECA Newsletter.

8. New trees on Elm St. ROW – In preparation of influx of cicadas that damage small trees, Jeffrey spoke with someone in the county. The person at the county believes the trees may sustain some damage but should survive. The board has decided not to pursue any getting nets for the trees.