

ECA Board Meeting
June 20th, 2022

Location – Jeffrey’s house

Call meeting to order – 7:36pm

Board members present – David Barnes, Jeffrey Drichta, Bridget Foist, Alicia Tompkins, Eric Rubel, Huda Montemarano, Joyce Gwadz

Motion to approve May meeting minutes – seconded, PASSED.

July 4th parade and party – Bethesda Chevy Chase Rescue Squad will provide equipment, Carmen’s Italian Ice is scheduled, Dunkin Donuts and Bethesda Bagels have been ordered, need volunteers for set-up and clean-up, same starting/ending point for parade

Bowa fall clean-up day – The last few years, it was held in the library parking lot, however due to new hours of the library, we are unable to hold event there. We are penciled in for Sept 25th and the trucks are reserved. The board discussed possible locations including the corner of Wessling and Glenbrook, BE or Moorland circle near BE. David will continue to explore the options.

BOE property on Edgemoor Lane – The property’s next door neighbor called David about a rumor that the BOE is putting in a parking lot in that space. David spoke with someone at BOE and found out there is no long term plan for the property. The plan is to tear the house down and do something with it – maybe a walking path to the school, maybe a pocket park, no intent to build a parking lot, not sure what they are going to do with it.

Welcome Baskets – Baskets are expensive and a lot of work with the cost per basket being approximately \$60. If only 3 gift cards and a plant are included, they would be approximately \$37. We distribute approximately 20/year. Huda will consider toning it down a bit but the board was open to either option – keeping it 60/basket vs lowering it a bit.

Nonprofit status – This is still in process. The goals are to have IRS recognize us as a 501c4, not be assessed any penalties, and pay any taxes that we may owe. Our lawyer filed a form declaring us a 501c4 and wrote an abatement letter. To date, we have been billed \$2700 for the work. The board discussed whether or not to continue spending money for this issue to be finalized. Jeffrey asked for an estimated amount to finish the work and will set forward a formal motion to approve the remainder of the cost of legal work to be done over email once we know the exact amount.

Right of Way on Clarendon – between Clarden and Elm St. – Huda spoke with the county arborist about planting trees and removing the stumps that are there. The county reports there is a 4 year wait on stump removal and longer for tree planting. We will consider asking the county if we have permission to clean up the area and plant some trees. One consideration is contacting Casey trees who plants 1000’s of trees a year in downtown DC.

Meeting Adjourned – 8:35pm