

ECA Board Meeting
June 26, 2023

Location – via zoom

Call meeting to order – 7:35pm

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

Motion to approve May meeting minutes – seconded, PASSED.

July 4 parade and party:

Jeffrey has reserved the place at the club, has arranged for balloon sculptor, tattoo person and caricaturist. He also has arranged for Carmen's Italian Ice and the fire/emergency vehicle to come. He is meeting with Mary Gardner to look over the decorations from last year. We are short of volunteers. So far, Jeffrey has two volunteers and needs at least 8 more to help with: traffic, set-up, clean-up, during party monitoring and ordering/picking up donut holes and bagels. Eric offered to take care of the donuts and the bagels. David will include a reminder about the event in the July newsletter going out on June 27. Jeffrey will send out two more reminders about the event.

Trees cut down along Edgemoor

David reported on the backstory regarding the oak trees cut down on the Sidwell property along Edgemoor Lane. The trees were cut down by the county because they had a contagious incurable disease—Hypoxylon Canker fungus. 8-10 new trees will be planted along that stretch of Edgemoor in the fall. The board agreed that will ask the county to communicate with us in advance of events such as this so we can better answer questions from neighborhood residents.

Fall Meeting

The Board agreed to seek out a solid waste services speaker and David will give residents the opportunity to submit questions in advance. The Board discussed adding Composting to the discussion, but David was concerned about the business part of the meeting getting too long so will consult with the speaker about their presentation and then make a decision re: composting. Also, at the fall meeting, there will be the biannual election. All board members are up for reelection and all are running again. Residents will have the opportunity to run for the board as well.

Development Review Process Work Group

The Group is taking comments and suggestions on how to improve its review process. Joyce is taking the lead on monitoring this issue; Eric may join in. There are meetings in July and August should the Board wish to submit written comments. One issue that has caused concern among other people participating in the process is the apparent coziness between developers and the planning staff with little transparency. In addition,

there is poor communication between the work group and neighborhoods/impacted residents.

Stop Sign Enforcement

David was contacted by a concerned resident about people not obeying the newer stop signs. The resident mentioned several stop signs that are not being respect. Board members have not noticed drivers ignoring the sign at Wilson and Exeter. Regarding some of the others, board members wondered if there was an issue of sight lines. There are several areas where trees or shrubs need to be cut back to allow visibility of the stop signs and actually to make sidewalks fully accessible. There was discussion of calling 311 to have the sight lines be evaluated but the group was concerned this might result in a wholesale cutting down of trees in the neighborhood. For now, David will ask in the newsletter that residents take care to obey stop signs in the neighborhood, and those who have trees or other foliage that blocks signs or the sidewalk be mindful and cut them back.

Yard Sale and Shredding Event

Another resident raised the possibility of holding a neighborhood wide yard sale and/ or a shredding event. The Board seemed to think that local realtors are sponsoring shredding events . And the board was unenthusiastic about organizing a yard sale. Some members noted several organizations that will accept donations. It was further noted that the resident was free to try to organize a yard sale using ECAnet.

The meeting was adjourned just before 8:30