

## **Meeting of the Historic Decatur Association (HDA) Board of Directors (BOD)**

**Tuesday, July 31, 2018 6:00pm**

### **Meeting Location:**

**Offices of Eyster, Key, Tubb, Roth, Middleton & Adams LLP**

**402 East Moulton Street, Decatur, AL**

### **Meeting Attendees:**

Wade Dinsmore

D Hall

Cindy Upton

Lindsey Faulkner

Brenda Henson

Chad Hopkins

Lynn Schuppert

Justin Hall

Shannon DeFazio

Julia Roth

2018 HDA President Wade Dinsmore called the meeting to order. The first topic on the agenda was the acceptance of the minutes. Cindy Upton sent the updated draft version for review prior to the meeting and there was no further comment or discussion. D Hall moved to accept the minutes as submitted and Chad Hopkins seconded. The motion passed unanimously. The final version of the minutes are kept on the HDA website.

The next topic was Larry Freeman's treasury report. In his absence, Larry sent the financial report information via email to the BOD members before the meeting. As of this meeting, the HDA had \$45,231.36 in the bank. There are currently 114 paid member households. Some dues were collected and expenses included costs related to the Christmas in July event. The motion to accept the treasury report was made by Julia Roth, with a second from Lindsey Faulkner. The motion passed unanimously.

The next topics were Committee Reports.

The Garden Tour Committee had nothing to report.

The next Committee Report was about the Christmas Tour. Committee Chairman Justin Hall reported that approximately 80-100 people attended the Christmas in July event held at Townhouse Galleries on July 12<sup>th</sup>. The event was a big success and Justin was especially pleased with the nice door prizes that were donated. Brenda Henson said that she enjoyed the presentation that Justin did in that it included information about the Tour itself, but also good information on decorating. Justin said that the Tour sites had been arranged and that the Committee was on track with their Tour preparations so far.

The Tree Committee was represented by Wade Dinsmore and Lynn Schuppert. The trees planned to be installed in Old Decatur will be scheduled in the October timeframe. Currently ten trees are planned to be installed, but the overall plan will be re-evaluated in light of the number of trees destroyed in the April 3<sup>rd</sup> storm. One idea was to plant larger trees than originally planned, but that may not be possible due to space limitations and may not be optimal for long term health of the tree. Lynn suggested talking to the nursery owner for advice. If larger trees are not practical, perhaps more trees could be planted to make up for the lost canopy all around Old Decatur. Brenda pointed out that the curbs and sidewalks should be done first before planting the trees. Wade said that he had assurance from Decatur City services that the sidewalk and curb repairs would be done before the Christmas Tour since broken walkways are a safety hazard. More discussions will come on these topics. Wade said that all ten of the trees planted in Albany were doing well. Oaks and Maples were planted earlier this year.

The Newsletter Committee report was next. Brenda Henson stepped up to produce the next newsletter, which is planned for a September distribution. Newsletter information is planned to include the Christmas in July event, the Christmas Tour, and the Historic Decatur Village.

Discussion of the Social Committee's activities was next. The next neighborhood social is planned for October 7<sup>th</sup> at the Cross Eyed Owl from 2-4pm. Liability for alcohol at HDA events had been brought up in some email communications among the BOD, with the realization that more discussion was needed. HDA board members agreed that HDA events should not include alcoholic beverages without an additional insurance liability rider that would be a substantially high cost to the HDA. For HDA sponsored events, this special liability rider would be needed for events held in private homes, or venues such as the Cross Eyed Owl if we wanted to serve wine - which is not covered by their liquor license. The BOD weighed options at this meeting, such as paying extra to have events where the venue already has a liquor license. Brenda said that the BOD should not require guests of the Christmas After Tour Party to pay for their own beverages. She added that the HDA should spend the extra funds on this Party to cover the costs of alcohol and a licensed bartender because this party is a "thank you" for everyone who volunteered their support for the Tour. Justin indicated that the location for the After Party had not been finalized. After additional discussion, the BOD decided to ask the Carnegie Visual Art Center if they will host since they have a liquor license. The HDA will reimburse the costs they incur for the event and pay them a reasonable stipend. Wade took an action to contact the Carnegie Director Kim Mitchell to explore options. Shannon DeFazio suggested using the drink ticket system to control costs as well.

No new report from the Communications Committee. Cindy Upton said that she and Kim Carr had an email discussion about archiving HDA documents, such as the meeting minutes and other important records. Currently, the only tools that the HDA uses are NextDoor for general communications among neighbors, and the HDA website. Cindy asked Kim to continue archiving the meeting minutes on the website. NextDoor is not set up to archive documents.

No Old Business was discussed.

No New Business was discussed.

The HDA BOD normally meets at 6:00pm on the last Tuesday of every month except December. The next meeting of the HDA BOD is planned for August 28th. The location is planned to be at the Offices of Eyster, Key, Tubb, Roth, Middleton & Adams LLP.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Cindy Upton  
Secretary, HDA