

Dresden East Civic Association (DECA) Quarterly Meeting

Date: January 15, 2014

Location: St. Pius High School

Board Member Attendance

Jordan Fox, President
Todd Price, Treasurer
Ilan Sklar, Vice President
Marge Gabbett, Secretary

Community Representatives

Appling Heights – Agnes Nelson
Dresden Square – Kyle Eaves
Frontier Woods – Martin L. Jackson
LaVenture Forest – needs Representative to attend meetings
Marlin Acres – Susan Jackson
Tanglewood Circle – Blanche Collins
Wakefield Forest – Cathy Farquaharson
Wakefield Forest (guest) – Pat Thomas
Wakefield Forest, West - vacant
Whispering Hills – vacant

Guests

Eric Clarkson, Mayor of Chamblee
Marc Johnson, Chamblee City Manager, former Police Chief
Tom Hogan, Chamblee City Council Representative
Elena Parent – Candidate, GA State Legislature, State Senate
Scott Holcomb- State Representative District 81

Call to Order

Jordan Fox called the Quarterly Meeting to order at 7:00 PM. He thanked St. Pius for the use of their facilities and announced that the “Pius Players” will perform The Sound of Music in March. Jordan also thanked ChocoLate for refreshments. He noted that “NextDoor” fliers were available at the back of the room. This program is for those who are concerned about “Neighborhood Watch” program. A representative from “NextDoor” will be at the next Quarterly Meeting. Jordan also acknowledged Elena Parent and the Chamblee Mayor, Eric Clarkson.

Jordan reviewed the rules for a smooth meeting for those who had not previously attended. Approximately 50 people from the various neighborhoods attended this meeting.

Treasurer' Report

Todd Price gave the Treasurer's Report including last year's financial position. Todd announced that a Budget Committee was forming and invited attendees who were interested to join. He wanted to be advised of any interested parties by January 31.

Membership dues are due and can be paid for by using “Pay Pal”.

-2-

URUUT Community Project

Jordan Fox announced that the project will be with Dresden Elementary School. He asked that everyone look for further information and opportunities to participate.

DECA Election

Todd Price and Ilan Sklar, representing the Nominating Committee gave the report and presented the nominee names. They were Jordan Fox, President, Todd Price, Treasurer, Ilan Sklar, Vice President and Marge Gabbett, Secretary. Stephen Moss volunteered to be the Representative for Wakefield Forest, East.

VOTE: Jordan Fox conducted the vote for each individual candidate. Each candidate received a unanimous vote.

Chamblee Annexation

On December 30, 2013, the DECA area, except for the Century Center property owned by Highwoods Properties, became part of the City of Chamblee. Eric Clarkson, Mayor; Marc Johnson, Former Police Chief and now Chamblee City Manager; and Tom Hogan, City Council Representative came to this meeting to talk about what annexation will mean for the DECA constituency. Everyone also acknowledged all the help that Elena Parent gave initiating the Chamblee annexation. Scott Holcomb, District 81 State Representative announced that he is drafting a bill to define the borders of Chamblee. Passage of this bill will stop the Highwoods Properties lawsuit.

Benefits of joining Chamblee were described Mayor Clarkson and Mark Johnson

- Senior Tax Exemption from Chamblee City Taxes – seniors (over 65 years old) need to go to the Chamblee City Hall to pick-up (age is verified with photo ID) form.
- Registration of Residential alarms. The appropriate form is available on the Chamblee website. The form can be faxed to the Chamblee City Hall. Registration is a Chamblee City requirement to save police and safety personnel from going to false alarms.
- Sanitation – DeKalb County will be picking up trash for the coming year.
- Vacuuming fall leaves - Hopefully Chamblee will be able to begin this fall. This will mean the end of bagging leaves. Leaves will just have to be blown/raked to the curb and Chamblee City trucks will suck them up!
- “Signal” is the Chamblee City newsletter. It comes out every other month. Go to the Chamblee City website for a copy.
- Permits requiring licenses for major trades work; i.e. electrical, plumbing. Anything that required a permit in DeKalb County will require the same in Chamblee.
- Police Service – 911 will be handled by the Chamblee Police force. Land lines will be immediately identified but cell phones are more difficult. Callers will need to identify themselves and give their location. Chamblee subscribes to “Smart 911”, a national service.

When 911 center gets a call from a “Smart 911” subscriber, the caller's profile identifies who maybe in the structure, pets, etc. No one has access to the profile information and the profile is automatically deleted every 6 months. To enter a profile, go to the Chamblee web page and look for “Smart 911.com”

- Roads & Drainage – If there is an emergency, call Mark Johnson directly. If it is other than an emergency, submit the problem online because the complaint will go to a larger number of

-3-

people who can address the problem.

- Dresden Park – There are no plans for the park at this time. This park still belongs to DeKalb County for now. Chamblee has never annexed an area that had a park and is researching what it would take for the city to purchase the park from DeKalb County. This process will likely take at least several months.

Tom Hogan, Chamblee City Council Representative, noted that the new annexed area is larger than Chamblee was four (4) years ago. He asked that everyone be patient. In gutter and road drainage alone, there will be 38 vacancies in the 2014 Chamblee budget.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 PM

Next Meeting

Quarterly Meeting – April 16, 2014

Board Meeting – February 3, 2014

Submitted by,
Marge Gabbett, Secretary

2-15-2014