



**EMORY
VILLAGE
ALLIANCE**

Emory Village Alliance—Minutes

April 13, 2015 – Barnes & Noble

Board members present: George Bacso, Lois Berthaume, Mark Goldman, Marlene Goldman, Stuart Meddin, Leah Antoniazzi, David Payne, Cynthia Tauxe, Russ Yates, Todd Hill

Board members absent: Becky Evans, Bill Gryboski, Shane Mixon, Hunter Jefferson

Advisory Board members present: Sally Sears, Rachel Barrueta, Jimmy Powell

Advisory Board members absent: Steffini Bethea, Kathie Gannon, Nathan Hartman, Chris Langley, Perry Mitchell, Clarke Weeks

Guests:

Neil Fried, Village resident

Mason Rainey, Emory's Office of Business Practice Improvement

Mrs. Tse Chih Chang, Village landowner

Cannon Reynolds, Niles Bolton Architects

- I. **Chair Comments** -- David welcomed the Board and guests, and highlighted several EVA events occurring over the next month:
- Southfork Conservancy 'Creek Rising Party' – Thursday, April 16; 5-8pm
 - Urban Land Institute Presentation on Emory Village – Tuesday, April 28; 4pm; Emory Trustees Boardroom – Administration Building
 - Druid Hills Tour of Homes – Friday-Sunday, May 1-3
 - Village Plaza bands Friday (5:30-7:30pm) and Saturday evening (5-10pm)
 - 5-K run in the Village Sunday 7-10am
 - David made a call for additional volunteers for the Tour
 - Next EVA Board Meeting: Monday, May 4; 4:30pm at Slice and Pint (NOTE – One week early due to Emory Commencement on May 11)

Previously, EVA discussed piggybacking on to road work that Emory is doing so that EVA could get a sense of how extensive the deterioration is in certain areas of the County roadway. Subsequent to the discussion, we discovered that there would be cost for EVA and also we wanted to let the County shoulder what is ultimately their responsibility.

Emory's Admissions office worked with several businesses in the Village to encourage admissions guests in April to visit restaurants for lunch and dinner.

Minutes from the prior meeting were approved.

- II. **Ad Hoc Committee Update: Center of Roundabout** – Todd discussed the 'grove' plan for the center of the roundabout (five Amur Maples) that would hopefully satisfy the County, Ga Power and Emory as to visual and height concerns. David is following up with Emory. There is potential fundraising opportunity around the five maples.

Note: the 'rosette' plan previously discussed with the Board was found to be cost prohibitive and the design was going to be a challenge for EVA to fund and design in the near future.

- The Board voted and approved unanimously to pursue the 'grove' concept for the center of the roundabout.

- III. **1467 Oxford Road – Historic Preservation COA Hearing** -- Tse Chih Chang, and Cannon Reynolds, Managing Director, Niles Bolton Architects, Atlanta. Mrs. Chang and her architect presented an overview of their plans for the demo and future redevelopment of the site. They want to get HPC approval to demolish the house prior to investing in design and other documents for the new development. They believe the house has structural problems and would be very expensive to fix.

Generally, their plans would include approx. 80 apartment units; 13,000 sft of retail; 120 parking spaces; 2-3 stories. She would grant a permanent easement for land she owns across the creek, and would need a variance to build the parking deck above the stream bank buffer. Chang is also negotiating to buy the Dominos site.

Prior to the HPC meeting, the Board approved and presented a statement to the HPC.

- IV. **Street and Parking Improvements on North Oxford** – Mark outlined a meeting that was held with Patrece Keeler from DeKalb Co. to improve the parking and access on N. Oxford Road in front of the Saperstein property. The head in parking would be replaced by parallel parking. Two spaces would be lost (but those are Emory spaces and Emory stated that it did not have a problem with the loss of the spaces).

There was a discussion about what kind of 'barrier' could be added to separate cars parked parallel from the area in front of the restaurants that would likely be used for outside dining. EVA hopes that this would provide incentive for Saperstein to improve the uneven sidewalks in front of his businesses in the area.

Next steps: Todd and others talk to Jan Saperstein, since his approval is needed to proceed.

V. **Landscaping Estimate for Village ‘Islands’** – Jimmy gave an overview of his plan to improve the soil and landscaping in the garden ‘islands’ throughout the Village (not including the Plaza or the center of the roundabout). Jimmy’s plan broke down each ‘island’ and gave a planting suggestion and cost. The bid totaled \$4,850.

- The Board approved the first phase of the landscape work: weeding, compost and pre-emergent for the gardens at a cost of \$1,100.

In the fall, once we can see what existing plants have survived, the second phase will need to be approved - (~\$3,750), which includes replanting the islands. David is to follow up with Panera specifically for them to contribute to the work in front of their business. We will also send another annual request to the landowners for landscape contributions.

The next Board meeting will be held on Monday, May 4 at Slice and Pint.