

## FOUNTAIN CITY CONNECTIONS

Minutes: Friday March 14th, 2008 meeting 8am-9:00am, Panera, Fountain City

**Present:** Donna Bueckman, Geordy Daws, David McGinley, Stephen Millsaps, Jamie Rowe, Thea Yoder, Donna Young and Ellen Zavisca

**Donna Bueckman**, President of Fountain City Connections, called the meeting to order. The minutes from our last meeting (February 20<sup>th</sup>, 2008) were reviewed. Donna Bueckman noted that her last name was misspelled in a few places [apologies from Thea for that oversight]. Jamie made the motion to pass the minutes as written and Donna Bueckman seconded. The minutes were accepted as written.

It was noted that the meeting time for today was changed from the original date of March 12<sup>th</sup> at 8am to today. This was done by email, with time for input from all those on the committee.

Donna Bueckman gave a Treasurer's report. She stated that we spent \$50.00 from our funds for the Neighborhood Conference; the motion for this passed in the fall when the original meeting had been set. Donna made a motion that we spend \$20.00 for payment of our annual fee to the state. Thea seconded, all were in favor.

### **Update on Old Action Items:**

Ellen has nearly completed the applications for the "Safe Routes to School" program for Fountain City Elementary and Fountain City Middle School. Donna B. mentioned that she had written a letter of support for this program on behalf of Fountain City Connections.

We reviewed the list of neighborhoods that we are asking to write letters of support for a sidewalk ordinance as follows:

\*\*Donna Young said she'd ask greenway groups for a letter of support, and email requests to her whole list of greenway supporters with a sample letter attached. She also mentioned that she has the grant submitted now for the Skate Park Loop. Donna B. added that she wrote a letter of support for this proposal from Fountain City Connections. \*\*Donna Y. will ask for support letters from West Hills Neighborhood and from Mark Campen.

\*\* Bob to talk with Jason Woodle on the Mayor's Advisory Board on Neighborhoods, asking for a letter of support and/or a list of individual groups we could talk with to send information and ask for support. \*\*Bob to contact Paul Kelly asking for a letter of support from the Oakwood/Lincoln Park group

\*\*Donna B. said she would request a letter from Mike Hensley, a developer who put in sidewalks with his recent strip-mall renovation, mentioning that he thought it was a goodwill gesture for the community. \*\*Donna B. will request a letter of support from the Skate Park group. She reported

that Fountain City Town Hall is in favor and will write a letter of support, as well as Highland Neighbors association. \*\*Donna B. will speak with Amy Broyles about a letter of support from her neighborhood. \*\*Donna B. will visit Ron Emory (5 and dime) in South Knoxville, giving him a copy of the ordinance and asking for his support. \* She will also contact Kingston Pike /Sequoyah Hills Neighborhood, as well as Park Ridge (John Stancil), Lonus Drive (Polly), City People, and Westwood Community (Febar Saunders).

Ellen reported that Town Hall East and North Knox United have approved our request for letters of support.

Thea reported that she talked with Terry Faulkner of Bearden Council and she will request a letter of support at their next meeting.

\*\*Ellen, who spoke to the South Haven neighborhood group about the proposed ordinance, will contact them via email asking for a letter of support. \*\*Ellen will also contact the Island Home Neighborhood Association, the Old Sevier neighborhood group, and the \*\*Health Department.

\*Jamie offered to call the Gibbs, Alice Bell/ Springhill, Community Forum, and the Norwood neighborhood groups requesting letters of support.

Donna B. emailed the list of Neighborhood Watch Groups etc., submitting an information letter on the proposed ordinance, stating that this is nothing official yet and that we would still like their feedback and/or a letter (via email) of support from their group. She also mentioned that there is a sample letter of support posted on our website ([www.fountaincityconnections.org](http://www.fountaincityconnections.org)).

Carol Evans of Legacy Parks said she would approach her board asking for support for the proposed ordinance. Thea also reported that Carol is willing to meet with the corporate office personnel of the Highland Cemetery Organization to request land for a greenway, and has plans to do that soon.

Thea called Gary Drinnen from Blue Ridge Development LLC, asking for a letter saying that they opted to put in sidewalks at the request of the Bearden Neighborhood Association. He said he is no longer with Blue Ridge Development, but that both Holrob and Blue Ridge Development are putting in sidewalks where it seems to be advantageous.

Donna B. met with COIN and gave a presentation to the neighborhood groups gathered there. Some letters of support should come in as a result of that presentation.

### **New Action Items:**

Next meeting we will focus our efforts on publicity.

Ideas listed earlier were: the Halls Shopper, Metro Pulse (\*Ellen), putting together a powerpoint presentation (from Anne ?), the George Corda Radio Show, and the Knoxville News Sentinel.

Thea has contacted Hallerin Hill via e-mail and also made a visit to his office leaving Donna's contact information.

\*\*Diane will take photos of missed sidewalk opportunities, need for improvements, unsafe crossings, areas that need attention etc.

\*\*Ellen will make “Sidewalks for Knoxville” buttons.

\*Donna and \*Thea will meet today with the Homebuilders’ Association to hear their concerns and answer questions they have about the proposed ordinance.

Donna reported on Bob’s meeting with city officials. As a result of that meeting \*Donna B. will meet with Bill Lyons, Larry Martin, and Rick Emmitt on Monday at 3:30 in room 655 of the City/County Building.

**The meeting was adjourned at 9:00am**

**Note: \* denotes Action Item.  
\*\*denotes Old Action Item.**

**Next meeting: Wednesday, April 9th, 8:00am at Panera in Fountain City.**

**If you would like to have a copy of these minutes available at the next meeting, please print a copy to bring along.**

Thanks,  
Thea Yoder

Please contact me for additions and/or corrections (by e-mail or 688-8286).