

East Thompson Community Membership Meeting Thursday, August 17, 2017 – Minutes

Welcome and Introductions

The meeting began at 6:34 p.m. when ETC Steering Committee (SC) Member Nanette Bahlinger introduced Dr. Ricki Gibbs, Principle of Glengarry Elementary School (GES). Dr. Gibbs enthusiastically welcomed the crowd to GES. He described GES as a "school on the move," where students and teachers are passionate about learning. He highlighted the diversity of the student population, noting that 80% of students speak more than one language and 60% are in EL. He encouraged ETC members to drop by for a personal tour of the school, and to think of GES as a "hub of the community."

Councilman Mike Freeman was then introduced. He noted two items:

1. A City-Wide Community Outreach meeting will be held on Wednesday, August 23 at Coleman Park CC, the purpose of which is to promote transparency and discuss ways the Metropolitan Council can better serve the public. The meeting will begin at 6:30 p.m.
 2. Mike has begun sending announcements via email. To be added to the distribution list, send an email with the subject heading, "Email List" to mike.freeman@nashville.gov
- Neighbors are encouraged to take advantage of these resources

The Neighborhood Resource Center (NRC) provided volunteers to monitor the election. They were recognized as follows:

- Bob Rehly serves on the board of the NRC and is the Chair of Eastwood Neighbors
 - Lauren Toleno serves as Secretary of the Glenclyff Neighborhood Association
- Bob and Lauren were present to help ensure that ballots were correctly issued, collected, and counted.

Treasurer's Report

Carol Suzuki, Treasurer, noted an ETC bank balance of \$1,504.59.

Walk Bike Nashville

ETC SC Member Kristen Beahm introduced those in attendance to Walk Bike Nashville, whose goal is "to build a more walkable, bikeable, and livable Nashville." ETC has joined with the group to host a walk along Murfreesboro Road from the Lane Motor Museum to East Thompson Lane, where buses will be waiting to take walkers back to the Museum. An ETC-sponsored social will be held at Urban Farm on Wimpole Drive following the walk.

Neighbors are encouraged to suggest places of interest along the walking route, e.g., Breakaway Hockey and Fitness, El Hornito Bakery, etc.

Election

Presidential candidates Dayle Ward and Ross Holmes spent a minute each introducing themselves to those present, after which ballots were collected by the on-site election monitors, Bob Rehly and Lauren Toleno.

Results were announced by Bob Rehly:

- Ross Holmes was elected ETC President. He will serve a one-year term.
- Lee Turley was elected ETC President-Elect. He will serve a one-year term after which he will assume the role of ETC President for one year.

By-laws discussion

ETC SC Member Marianne Mashburn noted that, last year, the Secretary and Treasurer were erroneously elected to two-year terms instead of one-year terms as specified in the then-current by-laws. A timetable of relevant events was presented:

May 2015 -- temporary by-laws were approved by the ETC membership; the by-laws stipulated one-year renewable terms for the Secretary and Treasurer

May 2016 -- Secretary and Treasurer were elected to two-year terms by the ETC membership;

May 2017 -- updated temporary by-laws were approved by the membership; the updated by-laws did not reflect the change to two-year terms for the Secretary and Treasurer.

ETC Member Nancy Gannon Nelms asked the pertinent question: if by-laws can be violated, why do we have them? She made the argument that by-laws should be followed as written, and that if processes or procedures need to be changed, then the proper sequence is to amend or edit the by-laws, then implement the change, not vice versa. Two motions and four recommendations were made to support. (See separate file for specific wording.)

After much discussion, members agreed that they were uncomfortable voting on issues with which they were unfamiliar; members asked that they be given time to read the existing by-laws and proposed revisions prior to voting. In addition, two specific suggestions were put forth:

- items to be voted on will be communicated to membership in the same way that meetings are announced, e.g., ETC website
- ETC may want to consider creating a By-laws Committee to, among other things, standardize by-laws procedures

All suggestions were taken under advisement and deferred for further discussion and/or voting at the November membership meeting. Additional information will be posted on the ETC website for reference and reading.

Neighborhoods Celebration and Good Neighbor Nominee

Members were reminded of and encouraged to participate in the Neighborhoods Celebration that will take place Saturday, September 30 from 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM at Elizabeth Park. Jeff Jones, owner of the Dairy King, was nominated to receive recognition as the Good Neighbor; the nomination was voted on and approved by the membership. Thanks to Nancy Gannon for nominating Jeff, and congratulations to Jeff for a well-deserved honor!

Village at Glenclyff Community Council Representatives' Report

Representative Matt Thackston noted that the Community Council met last week and that meeting minutes will soon be posted and distributed. He said that the Village at Glenclyff organizers are in the process of securing the last of the required permits, and that they expect to break ground in September. He added that a lawsuit has been filed against the development, but that it will not impeded the construction timeline. Matt opened the floor to questions and discussion; there were none.

Announcements

- ETC SC Member Susan Marshall is hosting a songwriters' night on the fourth Saturday of each month. The event is currently held at Flatrock Coffee Tea & More, but will probably move to Ken's Sushi, which is a larger venue. Persons interested in performing or in simply learning more, should contact Susan directly.

- Lauren Toleno of Glencliff Neighborhood Association (GNA) will host Night Out Against Crime in October. GNA will host a "fire hall dinner" on the third weekend in September. All neighbors are encouraged to contribute to event which is greatly appreciated by our local fire men and women.
- The next ETC Steering Committee will be held Wednesday, September 6 from 7 - 8:30 p.m. at Ken's Sushi. All members are welcome and encouraged to attend!
- The next ETC Membership Meeting will be held Thursday, November 16 from 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. at Glengarry Elementary School.

The meeting concluded at 7:36 p.m.