

ETC Membership Meeting Minutes

May 18, 2017

Steering Committee Member Susan Marshall opened the meeting at 6:38 p.m.

Treasurer's Report

Carol Suzuki reported an account balance of \$1,191.51. There have been no expenses since the last membership meeting. Carol pointed out that the recent ETC Block Party did not cost the organization funds, but in fact generated income:

- 1) all items, including food, were donated, and
- 2) Jessica and David Winthrow sold plants to benefit ETC, generating \$85. (Unsold plants were generously donated to the Urban Farm.)

Social Events Update

Marianne Mashburn described ETC's social events as opportunities to get to know our neighbors. These opportunities, she noted, are a direct response to requests voiced at recent membership meetings.

April – a good crowd showed up to sup and socialize at Lil Choo Choo

April – the events originally planned to celebrate Earth Day were postponed to due to inclement weather. However, Councilman Mike Freeman organized a small group to remove debris from around the greenway bridge near Whitsett Park. Thanks to all who participated.

May – ETC Block Party at the Urban Farm on Wimpole Drive. 50-60 neighbors, including lots of energetic, happy children, showed up to meet, eat, and enjoy our beautiful neighborhood park. Charlotte Pate of Hands on Nashville gave a tour of the Urban Farm. There was ample food thanks to Carol Suzuki, who solicited donations from local businesses including:

- El Hornito
- Ken's Sushi
- Oasis,
- Monell's
- El Chico
- Dairy King
- El Ranchero
- Kroger

Neighbors are encouraged to thank these businesses for their donations and support.

Council Update

Councilman Mike Freeman opened his comments with a request for ideas: he asked that neighbors funnel suggestions for District 16 improvements, projects, etc. through the ETC Steering Committee to the ETC President to him.

Councilman Freeman said that he had been working for about two years to improve safety at Whitsett Park, and that results should be seen soon:

- 1) boulders will be placed along the fence separating the park from Old Glenrose and East Thompson Lane, and
- 2) table top speed bumps will be placed near the pedestrian crossing from the bridge over Old Glenrose.

The city owns about thirty acres along Mill Creek adjacent to the Kano property on East Thompson

Lane. Councilman Freeman is working to secure boundaries for the acreage with the intent of developing it as a greenway.

Councilman Freeman ended his comments by stating that he began working about one year ago on traffic solutions along Drummond and Greymont. He then turned over the podium to three representatives from the Metro Neighborhood Traffic Management Program (MNTMP)

Traffic Calming

A “black tube” used to measure speed and volume of traffic by direction was installed March 7-8, 2017. Results indicated an average of 500 vehicles along Greymont and 1000 along Drummond. The volume of traffic along Greymont indicates that most of the drivers are local. Drummond is not a cut-through street, indicating that those drivers are local, too.

There is little MNTNP can do to address citizens’ concerns because: 1) the drivers are neighbors, therefore redirection is not an option, and 2) it is MNTNP’s responsibility to use resources in higher volume areas of the City. However, MNTNP will share the data it has collected with Metro Police.

Options available:

- Neighbors may ask MNTNP to collect data along other areas streets, i.e., Winthorne and Currey
- Neighbors may ask 13th and 16th Council representatives for additional sidewalks
- MNTNP will consider adding speed limit pavement markings on Greymont adjacent to the speed limit signs

In response to questions from ETC members, MNTNP commented:

- Metro does not use traffic cameras.
- A speed radar sign may be requested; Nashville owns four and rotates use of them around the city.
- Speed humps “are very political” making placement difficult. They could be considered for use on Greymont and Drummond in the future, but “less contentious” methods such as signs and road markings must be considered first.
- Nashville is experimenting with “pop-up traffic circles.”

ETC Steering Committee

Marianne Mashburn reviewed the current governing structure: because there were no candidates for President or President-Elect last year, the ETC Steering Committee (SC) has been operating in a governing capacity. SC members include Susan Marshall, Emily Walker, Kristen Beahm, Kaz Suzuki, and Marianne Mashburn, as well as Treasurer Carol Suzuki and Secretary Nanette Bahlinger (both of whom were elected to one-year terms last year). This group has been working behind the scenes to create the ETC website, implement online voting, and plan/implement social events.

Because there are candidates this year for both the President and President-Elect positions, upon their election in August, the governing structure will revert to that outlined in the By-laws.

Candidates

A Candidate Forum was held to introduce nominees for President and President-Elect. Ross Holmes spoke to the group to announce his candidacy for President. Statements were read on behalf of Dayle Ward (candidate for President) and Lee Turley (candidate for President-Elect) who were not able to attend. The election will take place at the ETC Membership Meeting August 17. Candidate statements are available at <http://eastthompsoncommunity.com/election.html>

ETC Website

Kristen Beahm announced that the ETC Website had been launched!! Please visit eastthompsoncommunity.com to learn about volunteer opportunities, news, and events.

Kristen encouraged members to submit stories, history, and photos to share. She also encouraged members to be responsible when posting information, and reminded those present of the different online options available for communication:

- Facebook – open to public
- NextDoor – limited access to ETC and sometimes nearby communities
- ETC website – an information-sharing site open to the public

The Village at Glencliff Community Council

Marianne Mashburn stated that ETC had been asked to provide two volunteers – one proponent and one opponent – to represent ETC residents as liaisons to the Village at Glencliff Community Council.

A statement by Matt Thackston, proponent liaison was read, after which members voted unanimously to accept his nomination. A nominee to serve as the opponent liaison is sought.

Liaisons should be able to communicate effectively and report factual information back to the community in a timely and accurate manner.

By-laws

Marianne Mashburn and Kristen Beahm noted that the by-laws under which ETC was currently operating were temporary and needed to be updated. They detailed changes, all of which were approved by members present.

A copy of the approved by-laws is available on the “About Us” page of the ETC website.

Calendar

June 7 – ETC Steering Committee Meeting. 7:00 – 8:30 at Ken’s Sushi.

July 5 – ETC Steering Committee Meeting. 7:00 – 8:30 at Ken’s Sushi.

August 17 – ETC Membership Meeting. 6:30 – 7:30 at Glengarry Elementary.