



Eastport Civic Association

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MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

SEPTEMBER 21, 2006

ANNUAL MEETING
NOVEMBER 16, 2006

JANUARY 18, 2007

MARCH 21, 2007

MAY 16, 2007

2006-2007 Proposed Slate of Candidates

President: Jeanne Langdon

Vice President: Vic Pascoe

Secretary: Jane Lawrence

Treasurer: Jean McCoy

Directors: Dretta Peterson, Lee Finney, Phyllis Emmett

Second Year Directors: Cory Bonney, Gina White

Elections will be held at the November 21 Membership Meeting.

Sept. 21 Membership Meeting

The agenda includes the following:

- Slate of Candidates
- House Tour Slides
- Committee Reports – Updates
- Alderman's Notebook

*As is always the case, we have much to discuss,
but we promise to keep the meeting brief and crisp.*

House Tour Slides

Shelley Row, Chair of the Home and Garden Tour will present some PowerPoint pictures of the Home and Garden Tour [bring your umbrellas]. Shelley will also give us some information about next year's tour.

ECA news

The Eastport Civic Association Newsletter

www.eastportcivic.org

SEPTEMBER 2006

Committee Reports

Eastport Gateway – Is still in the legislative hopper. Josh discussed its status with the city's legislative guru, John Spencer, and it is on hold indefinitely, until further notice from the alderman (Josh or the next one).

In Josh's view, ECA is in the driver's seat on this legislation because the ordinance is ready and waiting to get placed on the public hearing agenda for city council. The original viewcone option [the one the ECA Membership voted on] is still on the table. Because the ordinance includes that original viewcone, and because Planning Commission recommended favorably on that version of it, that viewcone is still the default position in case the talks between ECA and AYC are unproductive.

However at this point, so long as ECA and AYC still are discussing this in good faith, Josh thinks it is premature to move forward legislatively. In his view, we cannot wait indefinitely, but there is not an extreme urgency to proceed ASAP because no building permits are imminent from AYC, Viking or Carruthers. The ideal situation would be for ECA and AYC to achieve a mutually agreeable solution through dialogue. Failing that, we can always proceed with the original viewcone.

In terms of timeline, if Josh is successful in the county election, this issue may end up being placed on the agenda of the next alderman. So it will become an issue that spans the terms of three aldermen — Good grief!

In the meantime, the Architecture and Zoning Committee is still working with AYC in discussion of the view cone. Al Graf and Ross Arnett have marked on the AYC lot, in day-glo orange, the building location of both the current proposal and the 1998 plans for development. From those markings, it is clear that the current plans would have a much greater impact on the viewcone than the 1998 proposal. But the measures also make evident that the current the viewcone (see the various marks on the sidewalk going up to the Eastport Bridge) in the proposed legislation would be a significant taking of AYC property, approxi-

mately 6,000 square feet of developable area. Both parties in the discussion believe that there are several possible design solutions that would satisfy both AYC and ECA needs, we just haven't settled on what it (they) might be.

At least in part because of the focus our negotiations have brought about, the AYC development committee has gone back to "square one" and is reevaluating the development plans for the site. Of course this planning will take some time to complete and, until it is done, we will not know what impact the new concept will have on the viewcone, if any.

It is because these negotiations continue in a cordial and productive fashion, that Josh has put introduction of the Gateway legislation on indefinite hold.

Mass and Scale – Continues to be a concern in the Conservation District. We have not yet had a P&Z decision on the resubmitted plans for the site at 521 Burnside Street and we now have a new submission over the 3,250 square foot threshold pending for 600 Sixth Street. Because the threshold is still so new, we continue to feel our way through the process. The A&Z Committee is striving to develop a consistent and fair approach to evaluating these new submissions. The goal is to get good site design that achieves a balance between maintaining the Eastport scale, while respecting the needs of the property owner. The one constant seems to be that, because of real estate values, there will be continued pressure for owners to build big. The Committee is pursuing a quality versus quantity concept.

Treasurers Report

Our current membership has grown to a healthy 415 members, thanks in part to some extra recruiting effort by Jean McCoy, our treasurer, and, we hope, to some renewed vigor brought about by the Home and Garden Tour. The latter has also made our current cash on hand a very respectable \$17,136, with \$6,597 of that the net proceeds from the Tour.

Alderman's Notebook

Tree Give-Away: For all you Eastporters with Green Thumbs, the City of Annapolis will be giving away 500 trees for planting. Species include redbud, white pine, pin oak, red cedar, river birch, green ash, and more. Only one tree will be given away per household. Come to the Truxtun Park Pool on Tuesday, September 26, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. to pick up your tree. This is first come, first served – no reservations will be taken. Each tree will be approximately 6 feet tall. Contact Marisa Wittlinger at 410-263-7946 with any questions.

New Perennial Exchange: Also on Tuesday, September 26 the City is kicking off a new Perennial Plant Exchange. This will be an opportunity to bring extra plants from your yard and exchange them with others at no cost. To participate, please come to the Truxtun Pool between 10:00 - 11:30 a.m. with your plants divided into sturdy containers (except for bulbs) and labeled with their name, blossom color, bloom time, plant height, and location preference. You will receive one to three credits for each plant you bring. Then return between 12:30 - 2:00 p.m. and select plants in exchange for your credits.

More information on how to divide perennials can be found at: <http://hgic.clemson.edu/factsheets/HGIC1150.htm>. Please call LeeAnn Plumer at 410-263-7958 or email recpark@annapolis.gov with questions.

Fall GreenScape: Also this fall, this City is again offering fall tulip and daffodil bulbs again for planting in public spaces. Last year several residents along Bay Ridge Avenue came out one morning in the rain and planted dozens of bulbs in the traffic calming islands. The flowers looked beautiful when spring arrived. Is there a public area on your street that would benefit from some tulips or daffodils?

The City has a limited number of bulbs so please request yours early. E-mail your request to recpark@annapolis.gov with your order request, planting location and phone number. You can pick up your bulbs from Wednesday thru Friday, October 25 - 27, 2006 from 9:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. at the Annapolis Recreation Center at 9 St. Mary's Street downtown. (If you don't have a location to plant bulbs but want to get your hands dirty anyway, the city wants to plant 3,000 bulbs at the Market House plaza, City Hall and Westgate Circle. Email recpark@annapolis.gov if you want to help out.)

As always you can reach me at 410-216-9449 or eastportjosh@yahoo.com to discuss these or other issues.

– Josh Cohen

MEMBERSHIP MEETING Eastport Elementary School Auditorium THURSDAY, SEPT. 21, 7:30 pm