

WPNA Minutes

11/6/2013

Winnona Park Elementary Café

Handouts included:

Agenda

Copies of options 1-7 CSD rezoning

I. Meeting opened by WPNA President, Cherylann McGirt

Thanked neighbors and community representatives for attending;

Greg Wiseman

Laura Spriggs

Patty Garrett

Followed by brief description of benefits of membership and set tentative date for luminaire event (12/15/13).

II. Introduction and discussion of proposed K-3 rezoning led by WP Principal, Greg Wiseman

- There has been massive growth over past five plus years; upwards of 12% growth year over year with no end in sight.
- Kindergarten class for 2012 and 2013 has consistently been 2x the size of the outgoing senior class at DHS.
- Discussion of CSD Zoning meetings and dates they have been held. Explained that the committee began with three maps and provided feedback, which led to the additional maps, and there may still be more maps as final "tweaking" occurs.
- Greg Wiseman has been as vocal as possible in keeping the Winnona Park "community" together in the rezoning. This does not just include WP proper, but those neighbors in the MAK district and those south of Kirk that also attend our school.
- Rezoning committee members were asked at the most recent zoning meeting held on 11/4/2013 to rank their choices of maps that they favored. Overwhelmingly map #7 was the number one choice, followed by #5, then #6. There is likely to be more fine tuning of these maps.
- Trying very diligently to ensure natural boundaries for each neighborhood are created with great sensitivity of neighborhood feeling.
- Next school board meeting is set for 11/12; vote will not happen at this meeting.
- All maps are still in play and school board has option to make additional changes they see fit outside of the rezoning committee's recommendations.
- New school board takes effect 1/1/2014.
- Winnona Park Elementary is the only school K-12 that still has trailers.
- There is a need to make sure there is a solid amount of "open seats" in any map that is chosen. Trailers and adding on to Winnona Park Elementary are currently off the table.
- Important to note that there is no model that could've predicted the growth our community has had. Goal for the zoning committee is to not have to discuss rezoning again for at least five years.
- Brief discussion of ESOL in all schools; this is still an ongoing discussion of how and where to place these students.

- Brief discussion of possibility of Glennwood Elementary becoming a Title 1 school. This is a possibility, but at this point nothing definite is known.

III. Introduction of WP neighbor, Laura Spriggs

- Discussion of how neighborhood could be negatively impacted if WP were split between two schools.
- Wants to unify the neighborhood with WPNA boundaries
- Several comments back and forth about where those boundaries "should" be.
- Seegar Swanson, Treasurer from WPNA executive committee presented the current boundaries of WP; those include:
 - College to the North
 - Candler to the West
 - S. Columbia (both sides of the street) to the East
 - Kirk to the south (including all streets that join or attach to Kirk)
- Brief conversation of extending the WP boundaries. This was tabled until 2014.
- Motion was made to present a unified stance by WPNA regarding K-3 rezoning and how it directly affects the neighborhood.
- Formal motion by Mary Alice Crowe-Taylor: "WPNA only endorses zoning options which maintain the integrity of the Winnona Park neighborhood boundaries as specified in the WPNA bylaws."
- Motioned was seconded by Mindy Pillow
- Vote was non-unanimous; one abstention
- Second motion for WPNA to send formal letter to the CSD School Board stating first motion on behalf of the registered voting community members of WPNA.
- Vote was unanimous.

IV. Raffle

2 City of Decatur mouse pads, one coffee cup, one COD coaster

V. Meeting adjourned by WPNA President, Cherylann McGirt

- Several new board positions coming open in January 2014
- Encouragement to neighbors to remain active and consider taking on one of these roles.
- Encouragement to come to luminaire event in December.