

The West End

By and for the
West End Neighborhood

January 1994

YES, GENTLEFOLK, IT'S TIME AGAIN TO THROW THE BUMS OUT!

Every winter, in order to fend off the despair caused by little sunlight and much cold weather, people in Moscow get nekkid and swim in the river. Here in the West End, we do the same thing, only symbolically. Yes, we hold an "Annual Meeting" of the neighborhood Association and elect a new slate of officers and board members. Our way doesn't provide as attractive a photo opportunity, but more of us survive the experience.

The Nominating Committee of the West End Association proudly presents the following citizens and residents as candidates as officers: Wanda Merschel, President; Buck Skillen, Vice-president; Cathy Long, Secretary; and David Wallace, Treasurer.

AS for board members, one slot has become available to fill a vacancy for a one-year term in the "Class of '95." There are six new directorships, with two-year terms, in the "Class of '96." Finally, we always elect an alternate director, to fill in a position usually vacated during the year. The ten nominees, in alphabetical order, are: Scott & Laura Carpenter; Ann Doherty & George Bryan; Perry & Lisa Jennings; Billye Keith Jones; Gordon & Arden Knight; Wade Long; ~~Ron Rash~~; Ellen & Steve Sandridge; Jim & Missy Vaughan; and Wylie Yarborough.

As is our custom and your right, nominations can be made from the floor. As it was last year, the floor will be located in the YWCA. The meeting will be held on (third!) Tuesday, February 15th, at 7:30 p.m.

HOW ABOUT A SPECIAL PRESENTATION?

There will be a speaker or two at the Annual Meeting. Who will it/they be? You're going to have to show up and find out for yourself. What an adventure!! Oh, yes -- you can make a Special Presentation, too: your 1994 dues, please. We beseech, implore, and humbly beg you.

MEANWHILE, THE SOBER RESPONSIBILITIES OF CONFRONTING THE DAILY CHALLENGES FACED BY A COMMUNITY GO ON . . . AND ON . . . AND ON

Speaking of the minutes of the January meeting of the Board, Item 1 was a written chastisement by the Salem Congregation. Spokesman Joe Lineberger scolded this newsletter's failure to contact his folks to get their side of the building-demolition story before going to press. Item 2 was a written plea by Washington Park residents David & Susan Gall for support of the nomination of architect William Watkins to the County Planning Board. Several West Enders present added their voices, citing Watkins' valuable participation in the Gateway Project and the UDO Steering Committee. The Board unanimously moved to support the nomination. Item 3: John Merschel and Barbara Garrison have officially become members of the YMCA's board. They report that the Y board has stated that one of its goals for the year is to continue to improve relationships with the surrounding neighborhood.

94
159
211

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Item 4: the West Fourth Street bridge over Business 40 -- the city traffic people do not want to close off this thoroughfare, again citing the need to maintain existing fire truck and bus routes. Nevertheless, residents in the southern part of our neighborhood cite the increasing number of accidents caused by high-speed cut-through traffic. Someone raised the idea of closing the median down on Peters Creek Parkway to discourage left turns. We will continue our dialogue with Brent McKinney and his staff. Item 5: The DOT does want to do something about the intersection of W. 1st and W. 4th Streets -- lots of wrecks, often caused by folks (including several people at the meeting) who like to turn left onto 1st St. The authorities want to make such turns illegal. The Board resolved to support that change, though not unanimously.

Item 6: Treasurer Glenn Simmons reported our five accounts have about the same balances they had a year ago: Historic Trust \$9,737,16; Barbara Smitherman Fund \$2,841.16; Checking \$501.41; Savings \$78.78; Postage \$224.81. Glenn further reported 1993 expenses to be: Postage \$1,019.14; Newsletter \$2,360.30; Parties \$596.52; Festival at Grace Court \$716.01; miscellaneous \$22.05. He reminded us of the importance of annual dues as a generator of significant revenues, so PAY UP!!!

Item 7: The group discussed a proposal by Tom Harris for special (lower) tenant membership fees, to be paid by cooperating landlords. Several people expressed a preference for a "bulk rate" membership plan, so long as the landlord supplies the names and addresses and handles payment.

Item 8: The Unified Development Ordinance ("UDO") is well into the "mapping process," in which the Planning Staff tries to "convert" old zoning categories into new ones, without actually "rezoning" anything. Several people cited our neighborhood's character to be substantially that of a collection of single-family residences, many of which contain more than one family; they expressed a desire for a change in mapping policy that would consider actual appearance and density rather than merely the existing zoning labels. Bill Wise reported on the rigorous study being undertaken at the Aldermanic level. Perhaps you've already read that they referred the issue of "group care facilities" back to Planning for reconsideration. Meanwhile, the monitor/response process goes on, so pay attention and speak up.


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- Step 1: Fill out the "Membership Application directly below;
- Step 2: Write a check; and
- Step 3: Mail the two documents to P.O. Box 10055, or
- Step 3A: Bring the two documents to the Annual Meeting of the West End Association on February 15th.

Otherwise, Step 4: during the next few months, you'll have a big ugly Red Dot on your mailing label, placed there by Demonic Spirits from the Underworld to remind you to help keep your neighborhood Association in healthy financial condition.

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