



GREEN MOUNTAIN CIVIC LEAGUE

Newsletter

May 2017

<http://www.greenmountaincivicleague.org>

PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR THIS UPCOMING EVENT!

**FALL GREEN MOUNTAIN CIVIC LEAGUE
GENERAL MEETING & ANNUAL PICNIC**

Sunday September 24th, 2017 3:00-5:30pm
at the Madison County Nature Trail

WORDS FROM THE PRESIDENT:

Good Evening to all our Green Mountain Neighbors,

We will be hosting a brief General Membership meeting of the Civic League, per the agenda below, tomorrow evening at the Fire Station. Everyone is invited and encouraged to come join us there!

Both the Minutes and Treasurer's Report from the Fall 2016 Spring General Membership Meeting are included for your review and concurrence. Please come prepared to discuss any exceptions, and/or vote on both of these at our spring meeting.

Per the Announcements below, we are also looking for additional volunteer support for Neighborhood Watch, Board positions, and the Green Mountain Volunteer Fire Department. The appropriate contact information for each is provided, along with a listing of your current slate of officers, and their associated contact information.

Hope to see you tomorrow!

Mark Prill, President, GMCL

AGENDA

Green Mountain Civic League General Membership Meeting
May 23, 2017

Call to Order – Mark Prill

Fall General Membership Meeting Minutes

Treasurer's Report

Membership

Beautification

Public Safety

Communications

Website

Events

Liaison

Bylaws

Block Captains

Volunteer Fire Department

Neighborhood Watch

Archives

Old Business

New Business

Adjourn

The minutes from the September General Membership Meeting and the Treasurer's Report are below. Please come prepared to vote on both of these at our fall meeting.

Green Mountain Civic League
Fall General Board Meeting Minutes
September 25th, 2016

Board Members Present

Mark Prill, President

Bev Humphrey, Vice President

Anita Reck, Treasurer

Joyce Morgan, Secretary

Susan Prill, Communications and Community Watch Chair

Shelly Harris, Safety Committee Chair

Fred Hinckley, Block Captains

Nancy Corbeille, Beautification Committee Chair

President: The Fall General Membership Meeting was called to order by the President, Mark Prill. Mark first introduced Dr. Jennie Robinson, one of a number of invited guests. The Spring General Membership Meeting minutes, including the **Treasurer's Report**, were subsequently accepted as written. Mark then introduced Nancy Corbeille, Beautification Committee Chair, who, along with Beautification Committee member Mike Hollis, acted as Guest Speakers reporting on the current status of the Green Mountain Passive Park.

Beautification: Nancy Corbeille, reported that she, along with Joy McKee, Director, City of Huntsville Landscape Management, and Kerry Hayes, Manager of Woodland Construction, had met at the park to discuss a number of specific issues/concerns:

1. Utility Poles & Stop Signs. The current arrangement was determined by Huntsville Utilities as a first step. Before they can finalize the job, AT&T and Comcast must move their wires. Thus far, they have not been responsive, Joy talked with a City official who deals with these companies to see if she/he could get it expedited. The final plan is for the utility poles to be moved to the lodge/park side of South Shawdee so the sidewalks can go on the Woodland side. Once the utility poles are moved, the City Transportation Department will install the 4 Stop signs. While Joy asked Kerry to keep the gravel in the rough strip left by the Utilities workers on South Shawdee, it has

actually been blacktopped.

2. Mowing Schedule & Landing Zone Site. Joy's contact assured her that our passive park is on the established city mowing schedule. They hadn't mowed it lately as another group was scheduled to come out in the next few weeks to do their fall spraying. Joy may have asked the mowers to come up as the park has been mowed. Nancy briefed Joy on the Medevac landing zone, relaying what Russell Rawson, of the Green Mountain Fire Department, had told the subcommittee during a previous walk of the park in the prior week, namely, the appropriate personnel would need to; (1) paint a circle in the correct dimensions in the middle of the property; (2) take an aerial picture of the landing site; and (3), would need to add the site to the GPS system used by the Medevac helicopters.

3. Pools of dried concrete on the lodge side of the park. Kerry of Woodland Construction indicate that one of the cement company trucks accidentally spilled it. Kerry also mentioned that he was told by a Transportation Department person that, as part of the installation of the Stop signs, the South Village Square intersection would have a turning lane installed in the middle. (That might get rid of the pools of concrete. If not, it can be addressed when the City puts the beds in.)

Nancy also announced that the Fall cleanup had been scheduled for Saturday, October 29, 2016. Volunteers were to meet at 9:00 am in the Auxiliary Parking lot of the Madison County Nature Trail. Supplies of bags, gloves and grippers were supplied.

Vice President's Report: Beverly Humphrey provided a report on the concerns of mountain residents regarding the vendor/contractor vehicles traveling up and down Green Mountain Road, i.e., crossing the double yellow line and driving in the oncoming traffic lane. Bev had contacted the developers, via calls and emails, presently working on Green Mountain, requesting their assistance in notifying their drivers of the concerns. These developers/builders included McCluskey Construction, Naumcheff Builders, Stonecraft Construction, Oak Bluff, Dunlap Construction, Cardinal Custom Enterprises, and Woodland Homes. Pictures verifying the transgressions and a collection of resident's comments were attached to the emails. Bev's email requested that each of the builders forward any comments to her. To date, no comments have been received.

Mark Prill had also sent the concerns to Dr. Jennie Robinson, District 3 City Councilwoman, and Dewayne McCarver, Captain of South Precinct Police. Dr.

Robinson indicated she would share the information with the City, which was done, and the report had resulted more police surveillance on Green Mountain Road.

Bev had also called Sequatchie Concrete and discussed this issue with the manager of the trucking schedules. He indicated he would talk with all his drivers about the Green Mountain problem. A Green Mountain resident had also individually contacted Todd's Trucking and spoke with the owner. He indicated he would alert the driver.

Treasury report: Anita Reck provided detailed information on the income and expenses for calendar year 2016, year to date. Beginning income January, 2016 was \$4504.43. Income from dues/donations and decal reimbursements totaled \$1616.00. Expenses of \$1551.11 left a balance for net income of \$64.895. These expenses do not include those that will result from the picnic. Ending cash balance was \$4569.32.

The Report was accepted. See Appendix A below for the complete report from the Treasurer.

Database: There was no report. However, Mark Prill, announced that a co-worker had expressed a willingness to work on the database. Mark will pursue discussions with the co-worker.

Membership: Anita Reck reported that there are now 317 members which includes 5 from Inspiration. A total of 139 or 44% have paid dues.

Block Captains: Mark Prill, President, provided a brief overview of the use of Nextdoor, which is a private social network for neighborhoods, as an alternative to the current legacy Block Captains approach to connect with Green Mountain residents and provide relevant information/updates. Jeff Yalowitz, representing the Green Mountain Fire Department, had also indicated, during the prior Board session, that he would see if the Fire Department has any capability for messaging that could be used by Green Mountain residents.

Public Safety: Shelly Harris, the new Public Safety Committee Chair, had no update as of the prior Board meeting. However, two issues had been discussed: (1) the issue of adding road reflectors and repairing Valley Green road; and (2) the tree protruding

onto Dale Road. Jeff Yalowitz had agreed to follow up to see if measurements had been taken as needed to assess the road around the tree.

There were no reported instances of crime and/or vandalism.

Communications. Susan Prill provided an update. Since last Spring's general membership meeting, 11 new addressees had been added, bringing the new total of addresses to 285 for email notifications. Currently there is a 57% open rate on all notices, including the weekly community watch reminders.

Community Watch. This report was also presented by Susan Prill. After a net loss of three households since the Spring general membership meeting, there were currently 38 households participating in Community Watch. With the current number of households participating, each household will have the responsibility for Community Watch roughly every 4 months.

Website: Michele Garrett, the GMCL Website lead, had provided an update on the future construction/modification of the website.

Events: The Annual GMCL picnic, in conjunction with the Fall General Membership meeting, was orchestrated by Norma Oberlies, and a Mark called for a hearty round of applause as a Thank you for her continued efforts.

Liaison: Beverly Humphrey provided a report on having attended the Neighborhood Association meeting. The speaker was the new Chief of Police, Mark McMurray. He responded to questions from the attendees regarding human trafficking in Huntsville and surrounding areas. The entity with the responsibility for receiving reports and inputs from the community is the Children's Advocacy Center. Meetings are held every Tuesday morning at the Center. Their work is in tandem with the Police Department. Representatives from neighborhoods which have abandoned buildings asked why there has been very little action taken by officials to destroy these buildings that house drug users, criminals and other threats to the surrounding residences. Chief McMurray described the lengthy complicated legal actions required to get rid of these buildings. He expressed confidence more action will be taken in the future because stronger ordinances are being considered. The ordinance that

describes hunting devices allowed for use in the City limits was brought up for discussion. Recommendations are being forwarded to the proper City authorities to amend the ordinance to include prohibition of the use of crossbows within the City limits.

By-Laws: No report provided.

Volunteer Fire Department: Jeff Yalowitz had provided a report for the Chair, Russell Rawson, during Russ' absence at the prior Board meeting. He reported that the Green Mountain Volunteer Fire Department had recently celebrated its 50th anniversary and will continue to be the first responders on Green Mountain for the foreseeable future. The Fire Department is also in the process of adding an all-terrain trailer to the fleet of specialized apparatus, which will allow necessary equipment and supplies to be quickly transported to off-road wildfires.

Jeff also reported that many of the volunteer members do not have proper Personal Protective Equipment (PPE). Much is old and past the safe use date, and the GMVFD proposed conducting a fund raiser later this year to help pay for necessary PPE.

And, the fire engine now has a rebuilt pump and is back in service, and the fire apparatus and the Lucas mannequin were made available for presentation in conjunction with the Fall General Membership meeting and Picnic.

The Preserve at Clayton Pond: No report.

Inspiration on Green Mountain HOA: No report.

Archives: No report.

Old Business: Mark Prill discussed several instances of shooting on Green Mountain, and a follow-up was made with the police. It was learned that shotguns can be fired, with permission of a land owner, as long as a safe distance can be maintain from structures, but not until/unless the police perform an inspection and authorize the gun firing. No BB guns are allowed inside Huntsville City limits. And, since the earlier incidents of shooting, there was an increase in police patrols that has tended to

minimize the problem.

New Business:

- Jeff Bachmann, the Green Mountain Civic League’s ad hoc representative from the The Preserve at Clayton Pond, reported at the Board meeting that a resident from their community reported a Raccoon that appeared to be sick; doing circles in the yard during daylight hours. There was no response from animal control, so a private animal control organization was called and the animal dispatched, with the fee paid by the Preserve HOA.
- There is now a parking lot for the Land Trust walking trail off South Shawdee.
- In response to a Green Mountain resident-reported incident, where the individual had been forced into the guardrail due to descending traffic over the centerline stripe, the City of Huntsville took action to preclude recurrence. Unable to install ‘active,’ powered signage to warn of oncoming traffic, several trees were removed on the inside/west side of North Green Mountain road, adjacent to the rip rap corner, to improve visibility around the curve.

And, as a last order of business before the meeting was adjourned, there was a drawing for the several large Chrysanthemums, provided courtesy of the Earth Touch Nursery. Residents were encouraged to patronize the Earth Touch business and acknowledge the businesses’ generosity in having provided the plants for the picnic.

The formal General Membership Meeting was adjourned at approximately 4:30 pm.

APPENDIX A – TRESURER’S REPORT

	<u>Civic League \$</u>	<u>Community Watch</u>	<u>Combined</u>
January'15 beginning cash	2,483.94	1,588.78	4,072.72
<u>COME</u>			
fees/donations	1,073.97	525.03	1,599.00
meal reimbursements	63.65	31.35	95.00

Total Income	1,137.62	556.38	1,694.00
<u>EXPENSE</u>			
Newsletters, postage	(273.15)	(134.54)	(407.69)
Picnic food, supplies	0.00	0.00	0.00
Postal box rental	(65.66)	(32.34)	(98.00)
Bank charges	(14.74)	(7.26)	(22.00)
Car decals	(145.12)	(71.48)	(216.60)
Postage to mail car decals	(11.82)	(5.82)	(17.64)
Large mailing envelopes/mat, glue	(31.37)	(15.44)	(46.81)
Total Expenses	(541.86)	(266.88)	(808.74)
Income before extraordinary item	<u>595.76</u>	<u>289.50</u>	<u>885.26</u>
** Extraordinary item **			
Property purchase expenses in 2015	(1,106.05)	(544.77)	(1,650.82)
Property purchase reimbursement in 2015 includes a 2014 expense	<u>1,222.96</u>	<u>602.35</u>	<u>1,825.31</u>
Extraordinary item net	116.91	57.58	174.49
Net Income	712.67	347.08	1,059.75
August '15 ending cash	<u>3,196.61</u>	<u>1,935.86</u>	<u>5,132.47</u>

Green Mountain Civic League (GMCL) Officers

President: Mark Prill (president@greenmountaincivicleague.org)

Vice-President: Beverly Humphrey
(vicepresident@greenmountaincivicleague.org)

Secretary: Joyce Morgan

Treasurer: Anita Reck

Standing Committees, the Chairperson, & the responsibilities of each committee:

Beautification: Nancy Corbeille Schedule and manage clean-up days on the mountain.

Communications: Susan Prill

(email_distributions@greenmountaincivicleague.org) Facilitate and expand communications among residents through newsletters, email announcements, and the Green Mountain website.

Website: Michele Garrett (webmaster@greenmountaincivicleague.org)

Maintain/update the GMCL website.

Data Base: Anita Reck Maintain and secure the GMCL data base of residents' names, addresses, and email addresses.

Events: Norma Oberlies Manage the annual GMCL fall picnic and any other organized recreational events held by the GMCL.

Membership: Anita Reck Expand membership and maintain accurate and timely records.

Public Safety: Shelly Harris Monitor and alert residents to crime, vandalism, and threats to property on Green Mountain, contacting proper authorities if necessary.

Liaison: Bev Humphrey (vicepresident@greenmountaincivicleague.org) Contact and communicate with local government entities in matters pertaining to the interest of the GMCL.

By Laws: Vacant. Maintain and update the GMCL by-laws.

Nominating Committee: Vacant. Generate candidate lists for the GMCL officer and committee chair positions.

Block Captains/Nextdoor: Fred Hinckley Recruit and coordinate block captains to provide rapid two-way communication in urgent or emergency situations

Ex-officio Members:

Community Watch: Susan Prill (acting

(communitywatch@greenmountaincivicleague.org) Manage neighborhood surveillance program in which residents keep watch over one another's houses, patrol the streets, etc., in an attempt to prevent crime.

Volunteer Fire Department: Russ Rawson Manage fire department composed of volunteers who perform fire suppression and other related emergency services for Green Mountain.

Archives: Norma Oberlies Maintain accurate and comprehensive records of the GMCL and public issues related to Green Mountain.

Preserve at Clayton Pond: Jeff Bachman

Inspiration on Green Mountain: Karen Schuster

GMCL MEMBERSHIP FORM

Please Print Clearly

NAME: _____

Last

_____ **First**

_____ **Spouse**

ADDRESS: _____

_____ **PHONE:** _____

Home

_____ **Cell**

_____ **Work**

EMAIL1: _____

_____ **EMAIL2:** _____

(by providing you are giving GMCL permission to send email to your address)

MEMBERSHIP (per household per calendar year)

GMCL \$12.00

Green Mountain Decals: \$ _____ **(\$2.00 each)**

Total \$ _____

Make check payable to: **Green Mountain Civic League**

Mail to: Green Mountain Civic League

P.O. Box 14327
Huntsville, AL 35815

Please indicate your interest in participating on a Civic League Committee:

Beautification_____ Block Captain_____ Communications_____

Events _____ Membership _____ Public Safety _____

Would you like to participate in the Community Watch Patrols? _____

Volunteers are needed by the Green Mountain Volunteer Fire Department when the volunteer fire fighters are on a call. Would you like to assist:

Being Present in the station during a call _____

Directing traffic at the required site _____

Cleanup at the station _____

Please include your check for dues!
