

# BOYLAN HEIGHTS NEWSLETTER

June 2022

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Charlie and Caroline Queen, and Eleanor and Daniel Talley

## ASSOCIATION UPDATE

Neighbors,

When we think of politics, we tend to think of national politics. Presidential elections frequently suck all the air out of a room. But local politics has the biggest impact on your life and where you can have the biggest impact too. It is easy to contact your local representatives and express what is important to you.

We are in City Council District D, currently represented by Stormie Forte. Ms. Forte is going to run for an At-Large seat on the Council, which leaves the District D seat open. We plan to invite all the candidates for District D to attend an Association meeting, so we can learn of their plans for Raleigh and give us a chance to express our concerns.

To that end we have invited Jane Harrison to this month's meeting. Come meet the candidate and start having an impact.

Don Davis — BHNA President

### BH NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION MEETING

Tuesday, June 21 · 7:00 – 8:00pm

Google Meet joining info

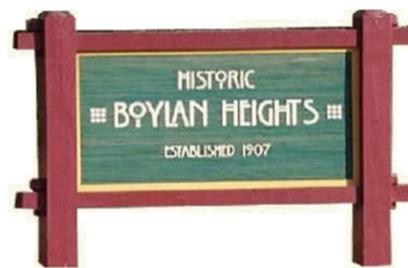
Video call link: <https://meet.google.com/qqc-bpmk-jax>

Agenda

- I. Welcome and Meet Your Neighbors
- II. Approval of Agenda and Minutes
- III. Police Report - plans for the Fourth of July
- IV. Financial Report
- V. Meet the Candidates - Jane Harrison running for City Council in District D
- VI. Committee Updates:
  - a. ArtWalk: Lyman Collins
- VII. Old Business: Referrals
- VIII. New Business:

### BIKE BROKEN?

You know you want to get on that old bike and tool around the neighborhood and beyond! Flat tires, gears don't shift, brakes need adjustment, wheel bent... need a tune-up? You pay for parts, labor is no cost. Contact Dan Dunbar (919) 412-1054 [dunbarcc@aol.com](mailto:dunbarcc@aol.com) 422 Cutler Street



## BOYLAN HEIGHTS SUMMER CAMP 2022

When my family moved into Boylan Heights about 25 years ago, my two sons got to go to the camp that had been going on for about ten years. They loved it. And so did Carlie Huberman, who was also a camper that year.

When Carlie heard that there was interest in starting the camp up again, she agreed to make it happen. A physical therapist, CPR trainer, performer extraordinaire, and all-around energetic and creative neighbor, she came up with activities, recruited her friends Deanna and Rebecca to help, and ran the camp. Astin Barnes, also a neighbor, ran all of the sports activities, keeping the kids moving all day despite the heat. We had fifteen campers and seven counselors as well as many neighbors who helped supervise the children.

Our counselors and older campers were another key to the kids' fun. They were engaged with the kids and always willing to help run activities and move supplies around. My sincerest thanks go out to Effie, Emma, Louisa, Noe, Phoebe, Riott, Sylvia, and Wilson.

Thanks, too, to Dan Dunbar for making our cookout happen—for hauling his grill, tables, drinks, and utensils up to Rebus Works for a community meal.

And speaking of Rebus Works, Shonna very generously donated art products and the use of her venue for our celebration.

## HISTORY IN THE HEIGHTS

Summer in the Heights: News and Observer August 1915

Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Liles were the hosts at an exceedingly enjoyable and interesting tackey party last evening from 8:30 – 11:00, in honor of their house guests, Misses Katie Maynard of Morrisville and Alma Hall of Clayton. The guests were entertained on the beautiful lawn and verandas of the Liles home on Boylan Heights. Japanese lanterns furnished the illumination. Many comical and ingenious costumes were worn by the guests and prizes were offered for the most clever costumes. Miss Emma Lynn Ball won the first prize. Mr Robert Wilson won the second. Refreshments and watermelon were offered to the fortunate guests. A "Tackey Party" is kind of what it sounds like, it was a party where people dressed in dowdy, unfashionable or ridiculous clothing. It was a thing back in the day. The Liles lived at 911 W South St. So next time you pass by, imagine the tacky teens of 1915 cavorting on the lawn and verandas.

## BOYLAN HEIGHTS HAPPENINGS

This is a place where you can share things that are happening around the neighborhood. If you're a new neighbor, or just had a baby, added a new dog to the family, etc. We would like to welcome you or congratulate you. Please email [president@boylanheights.org](mailto:president@boylanheights.org).



Please welcome Dash Holbrook,  
born May 31st. 7 pounds, 7  
ounces and 21" long.

# BOYLAN HEIGHTS NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

May 17th, 2022 @ 7pm via Google Meet

**Welcome & Meet Your Neighbors:** Don Davis (President), Lyman Collins, Dan Dunbar (Vice President), John Bush (Treasurer), Michael Dunn (Secretary), Allison Hutchins (At-Large), Melissa Bailey (Past President), Travis Bailey, Mike Motsinger, Amy Marschall, Jay Spain, Anna Smith, Linda Caldwell, Rob Allen, Ariel Kocourek, Officer Blake DiCello (RPD)

## Approval of Agenda and Previous Month's Minutes

**Police Report:** Officer Blake DiCello introduced himself as the new Community Relations Officer for Boylan Heights, taking over for Officer Matthew Winkle who has been transferred to North Raleigh. Officer DiCello has been with RPD for 15 years - 10 as a patrol officer in Northeast Raleigh and five in the unit that covers the GoRaleigh transit station and central business district. He and Officer Winkle worked together directly during that time. Officer DiCello is also involved with the new ACORNS (Addressing Crises through Outreach, Referrals, Networking, and Service) unit, which has a goal to connect with individuals in crisis and provide them the resources needed to meet their individual goals. Officer DiCello presented some crime and police statistics over the past 30 and 60 days. In general, everything is trending downward, including larceny, suspicious persons, abandoned vehicles, and parking violations. In the past 60 days, there were 22 calls, with 10 coming in the past 30 days. There have been two larcenies in the past 60 days, and one in the past 30. Overall crime trends for the area include issues with porch pirates. There was only one call for a suspicious person in the past 60 days in the neighborhood, which could be a good thing (few suspicious people) or a bad thing (suspicious people go unreported). He encouraged everyone to call in if you see something suspicious, as that is how a lot of crime is stopped. Officer DiCello also said he would like to see more self-initiated calls in the neighborhood, which is when an officer is driving around, has some free time, and makes an unprompted stop; this is different from a 911 call. He will be passing this information on to the beat units that patrol the area. Allison Hutchins requested some information during next month's meeting regarding the impacts of the planned 4th of July festivities at Dix Park. Officer DiCello said he would come prepared with the information at the next meeting. Linda Caldwell reported that the sidewalk at the corner of W South St and W Cabarrus St has become a popular location for scooter parking, blocking the sidewalk for people with strollers or assistive devices. Officer DiCello said he would reach out to the scooter companies and investigate regulations. Jay Spain reported that someone sideswiped one of their cars, and another lady suffered a hit-and-run in the Hartwell or Boulton Bread parking lot. Officer DiCello encouraged neighbors to be thoughtful when parking, especially near driveways or intersections. Officer DiCello encouraged neighbors to contact him with any questions at [blake.dicello@raleighnc.gov](mailto:blake.dicello@raleighnc.gov) and he will respond promptly.

**Financial Report:** Treasurer John Bush reported that the past month has been quiet, with the only financial activity being a \$100 fee collected from new neighborhood craft brewery The Vault for an ad in the newsletter.

**Board Elections:** The Boylan Heights Neighborhood Associated Board elections were conducted according to Robert's Rules of Order and facilitated by Lyman Collins. John Bush nominated Amy Marschall to serve as Secretary. Michael Dunn nominated John Bush to continue as Treasurer. Dan Dunbar nominated Mike Motsinger to serve as Vice President. Allison Hutchins nominated Don Davis to continue as President. All nominations were approved, and all nominees were elected unanimously. Don Davis said that he looks forward to a great year with some new people involved and some continuity from the previous Board.

**Acorn Avengers:** Anna Smith provided an update on the Acorn Avenger's recent neighborhood event. It was a great success, with an informational tabling portion and a tour of three yards. The event earned additional points for the neighborhoods' National Wildlife Federation Community Wildlife Habitat certification. Currently, the neighborhood has about 30 out of the 40 points necessary for certification, so the Acorn Avengers are continuing to encourage neighbors to certify their yards. Additionally, Mia Wavrek, head of the Acorn Avengers, is moving. She has been a great organizer and will be missed. Anna Smith, Karen Polk, Kate Bush, and

Michelle Robinson will be organizing events jointly. They are looking forward to increased field trips, volunteer opportunities, and yard certifications.

**Old Business: Neighborhood referrals** - Don Davis reported that the Board is working on adding a referral section to the neighborhood website. This will allow neighbors to recommend service providers. More information is expected next month. **Development Beat** - Don Davis provided an update on recent development. He and Donna Wooster attended the recent neighborhood meeting for the zoning change at 121 and 131 S Boylan Ave (across W Hargett St from Wye Hill). The developer lives in Oakwood. Don does not expect that much will change about the zoning request. The News & Observer published an article updating on the Downtown South development plans, which are expected to break ground in 2023. Kane is working hard on the Lake Wheeler site and is supposed to start construction later this year. The 40-story development at GoRaleigh should be going under construction soon as well. The property behind CAM just sold, and the new owners will likely build 40 stories there before long (a zoning change was previously approved). **BRT** - Ariel Kocourek asked about the Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) Western Blvd corridor project. Allison Hutchins shared that the neighborhood organized a subcommittee last summer to gather responses to the City's draft visioning for corridor development. The subcommittee organized several meetings with the City and with Councilmember Forte. Many of the subcommittee's recommendations were incorporated into the final report that went to Council last month. This is the beginning of a long process, and it will be important to have a good relationship with City staff and articulate what's important to the neighborhood. One priority is to maintain the vegetative and fence buffer on Dorothea Dr, and Allison is hoping to work with the City to plant some trees now. Don Davis noted that the City has put a Transit Overlay District (TOD) near S Saunders St to promote density and support BRT. Additional TODs may include parts of the Boylan Heights Historic District. John Bush added that it is the Board's intention to be proactive about establishing and maintaining good communication with City Council to make sure we are in the loop and that the neighborhood voice is heard. Anyone interested in being involved in the BRT subcommittee can email Allison at [ahh320@mail.com](mailto:ahh320@mail.com). **The Big Pit** - The zoning change for The Big Pit at the corner of W South St and S Saunders St was supposed to go before the planning commission last week, but the developer's representative was sick. It was postponed to next week (May 24th, 9am, City Council Chamber). Jay Spain reported that he has been talking to the Mayor, City staff, and neighbors. Mayor Baldwin is aware of the situation and suggested asking for first-floor commercial space in exchange for one additional story. The developer claims that there is an easement for the greenway on the property, and Jay is exploring making this a permanent, irrevocable easement. He has also been collecting signatures for a petition related to the zoning change, and has 149 signatures so far, with a goal of 200. Allison Hutchins asked if the developer is interested in working with the neighborhood. Jay said that the developer is in New York. The local representative, Mack Paul, is trying not to ruffle any feathers. But the developer's main goal is not to lose money after sitting on the project for a long time. The bottom line is that it would be best for the neighborhood to have something there instead of The Big Pit, but the development should fit with the character of the neighborhood and desires of the surrounding residents and business owners as much as possible. If you would like to sign the petition or get more information, email Jay at [boylan411@gmail.com](mailto:boylan411@gmail.com). **Memorial Day Picnic** - The Boylan Heights Memorial Day Picnic will be returning this year. It will be at the Project Enlightenment playground and will be pot-luck style, with each family bringing a dish and the Neighborhood Association providing drinks. **Summer Camp** - Amy Marschall shared that she and Carlie Huberman are planning a neighborhood picnic to celebrate the end of the summer camp on June 12th from 5pm-8pm. The picnic will be at Rebus Works. Burgers, veggie burgers, and hot dogs will be provided. Neighbors are asked to bring side dishes. **Fiber Internet** - Melissa and Travis Bailey shared that the City accidentally cut their fiber internet connection twice in the past week while regrading the alleyway behind Dorothea Dr. Neighbors should be aware of this possibility if their fiber internet goes out.