

Minutes  
Cottontown Board of Directors  
Tuesday, August 14, 2007  
6:30 p.m.

Members Present	Paul Bouknight, Ellen Cooper, Amy Herin, Susan Creed, Sandra Ligon, Rusty Sox, Carol Finethy
Members Absent	Tom Walters, Carol Hall, Doug Aylard
Call to Order	President Paul Bouknight called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.
Minutes	Ms. Cooper moved to approve the minutes of the July 10, 2007 meeting. Ms. Ligon seconded and the minutes were approved.
2111 Bull Street	Mr. Bouknight, Ms. Cooper and Josh McDuffie were present at the Board of Zoning Appeals meeting to voice concerns about the application for a zoning variance to operate an 18-bed boarding house at 2111 Bull Street. The site would also house an alcohol and drug abuse treatment program, operated by an affiliate of the Elmwood Church of God. The BOZA deferred a decision to its August 24 meeting at 10 a.m. Mr. Cromartie, a member of the BOZA, offered a 9-point compromise plan for the neighborhood and the treatment organization to consider.
Discussion	There was discussion about the variance application and various points of the compromise plan.
Motion	Ms. Herin moved that the board continue to oppose the application for zoning variance. Ms. Finethy seconded and the motion was approved.
Motion	Ms. Cooper moved that, if necessary, the neighborhood negotiate with the city zoning office and the church to address the proposed compromise points and others for the good of the neighborhood. Ms. Creed seconded, and the motion was approved.
Proposed Firemen's Fund Campaign	Ms. Creed reported on her meeting with Carmen Floyd on her proposal for the neighborhood to raise money for the Firemen's Fund to assist the families of the 9 firefighters killed in the Charleston Sofa Factory fire. Ms. Cooper proposed promoting the project for the fall meeting, beginning to collect donations there, and making the presentation around Thanksgiving or the holidays. Ms. Finethy suggested promoting the project in the newsletter and via email. We would need to verify that donations would be tax deductible.

Ms. Cooper and Mr. Sox volunteered to work with Ms. Creed on the project.

Historic Designation Mr. Sox reported that the city's Historic Preservation office was moving closer to working on Cottontown's application for historic district designation and architectural conservation guidelines. Amy Moore has requested that the neighborhood provide photos documenting every home in the neighborhood. Mr. Sox will solicit volunteers to help with the photography.

Demolition  
Moratorium

Mr. Sox reported on a proposed halt on demolition permits for structures in historic neighborhoods, a reaction to the situation in Heathwood where a developer tore down an old home on a large lot to replace it with nine single-family homes. The moratorium would impact Cottontown while it waits to complete its historic designation process. Getting a moratorium passed would require expressions of support from neighborhoods that would benefit. Mr. Sox is serving on a committee of neighborhood representatives who are working on the issue.

Motion

Ms. Cooper moved to support the demolition moratorium. Ms. Finethy seconded and the motion was approved.

Committees

There was a request to add a Special Events Committee sign-up box on the membership form.

2008 Nominating  
Committee

Mr. Bouknight asked Ms. Cooper to chair the nominating committee. Other proposed members are Toby Burleson and Sandi Billmeyer.

Motion

Ms. Herin moved to approve the nominating committee. Ms. Finethy seconded and the motion was approved.

Proposed Homeless  
Shelter

A neighborhood committee consisting of Ellen Cooper, Mary Denis Cauthen, Toby Burleson and Tom Walters has been meeting to address issues related to the proposed Christ Central Ministries homeless services center, to be located at the corner of Elmwood and Main Streets. Ms. Cooper reported that any project in the city over 30,000 square feet would need to be approved by the planning commission, and that multiple zoning variances may be required for the services they propose to provide on site. The committee made the following recommendations:

- The Cottontown web site should provide links to Christ Central Ministries and the "Yes We Can" homeless coalition web sites.

- A statement about the neighborhood's position should be placed on the web site
- The neighborhood president should designate one person to receive and collect all information regarding the proposed shelter, including rumors
- The neighborhood should oppose the proposed the location of the site at Elmwood and Main.

Discussion

There was discussion about the recommendations.

Motion

Ms. Herin moved to approve the committee's recommendations. Ms. Finethy seconded and the motion was approved.

Fall Meeting

The date of the fall neighborhood membership meeting was set for Sunday, October 21, 2007 at 3:00 p.m.

Adjourn

There was no other business. Ms. Creed moved to adjourn. Ms. Ligon seconded, the motion was approved and the meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

**Next meeting Tuesday, Sept. 11, 2007, 6:30 p.m.**