

CLIFTONDALE COMMUNITY CLUB, INC.

Minutes

January 8, 2007

The Cliftondale Community Club, Inc. met January 8, 2007 at the Cliftondale Community Center. Approximately 60 members and guests were present.

President Harold Reid opened the meeting. Cliff Rainey provided the opening prayer.

The November minutes were accepted as read.

Treasurer Greg Wachsler reported a beginning balance of \$4,673.05; deposits of \$45.81 (dues and interest); payouts of \$1,550.00 (to South Fulton Concerned Citizens Inc.'s Legal Fund); and an ending balance of \$3,168.86.

Mr. Wachsler described an announcement by Greystone Power to run massive electric power lines through Cliftondale to support growth in the area. Georgia Transmission Corporation (GTC) will handle the construction. The proposed route is from Cascade-Palmetto Highway to Butner to West Stubbs to Demooney, in order to serve a new substation at Demooney and Highway 92. The poles would be 11 to 11.5 feet around and 75 feet tall.

Easements of 30 to 50 feet in width will be acquired through eminent domain. Mr. Wachsler noted that affected landowners are being offered compensation of about \$10,000, far below the actual loss in property value resulting from such a disfiguring construction. He also warned that the power line would adversely affect property values throughout the route's neighborhoods.

Affected homeowners who are taking the lead in responding to the proposal are Mr. Wachsler, Charlie Mitchell, and Clarence Roman. Mr. Wachsler can be reached at his home telephone, 770-969-8596. A community meeting for discussion and information will be held *before* the February 8 public meetings planned by GTC. Information about the community and GTC meetings will be sent out to the community.

Mr. Reid recognized the recent appointment of Bruce Moody to the Fulton County Community Zoning Board (CZB). Mr. Moody is a Director and immediate past president of the Club.

Secretary Gayle Lesser provided a report on the January meeting of the South Fulton Parkway Alliance. Matt Ornstein is the new president. He explained that, given Union City's annexation of most of the Parkway out to Highway 92, the Alliance's mission is now to promote quality development in the Parkway Corridor from west of Highway 92 out to Cascade-Palmetto Highway. Union City is commissioning a professional study (access, access management, land use plan, etc.) for its stretch of the Corridor, and he will urge the Alliance to sponsor a similar study for the remaining length.

Mr. Reid announced that there will be two zoning meetings on January 9, with developers for the Demooney-West Stubbs-Hathcock proposal and the Butner-West Stubbs proposal.

Mr. Moody reported on two recent meetings. The first, on January 3, was hosted by the Fulton County delegation to the 2007 state legislature. A number of South Fulton citizens attended to present their issues and requests. The second, on January 4, was hosted by Representative Sharon Beasley-Teague for the same purpose. The issue most widely raised – despite the presence of several Union City officials – was whether any legislative remedy is available to stop or reverse Union City's annexation of thousands of acres.

Mrs. Lesser reported on South Fulton Concerned Citizens, Inc. (SFCC). President Rex Renfrow, under doctors' orders not to be active for a year, resigned his office. The organization will elect new officers at its January 11 meeting.

The campaign for the June referendum on the new city will be launched shortly. Mrs. Lesser stressed that SFCC will be asking for volunteer help in getting the message out. A show of hands indicated that almost everyone in the audience was willing to help. The reasons for incorporating are to protect ourselves against annexation, to control our future, and to insure the responsive delivery of services (planning, police, fire, parks, and roads).

Mr. Reid noted that a frequently raised question about the financial viability of the new city should soon be answered by research and projections underway at the Andrew Young School of Policy Studies at Georgia State University. Paul Hinds asked if there are any announced candidates for the leadership of the new city; the answer is no.

The Club's February meeting will feature a presentation by SFCC. By a show of hands, the members indicated that they prefer to let SFCC have its say without inviting opposing speakers. The Cedar Grove community association will be invited to attend as well.

Mrs. Lesser explained that the Club is now sending emails to its 500-plus addresses through Constant Contact, a company specializing in handling mailings for small businesses and non-profits.

The meeting was adjourned.

Gayle Lesser, Secretary