

ECCO Monthly Meeting Minutes – February 19, 2009

Vice President Drue Barker called the meeting to order. January minutes were unanimously approved.

Treasurer Bill Eiwen reported a beginning balance of \$8162.31. After paying for signs, the holiday party, newsletter printing, and website design, ECCO's current balance is \$6291.30.

The first Earlewood Neighborhood Porch Party will begin at 4:00, April 19 on several porches and the vacant lot, 2900 block of Clark Street. An anonymous donor will provide hotdogs and non-alcoholic beverages for all attendees. Residents may bring beer and wine.

Sara Holler, of the City of Columbia Forestry and Beautification Dept., made a presentation on tree cutting and replanting. Of the approximately 45,000 trees in the right-of-way, about 400 trees are cut annually. If the departmental supervisor believes a tree should be cut, a second staff arborist is sent for a second opinion. The Dept. communicates with residents who report diseased or aged trees. Neighborhood trees are primarily Water Oaks and Darlington Oaks. Many replacement trees are Willow Oaks. During drought conditions, staff provides extra water.

Earlewood resident and Chair of the Transportation Subcommittee, Susan Wilson, made a presentation on Traffic Calming Devices, such as traffic circles, speed humps, and chicanes. Procedure for adding devices involves making a request to the City Manager. Traffic engineers will conduct a study, results to the neighborhood, then to SCDOT, then review by the city, then implement. Want to create a master list for the city. Another presentation anticipated in March.

Respectfully submitted by Melanie Lewis Moss for Martha Mason