

ECCO Monthly Meeting Minutes – June 18, 2009

President Fred Monk welcomed those in attendance and called the meeting to order.

On behalf of Bill Eiwien, Fred presented the treasurer's report. After monthly expenditures and deposits, ECCO's current balance is \$8,399.15. Annual dues, still \$5 per individual or \$10 per household, are due July 1.

To avoid a possible conflict of interest as Columbia moves toward renovating public housing at the intersection of River Drive and Sunset Drive, Julia Prater has stepped down as ECCO Zoning Chair. At Monday's Executive Council meeting, Brian South was selected as her replacement.

The fountain is no longer in front of Township Auditorium. It will be in storage until it is returned to Earlewood Park after park renovations are complete.

In order to qualify for 501c3 tax exempt status, the Executive Council has approved revamped bylaws, posted at www.earlewood.org. The most notable change is the broadening of ECCO membership qualification. With 501c3 status Earlewood will qualify for hospitality funds, especially timely with the upcoming Centennial celebration. Also future contributions to ECCO will be tax deductible.

ECCO will not meet in July but will have a membership meeting on August 20, in addition to National Night Out (NNO) festivities on Tuesday, August 4. The current Earlewood Park building will be available for NNO. ECCO will provide food at NNO free of charge, including hotdogs and trimmings by Jeff Harrell and Doug Onley.

Cottontown has invited Earlewood to participate in their annual Fourth of July parade. The parade will begin around 9:00 a.m. on Sumter Street. Dogs on leashes are welcome.

Due to opposition from S.C. Senator John Scott, the NOMA Bark Park Committee has decided to move the proposed dog park site across River Drive to the green space adjacent to Elmwood Park Apartments. Developer Tina Elliott has offered to share the existing wall with the dog park. The committee has gotten a significant financial commitment from Parks and Recreation, in addition to raising over \$400 through the sale of homemade dog biscuits. They hope to raise additional funds by selling locally produced doggie bandanas. The committee plans to take revised dog park plans to City Council at the end of July.

John Sinclair announced that the next deadline for newsletter articles is this Saturday, June 20. Contact John if you can offer assistance with the ECCO newsletter.

Respectfully submitted,
Martha Mason, Secretary