

ECCO Monthly Meeting Minutes – October 15, 2009

President Fred Monk called the meeting to order and introduced several new residents. Minutes from the September 17 meeting were approved. In Treasurer Bill Eiwén's absence, Fred presented the treasurer's report. An additional \$150 has come in since the October 12 EC meeting.

Cynthia South thanked ECCO for helping McCants Town Homes support the Columbia Police Department's "Readers are Leaders" event. Residents are encouraged to collect children's books for distribution from 5-7 pm on October 30 at McCants, Lyle Street. USC mascot Cocky and McGruff the Crime Dog will be present.

Quality of Life -- Fall Block Party, 3-6 pm, 3000 block of Columbia Avenue, between Florence and Northwood. Doug Onley and Jeff Harrell (Doug's Dogs) will provide hotdogs, trimmings and popcorn. Residents are invited to bring desserts and salads and may bring beer and wine. The band Sounds of Suburbia, including Earlewood resident Josh Adams, will entertain. The South Carolina Disc Golf Championships will take place October 24-25 in Earlewood Park and Owens Field. Earlewood will host the Saturday morning and Sunday afternoon segments. Earlewood resident Rebecca Spratlin of SCDHEC introduced this area's Watershed Manager, Amanda Ley. Ms. Ley addressed local water quality concerns, including high fecal coliform bacteria. Smith Branch is part of a year-long water quality study. Columbia's Public Works is working on decreasing water volume and improving water quality. Markers placed on storm drains are designed to raise consciousness about keeping pet waste and other pollutants out of the local water supply.

Virginia Bedford announced that plans for the Earlewood Park recreational trail are being finalized, with George Pickels as project architect. Funding is in place. Features will include exercise stations, a native plant walk, and a slag surface (not concrete) conducive to strollers rather than skates.

Membership – Virginia reported 150 current members. Newsletters will be posted on the ECCO website. Members are encouraged to sign up for e-blasts on the website, www.earlewood.org.

Street Captains – Ford Mason reported that some areas did not receive the last newsletter, and he would work to eliminate that problem in the future. As President, Fred Monk said he would write a letter to be delivered to the street captains with the next newsletter.

Safety & Police – at the 6:30 pre-meeting Officer Wines noted that the neighborhood has been very quiet. If any problems arise, please call Wines' cell.

Upcoming holiday events –

- 1) Thanksgiving meal at Reformation Lutheran, 7:00 pm, on Wednesday, November 18, 1 week and a day before Thanksgiving. This date will eliminate the usual conflict with Vista Lights.
- 2) Holiday party at 2903 River Drive. For planning purposes, hosts Jeffery Schwalk and Clayton King request that members RSVP.

Respectfully submitted,
Martha Mason, Secretary