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The West Ender

By and for the West End Neighborhood

November 2001

Highlights from the October 2, 2001 Meeting

The meeting began at 7:00 pm at the newly renovated Tise House (across from Grace Court at Fourth and Glade), following a tour of the premises by owner Michael Macko. **Treasury:** General accounts are down to about \$7600 after paying all bills. **Grace Court:** No extra money to spend on the park this year from the Armfield Fund due to the poor stock market. But our thanks goes to Recreation and Parks Department for the great work they have done in fixing light fixtures and clock and maintaining the park. **Tise House:** Mike Macko wants to put a coffee shop in the basement. Events for West End and other neighborhood associations will be gratis. The West End room will be for the use of our Association. The group voted to have the holiday party as scheduled in December at the Merschels. It was decided to do a social in February at the Tise House. **By Laws:** Revisions are not finished yet. **Burke Street:** Bars and parking situation – no update was ready for the meeting. **Historic Overlay Guidelines:** Eric Elliott mentioned that the State of Pennsylvania has a law that limits the right of property owners to demolish their historic properties. George will look into this. **Safety:** Brochures given out on preventing car theft. People are going around checking locks on cars in the neighborhood. Vickie Connell (722-3323) is in charge of neighborhood watch and can be contacted if you want to inquire about Neighborhood Watch signs.



hi neighbors!

Comings and Goings

Congratulations to the Thomas household! Our West End newsletter editor Andrea Thomas gave birth to Beatriz Jane Thomas on October 24, a little early 'cause she just couldn't wait to tell everyone how great it was to be here. As a result, Eric Elliott will pinch hit as newsletter editor until Beatriz says Stuart, Scout, Emma, and the newsletter can again share in the attention...Kudos to West Enders Mark and Laura Miller of 139 Piedmont Avenue, who won the Board of Alderman's Award at this year's Community Appearance Awards for their great work restoring the W. Kerr Scott house after storm damage threatened the structure. Our friends in the Holly Avenue Neighborhood Association won the Mayor's Award for their long-standing efforts to improve their neighborhood...Neighborhoods across the city lost a friend at the end of the month when Neighborhood Alliance vice president Howard Pogue succumbed to cancer. Howard founded the West Polo Neighborhood Association and made presentations for West End at our clock dedication and before the aldermen in our YMCA battle. A gentleman and a leader, he will be missed.

WEST END ASSOCIATION OFFICERS

- Co-Presidents** (2001-2003) George Bryan and Ann Doherty, 813 West End Blvd. (724-2706) bryandoherty2@yahoo.com
- Treasurer** (2000-2002) Dan Falken, 652 Summit St. (722-5522) FalkenFamily@worldnet.att.net
- Secretary** (2000-2002) Kathleen Ramich, 1318 Glade St. (723-9207) kramich2001@yahoo.com

West End Association Membership Application

Join the West End Association and help create a friendly and beautiful neighborhood. Membership is \$15 for the year 2001. You will help support the newsletter, park and roadway enhancement, and monitoring of zoning and the Historic District Commission. You can join the West End email list (<http://www.actionsspeak.org/westend>) to receive information on houses for sale and their prices, notes from your Alderman, crime statistics, invitations to monthly gatherings, and much more! Businesses will be advertised in each issue. JOIN TODAY! Send to: WEA, POB 10055, W-S, NC 27108

Name _____ Phone _____

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New Member Renewal **Enclose \$15 for Family Membership; \$75 for Business Membership**

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New WEA Board member: The Board voted to add Steve Joiner as a new member. Steve was a neighborhood president in Arlington, VA for eight years. **Importance of lobbying and voting:** Eric Elliott reported that in the spring Brunson Elementary was to get over \$1 million in renovations in the school bond package, but it is now down to \$270,000 because people didn't make noise when the commissioners and school board were negotiating. Whitaker Elementary in Buena Vista went from money for renovations to funding for a new school. Elliott spoke about the need to support Brunson as a neighborhood anchor, even for those without children. Warren Sparrow said that a neighborhood's poor turnout at the polls, as in the recent primary, would be noticed when decisions are made. He encouraged all to vote on November 6. **Historic District Commission:** The Certificate of Appropriateness to demolish YMCA houses had expired. It has to come back to the HDC at their October 3 meeting. In the original COA there were

- October minutes continued on page three

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From our Co-Presidents:

Our thanks to Steve and Nora for a great party at last month's West End social on Glade Street – great hosts and a great turn out. Won't you join us this month? We will be hosting our **West End monthly social at the home of board members Alex and Marty Flowers, 638 N. Spring St. from 6:00 til 8:00 pm on Friday, November 9.** We look forward to seeing you there.

And speaking of parties – please put this date on your calendar. **Saturday, December 8, will be the date of our neighborhood Christmas party at the home of John and Wanda Merschel, 1211 W. 4th St.** The Association will provide drinks and turkey and ham – we ask you to bring a side or appetizer. This is a great neighborhood tradition - in large part, because we have great neighbors.

The City is previewing its long-range transportation plan at various locations over the next month, inviting public comment. Two projects potentially affect West Enders. There are plans to extend 14th Street to Stratford Rd., cutting across the current Children's Home property. And more at home, there is a priority on extending Eighth Street renovations (the MLK extensions from East Winston) and connecting Eighth Street across Cherry down to the intersection of Northwest and Reynolda, taking traffic off of Northwest Blvd. Current traffic on Northwest is 8000 cars a day and is expected to almost double by 2025 without relief. Only one business is directly in the line of the proposed route but many businesses and homes on our periphery would be near such an extension through the kudzu. Contact Greg Errett at the Transportation Department (727-2707) with comments and see the full plan at one of the local advertised meetings.

With all the tragedy and stress of recent weeks, it is a good time for thanksgiving. We have much to be grateful for in this country – even the right to disagree with each other over what our blessings and hopes are. But we are grateful for people like you. Thanks for being friends and neighbors to each other. Happy Thanksgiving.

Ann and George

NOVEMBER WEST END EVENTS – YOU'RE INVITED!
Monthly Meeting, Nov. 6 at Tise House – 7:00-9:00PM
Neighborhood Social, Nov. 9 at the Flowers – 6:00-8:00PM
(638 N. Spring Street)

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no conditions put on the demolition. George encouraged Planning Department staff to recommend that the old walnut trees be saved and include a timetable for plantings. **YMCA:** Bill Gibson recommended that the Y be commended for doing the landscaping right around the men's entrance and encouraged to duplicate the good work they have done there on the West End Blvd site if they remove the houses. A motion was made and passed to empower a member of the West End association to formulate wording to request a substantial landscaping site plan with a timeline for planting and maintenance.

Neighborhood Development Plan: George Bryan met with City/County planner Judy Hunt regarding the development plan that is currently in process. She indicated that they will be asking WEA for certain people from our neighborhood to sit on that body. They are working on six neighborhoods. George asked her whether West First and Westdale will be included. Two Reynolda/West End Street merchants (antique shops) have asked to be included in the West End. We need to update our long-range plan. **Neighborhood Brochure:** Eric Elliott reported that the CVB (Convention and Visitors Bureau) will work with us to develop a brochure which could be handed out to upcoming visitors of the opera festival and others in 2002. The bureau would distribute up to 10,000 brochures as part of an effort to advertise the city's neighborhoods. **Landscaping:** An inventory of trees in the neighborhood was recently done because the tree canopy that was at one time characteristic of our neighborhood is being lost. Identified were places for 96 trees. Landscape Designer Bill Gould made these recommendations. Also identified were sidewalks that have the original "dimpled" texture. George is investigating a renewal of this pattern in the neighborhood. The markings are from the 1920s. There is a question as to whether these were pre-fab or textured in place. It was noted that the Jarvis street dead end needs a landscape barrier, and that the YWCA may apply to the Winston-Salem Foundation to fix their walls and landscaping.

Industrial Area Foundation is an activist organization that offers strategies for citizen groups for effective citizen action. They are conducting two training sessions in upcoming weeks for neighborhood folks. Contact Ellen Yarborough (723-9060) for more information. **Neighborhood Alliance** annual dues of \$25.00 were reported due. We voted to pay our membership. The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 PM. **Next meeting:** At Tise House (Fourth and Glade), November 6, 7pm.

- Submitted by Kathleen Ramich

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