Capitol Heights Newsletter

April 2014

NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

Nominations for Officers CHCA April meeting

April 8th at 7:00, CHCA will be meeting to nominate our 2014-2015 Executive Committee. The Executive Committee consists 4 officers and 7 Members at Large. We will again be treated to a wonderful **spaghetti dinner** thanks to Allison Griffin!!

Attention all neighbors – Capitol Heights Civic Association is considered a very strong civic group in the City of Montgomery. We need leaders who will focus and commit to the task of leading our community to improve and maintain the efforts that have been established. Therefore, all who believe in our neighborhood we invite you to step forward and serve with your neighbors for the betterment of our community!! – consider serving as Vice President or Member at Large. To nominate a candidate, state the name of the person and the office you wish to nominate them for. All candidates must be willing and present at the time of nomination

Voting will be held May 13th at our regular CHCA meeting and a Spaghetti dinner will be available for $5.00 per plate

CHCA 501c3 non-profit

Major update in the Capitol Heights status…it took 3 years to get us here…thanks to all our leadership (Cynthia McCollister and Rich Anderson) for their perseverance!! So now when members pay their dues or we host fundraisers like the annual Candlelight Tour all contributions will be a tax write off. This will hopefully make fundraising a lot easier and allow us to fund improvements in the community sooner!!

Some improvements to consider:

Dress up the pavilion in Armstrong Park to help it look more attractive and architecturally appropriate. Make suggestions by coming to the next CHCA meeting or write to us at capitolheightsmontgomery@gmail.com

FRONT PORCH LIVING

Capitol Heights is the best community offering large covered front porches designed in the days when greeting your neighbors and sitting out on the front porch to cool off was a life style. Nowadays, we don't use our porches to cool off in the evening as much as we do for relaxing and visiting. Come back as we explore ideas for front porches and the upcoming events to showcase them.
To share your ideas, please contact us at capitolheightsmontgomery@gmail.com

GARDEN GROUP of CAPITOL HEIGHTS

At a CHCA meeting last year, some neighbors interested in gardening suggested starting a garden group. Several people quickly signed up and voilà, The Capitol Heights Garden Group was formed.

We meet once a month at neighbors' homes. Our purpose is simple: to share information about plants, to share plants, and to plan activities that will benefit the group and the neighborhood.

Our first major task was selling plants at ARToberfest. Many plants were sold, and we enjoyed being part of this creative neighborhood venture.

If you are interested in joining, e-mail **Tricia Crowley**: prof_crowley@hotmail.com. You will be contacted for upcoming activities.

Capital City Master Gardener Association
THE 1ST WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH
12:00-1:00 P.M. FREE PROGRAMS
BRING A SACK LUNCH; DRINKS PROVIDED
Armory Learning Arts Center
1018 Madison Avenue, Montgomery 36104

HISTORICAL PRESERVATION

Architectural Review Board (ARB)
City of Montgomery

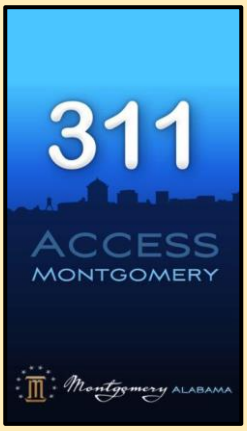
Once a neighborhood or building is designated as historic, any proposed exterior change to properties within the district boundaries must first be reviewed by the Architectural Review Board. The ARB is comprised of nine members with backgrounds in history, architecture, architectural history, urban planning, archaeology or law. The Board reviews all projects in terms of appropriateness for a particular property and neighborhood. In general, projects should be sensitive to the historic materials and appearance of the property and the neighborhood.

For more information contact **Christy Anderson at 625-2041** (City of Montgomery) or check out the Montgomery website
http://montgomeryal.gov/
Go to Planning, then Planning Controls…then Architectural Review Board.

Historic Commemorative Signs

Have you notice the City of Montgomery Historical Signs on houses throughout our community? The Historical Preservation Committee (HPC) reviews individual applications for commemorative historic signs. The application asks property owners questions about their property and confirms the age, materials used and other information to qualify the property for commemoration.
Signs are $25, and the application can be found on the city's web site – Planning, then Planning Controls, then Historical Preservation Commission – or call **Christy Anderson at 625-2041**.

MONTGOMERY RESOURCES



Attention CAPITOL HEIGHTS!

We now have a new and very easy way to report problems with the Montgomery 311 App.

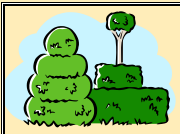
Residents can download the app on an iPhone or Android-powered device, register and then using the app's map report issues such as potholes, tall grass, fallen trees, burned out street lights, graffiti or a missed garbage pickup. The app gives you the ability to take and send a photo to describe the problem!!! Let's get busy CH!!

Rescued Relics – located at 423 Madison Avenue Check out Montgomery's own salvage collection! The inventory at Rescued Relics includes—but is definitely not limited to—sinks, doors, light fixtures, mantels, window sashes, balustrades and many other fun items that ignite the creativity of home renovators.

For those who have just completed a restoration project on a historic home, Rescued Relics accepts pre-1960s building materials and elements from other home renovators, contractors and remodelers. Such donations are tax deductible, as all proceeds directly benefit Landmarks/Old Alabama Town—a 501c3 non-profit organization. All funds raised are used to restore and maintain the historic structures at Old Alabama Town. Hours are Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. Call our very own **Carole King** for further information and if you would like to volunteer (you get first picks!!). 334. 240.4512

Did you know that you can find all kinds of interesting historical information about Capitol Heights and the city of Montgomery on the Facebook page
TIMES GONE BY…Montgomery
Check it out

TIMES GONE BY



YARD OF THE MONTH

Yard of the Month is Capitol Height's way of honoring two neighbors every month for their efforts and examples of creating a neat, clean and well landscaped yard. We would like to announce **Joe and Tricia Crowley** as our Yard of the Month judges beginning this April. Should you like to recommend a yard in your area of the neighborhood, please feel welcome to contact the Crowleys at prof_crowley@hotmail.com

We would also like to thank **Seth and Megan Rhodebeck** for their service as YOM judges last year!!

2110 St Charles Avenue

327 N Panama Ave
The Ferguson's

Capitol Heights is OUR neighborhood*...let's take ownership and keep our streets and yards clean and free from garbage. We can all get out there and clean up our areas even if we didn't throw the trash down...it's still OUR home!!! Take a moment each day and pick up and clean up...when we care others will care too!!*

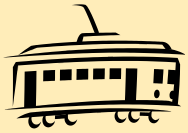
BUILDING OUR NEIGHBORHOODS for DEVELOPMENT and SUCCESS
BONDS

WHO IS BONDS? Mission: BONDS is a neighborhood association strengthening program; providing training, a resource center, networking opportunities, and financial assistance (grants) in an effort to improve the overall quality of life throughout the city and County of Montgomery.

The third Tuesday of every month, **BONDS** hosts the *Gathering of Neighborhoods* (GON). This is a luncheon forum for neighborhood association members to meet and discuss neighborhood issues. A speaker is featured each month. Topics vary from new voting procedures to changes in the public schools to caring for the environment and more.

Bonds Grants have helped pay for Capitol Heights Historic Markers located throughout our community plus provided the pavilion in Armstrong Park and the shed to house our supplies. To be eligible for these grants neighbors attend the classes and/or meetings so please make sure you check Capitol Heights website calendar for Bond's events !

Did you know?



The **Capital City Street Railway**, also known as the **Lightning Route**, was the first city-wide system of streetcars established in Montgomery, Alabama, United States on April 15, 1886. This early technology was developed by Belgian-American inventor Charles Joseph Van Depoele. James Gaboury was the owner of the horse-drawn system that was converted to electricity. One trolley route ended at the Cloverdale neighborhood. This early public transportation system made Montgomery one of the first cities to "depopulate" its residential areas at the city center through transportation-facilitated suburban development. The system operated for exactly 50 years, until April 15, 1936 when it was retired in a big ceremony and replaced by buses.

Constitution

(Last Revision January 2004)

I. Name
The name of the organization shall be "The Capitol Heights Civic Association," a non-profit organization.

II. Objectives and Aims
Section 1: The objective of the Capitol Heights Civic Association is to provide a means whereby the residents of Capitol Heights may accomplish united action in matters of common interest to the community.
Section 2: The aims of the Capitol Heights Civic Association shall be:
a. To maintain the integrity of the social, cultural and architectural standards of the Capitol Heights area and adjacent areas.
b. To stimulate and support community pride, activity and neighborly cooperation among residents of Capitol Heights and adjacent areas.
c. To promote the cultural and social growth of the Capitol Heights area and adjacent areas by assisting and advising local governmental and private organizations, churches and schools, excluding any activity in the Association's name that may be construed as partisan support or endorsement of political or business interests.

III. Membership
Any person who is a bona fide resident or property owner of Capitol Heights shall be eligible for membership in this association upon such terms and conditions as shall be provided in this Constitution or in the Bylaws of this Association as amended from time to time.

IV. Boundaries
The boundaries of the Association shall include all properties that are located north of Mt. Meigs Road, east of South Lewis Street (inclusive of South Lewis Street), east of Vonora Street (inclusive of Vonora Street), south of McCarter (inclusive of McCarter), and west of Federal Drive.

V. Officers
Section 1: The officers of this Association shall be President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer.
Section 2: There shall be an Executive Committee composed of the elected officers of the Association plus seven (7) members at large. The President shall be the chairman of the Executive Committee. He shall have no vote except to break a tie vote of the Committee.

VI. Election of Officers
The officers mentioned in Article V, Section 1 hereof shall be elected annually. The president may hold office more than 1 year and must be voted in at the annual election in May. VII. Dues and Assessments
Section 1: The dues of the members shall be such as are fixed by the Bylaws of the Association.
Section 2: Assessments on members shall be prescribed and limited by the Bylaws of Association.

VIII. Amendments
Any proposed amendment to this Constitution shall become a part hereof by two thirds of the members present and voting at any regular meeting; provided that any amendment so proposed shall be read at the meeting at which proposed, and shall lie over to be voted on at a subsequent meeting as the membership shall determine.

IX. Bylaws
The Association may by a majority vote of the members present and voting at any regular meeting enact Bylaws not inconsistent with the objectives and aims of the Association or the Constitution; provided that any Bylaws so proposed shall be read at the meeting at which proposed and shall lie over to be voted on at a subsequent meeting as the membership shall determine.

Bylaws

(revised April 2006)

I. Officers and Their Duties
Section 1: The President shall preside at all meetings and in his absence the Vice President shall preside; in the absence of both the President and Vice President, the members present and voting shall elect a President Pro Tem, who shall preside and exercise the usual functions of the President.
Section 2: The Secretary shall keep the minutes and records of the Association and the roll of membership and shall inform the treasurer of any changes in the roll. The Secretary shall conduct and have charge of communications sent or received by the Association and give notice of its meetings one week in advance (postcard, phone, signs or letter) setting out the purpose of said meeting and shall perform such other duties as the Association shall direct.
Section 3: The Treasurer shall collect all revenues of the Association and make distributions in accordance with the following provisions. He shall keep the Association's accounts. At the annual election of each year, he shall submit to the Association an annual operating statement and balance sheet. He shall deposit all funds of the Association in a depository to be designated by the Executive Committee. All checks drawn on the account shall be signed by the Treasurer and another officer.

II. Dues and Assessments
Section 1: The annual dues for membership in the Association shall be determined periodically by the Executive Committee. $10.00 per voting member.
Section 2: The fiscal year of the Association shall be from June 1 to May 31.
Section 3: Dues shall be payable before the annual meeting in May of each year for the ensuing year.
Section 4: No member in default of dues payment shall be entitled to participate in the voting of the Association or hold office in the Association.
Section 5: Special assessments shall be limited to a total of $10.00 for any fiscal year. Any proposal for special assessments shall be read at the meeting at which proposed and shall lie over to a subsequent meeting as the membership shall determine.
Section 6: The individual members of the Association are not to be personally liable for the debts incurred by the Association.

III. Committees
Section 1: All chairmen of the Committees, except the Executive Committee, shall be appointed by the President.
Section 2: Standing Committees shall be formed for the following activities:
a. Communications – for information, publicity, education, newsletter and safety
b. Parks and Green space – public utilities, street, and drainage
c. Social and Special Events – membership, cultural, social, and welfare
d. Watch Dog – panning, zoning, and design review
e. Special Projects
f. Miscellaneous, as needed
g. Christmas Season

III. Committees (cont)

Section 3: The Executive Committee only shall have the authority to make expenditures or to incur debts in the name of the Association.

IV. Meetings
Section 1: Regular meetings shall be held at least once during each quarter of the fiscal year, at such time and place designated by the Executive Committee except that there shall be an annual meeting in May of each year for the election of officers.
Section 2: There shall be such special meetings of the Association as the President or Executive Committee shall deem necessary to carry out the objectives and aims of the Association.

V. Quorum
Section 1: Ten members in good standing shall constitute the quorum required by this Article as necessary for the transaction of any business binding the Association.
Section 2: A simple majority of the quorum shall be sufficient to approve business of the Association and proposals placed before it except as otherwise specified in the Constitution and Bylaws, provided general membership has been notified one week in advance of meeting.
Section 3: Seven members in good standing of the Executive Committee shall constitute the quorum required by this Article as necessary for the transaction of business conducted by the EC. A simple majority of the quorum shall be sufficient to approve business conducted by the EC.

VI. Authority for Procedure
Roberts Rules of Order shall be recognized as the standard for the parliamentary procedures of the Association. Full text of 1915 Version