

Cleveland Park Times

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CPCA Election Predicted to be Close

Those who vote hold the key to the future of the community

WASHINGTON- The election of the executive committee of the Cleveland Park Citizens Association (CPCA) is expected to be very close and will depend on who actually shows up and votes. Couples with family memberships have two votes and both must attend to have their votes counted. Fortunately, one person can come between 7:00 and 8:00 pm and leave your ballot so the kids are not home alone. Then your partner can also come (before 8:00 pm) and cast the second family ballot.

In the lead up to the first contested election of officers to the Cleveland Park Citizens Association in recent memory, neighborhood discussions have returned to lively debates over the future of the Wisconsin and Connecticut Avenue commercial corridors and the overlays that have shaped both the east and west avenues since their adoption over twenty years ago.



At times the healthy debate has obscured what produced a contested election in the first place--the decision by a group of neighbors, now organized as the Reform Slate--to challenge the CPCA's flawed decision making processes and its failure to adequately represent the neighborhood. The Reform Slate and the slate calling themselves the "Unity Team" have been flooding neighborhood listservs with information about the candidates, statements of position, opinions and often conflicting assertions of "fact."

The Reform slate has tried to talk about changing the decision making process within the CPCA to shift work from the President to committees, to have listservs to promote discussions between members, to have Internet polls and surveys to help chart the issues, and adopt remote voting so that special interest groups do not overwhelm the sparsely attended meetings. The Unity slate has concentrated on saying that they are for preserving Cleveland Park and for healing neighborhood divisions and

that there are few differences between the slates. Unity has promised a detailed platform to counter the detailed platform of the Reform slate (www.reformSlate.org) that has been available for weeks. It will soon be too late to analyze such a platform even if it is created. They have promised to take no stand as a group on the Giant Development but have at least one candidate that strongly opposes it.

Because the two slates have not engaged on any actual issues, and are talking about different things, voters have concentrated on overlays and speed humps and taped telephone conversations and other issues for which there are no immediate or easy answers. The powerful Cleveland Park Historic Association has decided not to endorse a slate saying that they will work with either slate if it is elected. The long delayed elections (canceled in early June) are Tuesday night, September 29th.



Cleveland Park Citizens Association
Annual Election of Officers
Tuesday September 29
Ballots available at 7:00 PM
Cleveland Park Congregational Church
34th and Lowell
Official voting starts at 8:00 pm
You can submit your ballot and leave
Childcare available with RSVP

Reform Slate Announced

The Reform Slate has announced a detailed platform with seven planks and much supporting detail. The full details are on their election web site of www.ReformSlate.org. The web site also contains explanations of what each CPCA officer is supposed to do, what each actually does, detailed biographies of the candidates and a set of Frequently Asked Questions.

Jeff Davis for President

Anne Large for 1st V.P.

Gabe Fineman for Recording Secretary

Collins Roth for 2nd V.P.

Jon Thoren for Assistant Recording Secretary

Mike Rosella for Treasurer

Genie Grohman for Corresponding Secretary

Positive Steps Taken Over the Summer

The Reform Slate has been busy over the summer with a door to door recruitment drive that has swollen the membership of the CPCA. It estimates that between a third and half of the current members are a result of that campaign that has reinvigorated the organization. The challenge now is to get the new voters to actually vote. The Reform Slate also started the CPCA listserv that now has over 225 members. The Reform Slate started an election web site to let the people know its platform and plans - www.ReformSlate.org. It has taken other steps (including social gatherings) to bind together the community and is enthusiastic about the future.

Working together to restore and preserve Cleveland Park and bring the CPCA into the 21st Century

Much more information at www.ReformSlate.org