



winnona park neighbors association

NEIGHBORS NEWS

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WINNONA PARK NEIGHBORS ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER, 1979

Playground

On October 24, Mrs. Phillips and the PTA's newly formed playground committee met with Newton Hogg, the DeKalb County Extension agent and horticulturist. During a "walking tour" of the Winnona Park playground, Mr. Hogg advised the members in three specific areas: drainage improvement, the appearance of the banks (specifically the kudzu problem), and suggestions for beautification.

He made the following recommendations:
Drainage - A shallow ditch at the base of the banks is designed to carry runoff to the creek. At the west end of the playground near the parking lot, this ditch is clogged with weeds and water was standing. Mr. Hogg suggested scooping it out, resetting the pipes at the base of the steps and laying stepping stones to form a landing on top of these steps.

Banks - These are overgrown with kudzu in some areas and are wild with weeds or seedlings of locust and other unattractive growth. Some places are bare from foot traffic. Areas which were planted with lirioppe and other ground cover during WP workdays are being choked by faster growing weeds and seedlings. The banks cannot be cut by a mower or other pieces of equipment owned by the school. Kudzu and weeds need to be cut with a swing blade twice a year. Tree seedlings need to be cut out. The kudzu needs two regular sprayings in the spring. Walking paths down the banks at the corners could be established by setting steps of broken pavement, large rocks or railroad ties into the bank. These could be covered with leaves and wood chips to discourage erosion.

Beautification - Mr. Hogg commended the landscape design at the front of the school. Most of his suggestions pertained to the back of the school and the area around the parking lot, which are highly visible to outsiders coming to our neighborhood during soccer games. He suggested:

- 1) plantings of variegated lirioppe, jasmine or juniper beside the steps leading from the parking lot to the playground.
- 2) setting out seedlings of Virginia pines and dogwoods along the sidewalks on Inman Street and Poplar Circle. In addition to beautifying and "framing" the play area, these would act as a sound and visual screen for neighbors living on those streets.
- 3) filling in the established glade of trees in the northwest corner of the yard (at the intersection of Avery and Poplar Circle) with 5-7 fairly large dogwoods.

NEXT MEETING

The political scene in Decatur is heating up with four announced candidates for City Commission. Byron Wyndham and Marian Hood Cunningham are vying for the seat currently held by Ann Crichton. Bill Mealor and John Adams are seeking Steve Johnson's seat. Both Crichton and Johnson have declined to seek re-election.

WPNA has scheduled a "Meet the Candidates" Forum for our next meeting Tuesday, November 27 at 7:30 P. M. in the Fellowship Hall of the Columbia Presbyterian Church.

Come meet the candidates, ask them questions and see where they stand on the issues!

News Briefs

VOTE Dec. 5 for City Commissioners!

Copies of the Neighborhood Transportation Study may be checked out at City Hall.

WPNA needs operating funds for the Newsletter. Please send donations to Allen Price, 335 Winnona Drive.

If interested in French conversation classes, call Annick Hughes, 284-8646.

4) relocating azaleas donated to the school by Mrs. Phillips in a protected triangular area on the north side of the building.

5) plantings of crepe myrtle at the south-east corner of the school.

6) placing an "accent tree" such as a silver maple across from the back door through which the 1-2-3 grades enter in the morning.

WHAT WINNONA PARK NEIGHBORS CAN DO:

Donate materials and plants.

Make a Christmas gift to Winnona Park school such as hexagonal stepping stones, pieces of broken concrete and/or railroad ties. We can also use contributions of January jasmine, variegated lirioppe, nursery dogwoods, silver maple or any other accent trees.

DONATE MATERIALS AND TIME

The dogwood and pine seedlings have been ordered and will be arriving in January. We will need a large work force to set these out, swing blade the banks, and distribute wood chips. We need older neighbors with planting expertise and tools, younger neighbors with strong backs, and plenty of hot chocolate, coffee and community spirit.

Call Mrs. Phillips at the school, 373-9019 or Patty Bonner at 373-5874 to let us know how you would like to help.