

ASSOCIATION UPDATE

Hi Folks,

These may be the “dogs days” of summer, but our newly seated Association Board has not been sleeping. We’ve been hard at work for the benefit of our neighborhood. We recently approved the 2024 budget, which should be the most accurate ever (which is made easier by 50% foresight - 50% hindsight). Thanks also to the ArtWalk co-leaders for their input to the budget process.

There has been a lot of great conversation on social media and elsewhere about the very important topic of the South St. permanent closure in conjunction with the Red Hat amphitheater relocation. The decision faced by the City Council in September is not an easy one, and our counselor Jane Harrison wants our input. Due to the impactful nature of this decision, we want to offer a position statement as a neighborhood based on majority opinion. To that end, we will discuss and vote on a resolution to present to City officials (see the position statement on the reverse of this newsletter.) This vote will take place at our August 13 general meeting, to be held at Hartwell at 620 W. South St at 7pm. Come and be heard.

Mark your calendar for the neighborhood Labor Day picnic. It will be a potluck affair on Labor Day. Since the National Night Out was canceled due to weather, the ice cream social portion will be combined with the picnic. See details in your favorite BH news feed.

By the way, how about that beautiful mural on the Boylan Bridge? Be sure to cheer on Jonathan Massullo as he approaches completion.

It takes a village to raise a village.

Mike Motsinger - President

CONNECT TO BOYLAN HEIGHTS

Welcome to our vibrant and active community! Stay up to date through our social media outlets:

1. We have two neighborhood listservs:

-Boylan Announce– https://groups.google.com/g/boylan_announce– no politics, besides when and where to vote; mostly used for houses/items for sale, service recommendations, rentals, matters of concern, announcements, etc.

-Boylan Discuss– for political discussions and follow-up to Boylan Announce. https://groups.google.com/g/boylan_discuss– You can find instructions on signing up here: groups.google.com/g/boylan_announce/about?pli=1

2. We also have a neighborhood website, boylanheights.org containing basic information about the neighborhood.

3. There is a neighborhood Facebook page which is moderated (no politics); you have to request to be a member. www.facebook.com/groups/BoylanHeightsNeighborhood. The BH Facebook group is hidden, meaning only members can see it. The easiest way to join is to become friends with a neighbor who can invite you. It is most useful for things of immediate concern, but it gets a full range of postings.

4. There is a neighborhood newsletter which is normally delivered electronically, so you need to be on the listserv or Facebook to get it. It comes out the week before the monthly neighborhood association meeting.

5. A general monthly association meeting open to all residents is held on the third Tuesday of the month at 7 pm, typically at RebusWorks. It is also offered via Zoom. The zoom link comes via the neighborhood listserv and Facebook page.

BOYLAN HEIGHTS NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

POSITION STATEMENT

(This is a proposed statement to the City Council representing our neighborhood’s collective opinion on the potential South St. closure. They are scheduled to vote in September—bring your questions and concerns to the association meeting. More details on the Listserv.)

Dear Mayor Baldwin and City Counselors,
The Boylan Heights Neighborhood Association requests that the City of Raleigh reconsider the closing of South Street between Dawson Street and McDowell Street to accommodate expansion of Red Hat Amphitheater. This request should not be interpreted as being in opposition to the Amphitheater, as the neighborhood recognizes it as an important asset to supporting downtown businesses as we recover from the pandemic. What we do request is that the city explore other options to accomplish keeping the Amphitheater in place without closing an important east/west connection for neighborhoods and businesses on both sides of downtown, as well as a likely route for the Chavis-Dix stroll way. We would have brought these concerns to light earlier in the process, had there been any opportunity for input from the community. Although the plan has been in progress for over a year, the first notice came on May 17, 2024, when the plan for the street closure was presented to a very limited and curated audience, and was presented as complete, urgent, and unalterable. At that meeting, representatives of Boylan Heights, Heritage Park, and Shaw University, as well as other stakeholders, expressed concern about the traffic impact and the isolation of key neighborhoods—including neighborhoods and institutions of color—who depend on safe and efficient access in all modes of transportation for their vibrancy, especially as housing density in downtown and southern gateway rapidly increases. We believe there are other acceptable proposals that could be considered that will serve the needs of the Amphitheatre and downtown businesses, while keeping South Street as an open thoroughfare. We urge you to authorize a solution that serves the entire community.

BOYLAN HEIGHTS NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

MEETING AGENDA

August 13, 2024 • 7:00 pm • Hartwell

Zoom Meeting info– Meeting ID: 874 1378 1710

Passcode: 648547

- I. Welcome and Meet Your Neighbors
- II. Approval of Agenda and June minutes
- III. Police Report– Officer DiCello
 - Cabarrus shelter
 - Boylan traffic calming
- IV. Continuing Business
 - Development beat: Red Hat Amphitheater relocation– Status of project, Q&A with Jane Harrison, position statement vote
- V. Financial Report
 - Annual budget presentation
 - Financial report
- VI. New Business
 - Labor Day picnic



We thank Hartwell for providing space for our Boylan Heights Association meeting. Please check out their upcoming events.

- Friday, August 16 - Jazz Night**
- Sunday, August 18 - Live Music & Food Truck**
- Saturday, August 24 - Ice Cream Social**