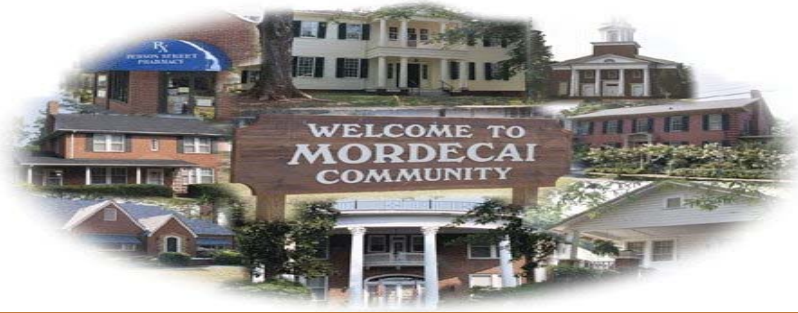


- ◆ Agenda
- ◆ Neighbor of the Month
- ◆ October Minutes
- ◆ Community Websites
- ◆ City of Raleigh News
- ◆ News & Announcements
- ◆ Mordecai Bylaws



Meeting Location: Trinity United Methodist Church 824 Bloodworth Street—Raleigh, NC

Mordecai CAC

November 10, 2009 * 7:30PM

AGENDA >>>

- **Police Report**
- **Parks & Recreation Report—**
Jeremy Ogburn, Mordecai Historic Park
- **Discussion of Bylaws Revision**
 - ❖ Philip Bernard—Traffic Committee Chair, Past CAC Co-chair
- **2010 Officer Nominations**
- **Dates to remember:**
 - ❖ Tuesday, December 8—Annual Christmas Party, Semiannual Elections
- **Committee Reports**
- **Other Business**



Mordecai Historic Park
One Mimosa Street * Raleigh, NC 27604

Celebrating Mordecai Neighbors The Birgand Family at Courtland Drive

Mordecai has always been known for its diversity, but Courtland Drive now has an international flavor, thanks to French natives François and Virginie Birgand. The couple moved to Mordecai in 2008 and welcomed their first child in February 2009.

The United States is the fourth country Virginie has lived in. Born in Paris, she moved to Japan at the age of 3 months, where her father worked for a French shipping company. After five years in Japan, the family moved to Lagos, Nigeria for two years. Upon returning to France, Virginie lived in Le Havre and Nantes before attending the University of Rennes. She graduated with a degree in agronomy and environmental sciences and found a job in Paris, working for a government agency in water management.

Virginie's future husband, François, grew up in a small town in western France, about 30 minutes from Virginie's family in Nantes. Their lives are full of other coincidences. François also studied at the University of Rennes (although not at the same time as Virginie) and majored in agronomy and environmental sciences. After obtaining his master's degree, he traveled to N.C. State for an internship and then a Ph.D. in natural filtration of nitrates in streams.

François returned home and settled into life in Paris. One day, a friend invited him to travel to a bullfight in the south of France. This friend also knew Virginie and invited her to attend the bullfight as well. The rest, as they say in French, was destinée. The couple married in 2007 and moved to Raleigh when friends from N.C. State told François about a job opening in ecological engineering. After a brief stay in an apartment, the couple found their new home on Courtland Dr.

François and Virginie quickly became well-known on Courtland Drive, hosting a crepe party and lamb roast and enjoying neighborhood events, like a baby shower for Virginie earlier this year. When not spending time with son Simeon, they enjoy music, sailing and bird watching (François) and bike riding, entertaining friends and reading (Virginie). They have both found Mordecai to be a very welcoming community and are glad to call it home.



If you would like to be featured as "Neighbor of the Month," or would like to recommend someone to be spotlighted, please contact CAC Secretary Merrilee Jacobson at Merrilee.jacobson@pgnmail.com.

CO-CHAIRS: John Dombalis 649-2527 dombalis@hotmail.com ◆ Chris Moutos 414-1618 Chrran1@hotmail.com

SOCIAL: Margaret Henderson margarethenderson@nc.rr.com

RAILROADS: Shane Trahan srt@rti.org

ZONING: Lanier McRee lanier.mcree@gmail.com ◆ Aketa Emptage aae2005@gmail.com

SECRETARY: Merrilee Jacobson merrilee.jacobson@pgnmail.com

TRAFFIC: Philip Bernard jpbernard@earthlink.net

WEBSITE: Dana Deaton deatonator@hotmail.com ◆ Jason Priebe webmaster@mordecai.org

COMMUNITY WATCH: Shane Trahan srt@rti.org

YARD SALE: Susan Judge corginut@bellsouth.net

PARKS: Dana Deaton deatonator@hotmail.com ◆ David Plotner dplotner@rti.org

CITY OF RALEIGH COMMUNITY SPECIALIST: Aracelys Torrez 996- 5717 aracelys.torrez@ci.raleigh.nc.us

Mordecai CAC Minutes

Tuesday, October 13, 2009

John Dombalis welcomed approximately 15 residents and visitors to the meeting. Co-chair Chris Moutos was unable to attend.

Police Report – Officer Charles Taylor noted that there has been very little crime in Mordecai in the last month. He encouraged residents to lock their sheds, crawl spaces and other storage areas after lawn equipment, patio furniture, etc., has been put away for the winter.

Announcements

Chris Moore, Parks & Recreation
Mr. Moore announced that the Halifax Community Center was now signing up players for winter basketball teams. He also reported that the center will be adding a new gymnasium by 2012. The old gym will stay open until the new facility is completed. At that point, the old gym will be demolished and further improvements made to the facility.

New Businesses – Residents reported renovations occurring at the Blue Dolphin on Wake Forest Ave. It's not yet clear how the space will be used. A new Mexican restaurant will be opening in the commercial building on N. Blount Street that also houses a chocolate shop. An art gallery has opened in the former upholstery shop on N. Blount Street.

Building Together Ministries – This long-term social service agency has closed due to lack of funds. One or more non-profit organizations will fill the space vacated by BTM in the Hope Elementary School building.

Hope Elementary School – Test scores were up 20 percent over last year. The new principal has had a very positive impact on the school, which has attracted a large number of new students for the 2009-2010 academic year.

Main Speakers

Asset-based Community Development
Pastor Duane Beck of the Raleigh Mennonite Church led a discussion about identifying and engaging resources in Mordecai to make our neighborhood an even better place to live. Attendees completed a brief "asset" survey and then shared the results.

Pastor Beck asked for volunteers to meet once or twice and brainstorm about projects that the CAC could tackle based on community assets. He noted that an earlier development effort, centered on a community garden, was well underway. The Triangle Land Conservancy, Food Shuttle and a group of residents interested in gardening are negotiating with Progress Energy to use a piece of land on Halifax Street. Discussions are also ongoing with Hobby Properties about the possible use of the open space surrounding their vacant strip mall in our neighborhood.

Updating Mordecai CAC's bylaws – John Dombalis noted that the MCAC has been using the standard Raleigh CAC bylaws since its inception. The bylaws, however, do not reflect changes made over the years in the way we conduct business. Philip Bernard had volunteered to update the bylaws and provided John with copies of the revisions for attendees to review. Several suggestions were made and will be sent to Philip (who could not be present) to incorporate. The revised draft will be posted on the

Mordecai web site so that residents can review the document and make further suggestions. A vote on the revised bylaws will occur in the next few months.

Committee Reports

Nominating Committee – John Dombalis asked for volunteers to serve on the nominating committee. The slate of candidates for the two co-chair positions as well as MCAC secretary will be announced at the November meeting and voted on at the December meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Merrilee Jacobson
Secretary

Mordecai CAC Boundaries

All residents north of Peace St. and south of Atlantic Ave., between Brookside and West St., belong to the Mordecai CAC. The CAC meets on the second Tuesday of each month at Trinity United Methodist Church, 824 Bloodworth St. To get on the newsletter mailing list, please contact:
Raleigh Community Services Department at 919-996-6100.

Google Group

The Mordecai Google group provides immediate updates on neighborhood news and enables residents to share issues of common concern in a spam-free email environment. As a group member you can contact all members instantly by mailing:
Mordecai
@googlegroups.com
To sign up to join the group,
Email: Mordecai-subscribe@googlegroups.com

Websites

Community Website
www.mordecai.org

CAC Website
www.RaleighCAC.org

City of Raleigh Website
www.raleighnc.gov

Halifax Community Center



1015 Halifax Street
Raleigh, NC 27604

Neighborhood Registry

The Registry is the City's official list of neighborhood-based organizations. Being on the Registry helps improve communication between neighborhood groups and the City. Organizations on the Registry may apply for Neighborhood Improvement Matching Grants.

Contact: Charlene Willard
(919) 996-5718 or charlene.willard@ci.raleigh.nc.us

Neighborhood Improvement Matching Grant

Neighborhood-based organizations are eligible for grants of up to \$5,000 for projects that strengthen and improve neighborhoods and enhance a sense of community. The grants help pay for projects designed by residents themselves for the betterment of their neighborhoods.

Contact: Charlene Willard
(919) 996-5718 or charlene.willard@ci.raleigh.nc.us

Citizens Area Liaison

Citizen Area Liaisons are neighborhood volunteers who serve as the link to various organizations, agencies and resources, including the City. Liaisons help to identify and solve problems in their neighborhood. They get to know their neighbors, conduct neighborhood assessments, arrange meetings and share information and ideas.

Contact:
Luis Olivieri (919) 996-5714
Sheila Lynch (919) 996-5713

News & Announcements

CITY OF RALEIGH TO COLLECT GREASE AT THE CURB AS PART OF PILOT PROGRAM TO PREVENT SEWER OVERFLOWS

During the holiday season, Raleigh residents will be able to dispose of cooking oil by setting it on the curb along with their garbage, recycling and yard waste. The City Council voted **unanimously** to approve a pilot program for curbside grease collection.

The goal of the pilot program is to protect the environment by keeping cooking grease out of the City's sewer system and preventing sewer overflows. The collected grease will be converted to biofuels, a renewable source of energy used to power vehicles, heat homes and cook food.

The pilot program for curbside collection of unused or unwanted cooking oil will be conducted for two and a half months during the holiday season months of November, December and January. The holiday season was selected for the program because of the high amounts of grease usually generated at this time from holiday gatherings. Churches and synagogues in Raleigh will be able to participate in the pilot program, in addition to the approximately 110,000 households in the Capital City that receive recycling, trash and yard waste collection from the City. The service will be provided for free.

The pilot program will be a joint effort of the City of Raleigh's Public Utilities, Solid Waste Services and Public Affairs departments and Triangle Biofuels Industries Inc. Triangle Biofuels will reimburse the City 25 cents for each gallon of cooking oil collected, and convert the material to biofuels. Only animal or vegetable cooking oil will be collected at the curb in the pilot program. Motor oil and other petroleum products will not be accepted and should continue to be taken to Wake County's drop-off facilities at 9037 Deponie Drive in Raleigh or 6130 Old Smithfield Road in Apex.

With the pilot program, Raleigh residents and places of worship will have to call the City's Solid Waste Services Department, 996-6890, to arrange for the curbside collection of animal or vegetable cooking oil. The oil must be placed in a sealable and preferably clear container marked as "cooking oil." Examples of containers that can be used are milk jugs, juice cartons with screw-on caps, coffee cans or the cooking oil's original non-glass container. Glass containers will not be accepted. Households will place the container with grease on the curb on their designated weekly trash collection day. The City will make arrangements with churches and synagogues to pick up their cooking oil. The amount of cooking oil to be collected from each household or place of worship must be at least half a gallon. City Solid Waste Department vehicles will take the collected cooking oil to two large bulk containers provided and maintained by Triangle Biofuels.

Only Raleigh households, churches and synagogues will be allowed to participate in the curbside grease collection pilot program. The program will not be extended to residents and places of worship in the six outlying towns served by the City of Raleigh's Public Utilities Department --- Garner, Knightdale, Rolesville, Wake Forest, Wendell and Zebulon.

RCAC honors recipients of Neighborhood Recognition Awards

The Raleigh Citizens Advisory Council (RCAC) has granted 13 awards to individuals and organizations for enhancing the health, safety and appearance of their neighborhoods.

Individual Citizens Advisory Councils (CACs) nominated the recipients of the 2009 Neighborhood Recognition Awards. The RCAC, made up of the chairpersons of the CACs, awarded the honors in several categories during a reception Oct. 21 at the Raleigh Convention Center.

The awards are issued annually, and each CAC is invited to submit a nominee.
Congratulations to those nominees!



Bylaws of the Mordecai Citizens Advisory Council

October 2009

Article I – Purpose, Goals, and Organization

Section 1. Purpose

The purpose of the Mordecai Citizens Advisory Council (MCAC), as a representative citizen group, is to promote resident participation in city government; to disseminate information to and solicit views from our community to advise the Raleigh City Council on matters affecting the well-being of the citizens in our area; and to assist in developing, evaluating, and implementing solutions that confront the City Council and the MCAC. Consistent with this purpose, the MCAC may communicate its views on relevant matters to other governing boards, agencies institutions, or officials.

Section 2. Goals

- a. To educate and provide a forum for discussion of city programs, plans, and concerns and supply feedback to city administration, City Council, and associated bodies.
- b. To improve our CAC by specific and individual programs.
- c. To identify the facts that best represent the interest of our collective neighborhoods on sensitive issues and then find effective ways to present these facts to the decision-making bodies.
- d. To organize, foster, and present neighborhood social functions such as the Annual Picnic and Ice Cream Social.

Section 3. Membership

The MCAC membership shall be composed of anyone living in or operating a business within the MCAC boundaries, which have been established by the appropriate city staff.

Section 4. CAC Boundary

The Mordecai CAC is one of nineteen (19) CAC's in the City of Raleigh. It is located north of the downtown business district and encompasses all of Mordecai neighborhood, parts of the Oakwood neighborhood, the commercial area known as the Person Street Business District, Peace College, Seaboard Station, The Village at Pilot Mill, the CSX/Norfolk Southern Railroad, and the Capital Boulevard corridor from Peace Street to the south up to Atlantic Road to the north. The Mordecai CAC is the smallest CAC and has traditionally been one of the most active due to its smaller size and close-knit community.

Article II – Nomination and Election of Officers

Section 1. Officers

There shall be two co-chairpersons of the MCAC and one secretary. Initially, one co-chair shall be elected for a one-year term and the other for a two-year term. After the first year, one co-chair shall be elected on alternate years. The secretary will be elected for a two-year term. No treasurer is currently required until such time that the MCAC is funded by and receives money from the city.

Section 2. Eligibility for Office

Eligibility for election for the co-chairpersons and secretary of the MCAC is restricted to persons who live within the MCAC boundary.

A notice seeking MCAC co-chairpersons and committee co-chairs will be published in the newsletter/agenda prior to the meeting where the Nominating Committee will submit its slate of nominees. At the meeting where the Nominating Committee submits its nominees, additional nominations may also be made from the floor with prior consent of the qualified nominee. The list of all nominees will then be published in the newsletter/agenda sent to the membership in advance of the subsequent meeting for the election of officers. Nominations for any MCAC office that are not published in the newsletter prior to the scheduled election will not be allowed.

Section 3. Nominating Committee

At the September meeting, the co-chairpersons shall appoint a Nominating Committee of no less than three MCAC members to assist in identifying potential candidates for the co-chairperson and secretary positions. One of the co-chairpersons may serve as a member of this committee.

Section 4. Election of Officers

Officers of the MCAC shall be elected by a majority of voting members present at the scheduled meeting for the election of officers, which is the December meeting.

Section 5. Vacancy.

In the event of a vacancy in any office, a special election shall be held to fill the vacancy for the unexpired portion of the term, following the nominating and election procedures in Article II, Sections 3 and 4. In the event of the failure of either officer to carry out his/her duties, the office may be declared vacant by a vote of the MCAC.

Article III – Duties of Officers

Section 1. Duties of Co-chairpersons

The co-chairpersons of the MCAC shall preside at the MCAC meetings, appoint MCAC committee chairpersons, and provide leadership and general supervision of the activities of the MCAC. The MCAC co-chairpersons shall establish a written agenda for the Community Services Department staff 14 days prior to the next regular meeting to be posted in the monthly newsletter. The co-chairpersons shall speak on behalf of the MCAC when necessary and represent the views of the MCAC as a whole. The co-chairpersons shall attend MCAC social events whenever possible. The co-chairpersons are responsible for seeing that all nominations and applications for city and other applicable awards and grants are submitted in proper form and time frame. At least one of the co-chairpersons should attend the monthly MCAC meeting. The co-chairpersons may alternate attendance at their discretion.

Section 2. Duties of the Secretary

The secretary shall record the minutes of the meeting and post them in the newsletter and on the website if appropriate.

Section 3. Immediate Past Co-chairperson

The immediate past co-chairperson is expected to serve as a resource during the new chairperson's orientation to the position.

Section 4. Advisory Council

An advisory council shall be established consisting of no more than three long-term MCAC members who are familiar with how MCAC business and policy are conducted. These members will be available to advise the current MCAC co-chairpersons on any matter of business relevant to the MCAC.

Article IV – Meetings

Section 1. Regular Meetings

Regular monthly meetings of the MCAC shall be held on the second Tuesday of the month at 7:30 p.m. Meetings should generally be kept to an hour unless an important item is being discussed. For long-term consistency in meetings, it is strongly urged that the meeting time and day not be changed. There will be no meeting in July, and the August meeting time will be reserved for the Annual Ice Cream Social with no business meeting conducted. The Holiday Party will take place during the December meeting with election of officers being the only item of business. It is recommended that refreshments be provided after each meeting to allow members a brief period to socialize and ask further questions of speakers. There should be a sign-up sheet for those scheduled to provide refreshments and a reminder sent out by the co-chairpersons prior to the meeting.

Section 2. Agenda

The co-chairpersons are responsible for setting the agenda of each meeting. The agenda should include the approval of the last meeting's minutes, a police report, introduction of and presentations by pre-arranged and relevant speakers, items up for vote, committee reports, announcements, and adjournment.

Section 3. Special Voting Rule

The MCAC has a long-standing tradition of not voting on any "issue of importance" at the same meeting at which the issue is presented. "Issues of importance" may be defined as issues that may positively or negatively affect the MCAC as a whole and therefore need to be advertised on the website, discussed and researched for at least one month and then voted on at a subsequent meeting with a sufficient number of informed members present. This rule applies to issues of zoning approval, proposed policy changes at the city level, changes in CAC bylaws, etc. This rule does not apply to general procedural items such as approval of the minutes, motion to adjourn, etc.

Section 4. Voting Members

On any matter put to a vote at a meeting of the MCAC, one (1) vote shall be permitted for each CAC member in attendance. The MCAC will reject a motion that does not receive a majority of votes.

Section 5. Questioned Voting Member

In case of a question regarding eligibility to vote, the presiding co-chairperson shall render the decision.

Section 6. Conduct of Meetings

Procedural matters not covered by these bylaws shall be governed by *Robert's Rules of Order*.

Section 7. Special Meeting

A special meeting of the MCAC may be called at any time by the co-chairpersons as deemed necessary. Section 3 (Special Voting Rule above) applies here as well.

Article V – MCAC Committees

Section 1. Standing Committees

As deemed necessary, the MCAC chairperson shall establish standing committees and appoint respective committee chairpersons upon the advice of MCAC members. The standing committees shall function in accordance with the statement of purpose and responsibility approved by the MCAC for each such standing committee. The MCAC co-chairpersons and the standing committee chairperson may secure those persons whom they feel necessary to complete the specific purpose of the committee. Each MCAC committee chairperson is expected to cooperate with the co-chairperson on the matters requested by either co-chairperson.

Section 2. Eligibility for Standing Committee Chairpersons

Appointments of standing committee chairperson should be made from among the active participating members of the MCAC.

Section 3. Special Committees

The co-chairpersons of the MCAC may establish special committees for specific temporary purposes. When establishing such committees, statement of purpose and responsibility shall be made a matter of record.

Section 4. Standing Committees

The following standing committees are representative of the active issues and concerns currently relative to the MCAC. It is recommended that each committee have two co-chairs when possible.

- Social/Picnic
- Parks
- Community Watch
- Yard sale
- Zoning
- Traffic
- Website
- Railroads

Article VI – Amending of Bylaws

Section 1. Amendments

These bylaws may be amended, changed, or replaced by the affirmative vote of a majority of the members present at any regular or special meeting of the MCAC, provided that a notice for a vote on bylaw amendments, including a description of the amendment to be considered, be announced in the minutes.

— end —