



Williams Park

MEMMO

PUBLISHED BY AND FOR WILLIAMS PARK NEIGHBORS

2005 CALENDAR

**general
neighborhood
meeting**
tuesday, april 12,
7:00 p.m.
at the Smyrna
Community Center

**meet & greet
social**
saturday, april 30,
2 to 4 p.m.
at Williams Park
rain date — may 1st.

**general
neighborhood
meeting**
tuesday, july 12,
7:00 p.m.
at the Smyrna
Community Center

**general
neighborhood
meeting**
tuesday, october 11,
7:00 p.m.
at the Smyrna
Community Center

Our mission is to promote
community among
neighbors through social
interaction, emphasizing
the unique character
of Smyrna's oldest
neighborhood.

Williams Park Neighbors — what have we done?

Last November a small group of residents in our neighborhood called a meeting to discuss the formation of a community organization. A flier was distributed to about 200 homes and about 60 people (representing a great cross-section in age, background, and experience) showed up to participate. First, a couple of guest speakers from a nearby neighborhood association (the Forest Hills Preservation Group) talked about what they did (right and wrong) in creating their organization, how they've grown, and what they've become. They provided some real insights.

Then those who called the meeting introduced themselves and briefly outlined their ideas before opening the floor for discussion. Every person present took the opportunity to share their individual thoughts and quickly we found we were on common ground.

An open call for steering committee members produced a panel of 15, a professional meeting facilitator, and a scheduled start date.

Meeting on seven different occasions, the steering committee first worked out the purpose, geographic area, and name of the organization using various workshop and brainstorming methods. Next, they addressed issues of membership eligibility and organizational structure. Then they drafted and adopted a set of by-laws.

There's more work to all of that than you might initially think, but it's done now and ready to present to the neighborhood as a whole. To that end, let's all gather at the Smyrna Community Center for a general meeting on Tuesday, April 12 at 7:00 in the evening. Come listen to what the steering committee has been doing — and give feedback. You can help shape the upcoming social and other events (when, where, what type) by sharing your thoughts. We hope to have at least as many present as we had in November — so please join us and bring a neighbor.

Also, our first neighborhood social event has been scheduled — a small affair designed to get more of us acquainted with one another. Plan to stop by and share refreshments on Saturday, April 30 in Williams Park. (That's the small park with the stone and wood pergola, where Roswell Street and Spring Street come together just this side of the rail road tracks from Smyrna's village green.)

We have temporary officers seated so we can move things along for the first year, but we still have a few committee positions vacant. If you want to help make things happen, you're participation will be greatly appreciated. Come out to the April 12 general neighborhood meeting, or call Ron and Liz Davis at 770-431-9786.