

NPU-T Meeting Minutes  
Wednesday, January 9, 2008

The General meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm EST by Chairman Kwabena Nkromo

**1) Invocation**

The invocation was presented by the Chaplain, Gwendolyn Porter, PhD.

**2) Approval of Agenda –**

A motion was made by Oni Holly to accept the agenda as published with this was seconded by Henry Ingram.

Vote: Yes- 6; No-0 ; Abstain-0 → Motion Carries

**3) Approval of Minutes – December**

a) Copies of the December Minutes were distributed for approval.

A motion was made by Edmund McAfee to approve the minutes as published. This was seconded by Oni Holly.

Vote: Yes- 13; No-0; Abstain- 1 → Motion Carries

**4) Police, Fire, and Community Prosecutor's Updates (5 minutes per report)**

**a) Police**

- (1) Zone 1 – Lt. Johnson spoke. He left copies of the crime statistics with the NPU-T chair.
- (2) Zone 4 – Major Perdue spoke. He left copies of the crime statistics with the NPU-T chair.
  - (a) Lt. Lighter was also present. He is the crime suppression commander and talked about what it is he does on behalf of the community and Zone 4.

**b) Fire –**

- i) Lt. Johnson from Station 7 spoke. He highlighted:
  - (1) There are often fires in abandoned houses. Anyone seen going into one of these properties should be reported to the police.
  - (2) He reminded about batteries in the smoke detectors.
  - (3) Blood pressure monitoring is done free at the fire station
  - (4) Child safety seats are available at no charge to qualified individuals. 404.853.7000 is the number to call for assistance.

c) **Community Prosecutor –** Ms. Blackett-Jones introduced herself and was on-hand to speak to any member of the community who had concerns to share.

Deviation #1 → Chairman Nkromo paused to introduce the officers and to recognize first time visitors to the NPU-T.

**5) Neighborhood Associations Reports (3 minutes per report)**

- a) Westview Community Organization
  - i) On Saturday, January 12<sup>th</sup>, Trees Atlanta will be doing a planting on East Ontario and Stokes Avenue. Anyone who wants to volunteer is welcome to participate.

**6) Committee Reports (3 minutes per report)**

- a) **Public Relations Officer –** Nia Knowles issued welcome packages and was able to give a gift card to one person in attendance.
- b) **Bylaws Committee – Oni Holly**
- c) **Housing Code Enforcement – Scott Smith**

NPU-T Meeting Minutes  
Wednesday, January 9, 2008

- i) The Code Enforcement Court Watch training is being targeted for March, 2008. This is expected to be a 4 hour training session. More details will follow.
  - ii) A Top 10 Code Enforcement Violator List will be maintained for each neighborhood in the NPU. This will give each community a measurable objective that can show success at the end of each calendar year. The code enforcement committee for the individual neighborhoods will be solicited to provide input to this list.
  - iii) On January 31<sup>st</sup>, Kevin Wiggins will be sentenced in federal court for mortgage fraud in the NPU-T area. Members of the community are encouraged to send letters to the judge. Copies of general approaches for letters have been distributed to the attendees.
- d) Crime Task Force – Jasper Boykin**
- i) Jasper provided an overview of the CTF.
- e) Community Ambassador (UCDC) – Jerry ‘Tacuma’ Brown – no report**
- f) Economic Development & Consumer Affairs Committee – Robert Thompson**
- i) Robert provided an overview of the Economic Development Committee.
- g) Education – Bakeeba Ayiende**
- i) Bakeeba introduced himself and provided his contact data to the NPU-T body.
- h) Non-Profit Council – Melanie Wofford (404.524.3077)**
- i) Melanie provided a brief overview of the council and provided her contact data to the NPU-T body.
- i) Executive Committee – Kwabena Nkromo**
- j) Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs – Evelyn Washington**
- i) See attached
- k) Public Safety – Graham Jackson Jr. (404.753.4124)**
- i) Graham provided a brief overview of the committee’s function and goals for 2008.
- 7) Planner’s Report –**
- a) Planner McLaughlin spoke about the ordinance in item #15 (07-O-2602).
- 8) Atlanta Planning Advisory Board Report (APAB representative or NPU-T delegate)**
- a) Chairman NkRomo highlighted the 2008 officers for APAB.
- 9) Presentation(s)**
- a) Mary McShann of the Fulton County voter’s registration department spoke about the upcoming elections. The main office number is 404.612.7020. She also highlighted the identification requirements for voting in Georgia.
  - b) Dakarta Richardson of the Atlanta Department of Code Compliance spoke. She provided the November and December 2007 violations that were acted upon to the NPU-T Chair and Committee Chair.
- 10) Zoning**

**Zoning Review Board                      January 3 or 10, 2008                      6:00 P.M.**  
**U-07-37                      1438 South Gordon St. S. W.**

Applicant, Terry Porter, seeks a special use permit to operate a personal care home.

NPU-T Meeting Minutes  
Wednesday, January 9, 2008

**The discussion: Mr. Porter presented his application.**

Scott Smith, the Vice President of the Westview Community Organization, indicated that Westview voted to deny the application. The vote was 17:0:2. A copy of the letter to deny and the reasons for Westview's vote was distributed to the NPU-T body.

Scott Smith also expressed dismay that the ZRB met and voted on this on January 3, 2008 without a recommendation from the NPU-T or the impacted neighborhood. The ZRB vote was 3:3:1 and will be re-presented for a vote on January 10, 2008.

The applicant was not present at the January NPU-T meeting.

Edmund Mcaffee made a motion to deny the application. This was seconded by Mark Malaguerra

The vote: Yes: 20; No: 0; Abstain: 1 → Motion Carries

**11) License Review Board**

Applicant	Type of Business	Name of Business	Location Address	Request
Kanwar Tucker <i>Deferred at December meeting</i>	Convenience Store	Lee Street BP	535 Lee Street	Change of Ownership

**The Discussion: Mr. Tucker was present and talked about his application.** The impacted neighborhood has not yet made a recommendation on the application for this application because several of their concerns have been made. This applicant has been given incorrect information multiple times which has delayed the application being placed on the NPU-T agenda. It would be beneficial to both the applicant and the NPU-T to have the city extend the applicant's deadline in recognition of the mistakes that were made by the city.

A motion was made by Oni Holly to defer pending a report from the impacted neighborhood associations. This was seconded by Gilbert Jabari Henry.

Vote: Yes- 11; No-3; Abstain- 3 → Motion Carries

Applicant	Type of Business	Name of Business	Location Address	Request
Kanwar Tucker <i>Deferred at December meeting</i>	Convenience Store	Ashby B P	3 Joseph E. Lowery Blvd.	Change of Ownership

**The Discussion: The applicant is scheduled to present to the impacted neighborhood on January 14th.** This applicant has been given incorrect information multiple times which has delayed the application being placed on the NPU-T agenda. It would be beneficial to both the applicant and the NPU-T to have the city extend the applicant's deadline in recognition of the mistakes that were made by the city.

A motion was made by Vonda Henry to defer pending a report from the impacted neighborhood associations. This was seconded by John Davis.

Vote: Yes- 11; No-2; Abstain- 4 → Motion Carries

NPU-T Meeting Minutes  
Wednesday, January 9, 2008

Applicant	Type of Business	Name of Business	Location Address	Request
David Jafar	Convenience Store	Intown Food Mart at MLK	844 Martin L. King Jr. Drive	

**The Discussion:** The applicant was not present and has not appeared before the impacted neighborhood.

A motion was made by Mark Malaguerra to defer pending a report from the impacted neighborhood associations. This was seconded by Edmund McAfee.

Vote: Yes- 12; No-0; Abstain- 1 → Motion Carries

Applicant	Type of Business	Name of Business	Location Address	Request
Kanwar Tucker	Convenience Store	Exon #507	507 Joseph E. Lowrey Blvd	Change of Ownership

**The Discussion:** There is no impacted neighborhood association. Because it is closer to WEND, Booker T. Washington has ceded jurisdiction to WEND. This applicant has been given incorrect information multiple times which has delayed the application being placed on the NPU-T agenda. It would be beneficial to both the applicant and the NPU-T to have the city extend the applicant's deadline in recognition of the mistakes that were made by the city.

A motion was made by Jabari Henry to defer pending a report from the impacted neighborhood association. This was seconded by Oni Holly.

Vote: Yes- 12; No-2 Abstain- 2 → Motion Carries

Applicant	Type of Business	Name of Business	Location Address	Request
Hajira Ahmed	Convenience Store	Om.bajrangbali inc/dba/Chevron	923 Lee Street	Change of Ownership

**The Discussion:** The applicant was present to speak about his application. The applicant received a favorable recommendation by the impacted neighborhood association (WEND).

A motion was made by Gwen Porter to defer pending a report from the impacted neighborhood associations. This was seconded by Oni Holly.

Vote: Yes- 16; No-0; Abstain- 1 → Motion Carries

Applicant	Type of Business	Name of Business	Location Address	Request
Makvari Sigh	Food Store & Gas Station	Prithvi Inc/dba/BP Food Mart	1450 Donnelly Ave	Change of Ownership

NPU-T Meeting Minutes  
Wednesday, January 9, 2008

**The Discussion: The applicant was present to speak about his application.** The applicant has received a favorable Scott Smith indicated that Westview has voted to support the change of ownership.

A motion was made by Oni Holly to defer pending a report from the impacted neighborhood associations. This was seconded by Mark Malaguerra.

Vote: Yes- 15; No-0; Abstain- 1 → Motion Carries

**12) Proposed Street / Street Rights-of-Way Abandonment**

- a) Baldwin Street, west of Abbott Street and East of Lawton Street.

**The Discussion: The applicant presented his proposal.** Questions were asked of the application regarding the current use of the street. This street is blocked off at present. Another question was asked regarding the pedestrian access of the redeveloped street. The plan is to ensure that there will be pedestrian access on the redeveloped street. The impacted neighborhood (WEND) voted to approve the application.

A motion was made by Vonda Henry to approve the application. This was seconded by Richard Puls.

Vote: Yes- 12; No-1; Abstain- 2 → Motion Carries

**13) Chairperson's Report**

- a) The chairman read his report that was distributed to the attendees of the NPU-T meeting.

**14) Announcements**

- a) none

**15) Public Review and Comments**

- a) **Ordinance: 07-O-2602 – An ordinance authorizing the Mayor or her designee to change the name of the Piedmont Park Tennis center to the Sharon E. Lester Tennis center at Piedmont Park in honor of the former tennis facility supervisor on behalf of the Department of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs; Office of Recreation; and for other purposes.**

**16) Adjournment** – Meeting adjourned at 9:04 pm EDT

NPU-T Meeting Minutes  
Wednesday, January 9, 2008

**Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs Committee Report**  
Chairperson, Evelyn Washington, [ewcWASHINGTON@yahoo.com](mailto:ewcWASHINGTON@yahoo.com)  
January 9, 2008

**Date of Last Meeting:** Thursday December 27, 2007; 6:30-7:30pm

**Date of Next Meeting:** Thursday, January 31, 2008; 6:30-7:30pm

**BeltLine Subcommittee – Danielle Carney, [daniellecarney@yahoo.com](mailto:daniellecarney@yahoo.com)**

The BeltLine Subcommittee seeks to educate residents of NPU-T about the BeltLine and engage them in the planning process.

- **Study Group Preparation Meeting;** Wednesday, January 23<sup>rd</sup>; 7-8pm; Kroger CitiCenter Meeting Room
- **BeltLine Study Group Meeting,** Tuesday, January 29<sup>th</sup>; 6:30-8:30pm; Atlanta Metropolitan College, Academic Bldg A-210, 1630 Metropolitan Pkwy, SW
- Planning quarterly general and quarterly advanced BeltLine meetings
- Creating a comprehensive list of BeltLine related meetings and their relative importance

**Urban Agriculture Subcommittee – Kwabena Nkromo, [kwabena.nkromo@gmail.com](mailto:kwabena.nkromo@gmail.com)**

The Urban Agriculture Sub-Committee has launched a *Community Food Project* initiative intended to take a comprehensive approach to developing long-term solutions that ensure food security within NPU-T by linking food production and processing sectors to community development, economic opportunity, and environmental enhancement. Solutions will focus on: (i) improved access to high quality, affordable food for our residents; (ii) expanded economic opportunities for community residents through business and economic development, improved employment opportunities, job training, youth apprenticeship, school-to-work transition, and (iii) support for a local food system, from community gardens to urban farms, that provide high quality fresh foods with minimal adverse environmental impact.

**Park Subcommittee – Melanie Wofford, [communityandhousinginitiatives@hotmail.com](mailto:communityandhousinginitiatives@hotmail.com)**

The PRCA has partnered with Friends of Cleopas R. Johnson Park founded in July 2007.

- **Friends of Cleopas Monthly Meeting,** Friday, January 11<sup>th</sup>, John Hope Homes Community Center, 560 Larkin Street
- Friends of Cleopas R. Johnson Park Logo Contest
  - \$500 Grand Prize
- Cleopas R. Johnson Park Gateway Project
  - \$120,000 for design, fabrication and installation of artwork
  - Submission Deadline – January 25, 2008; 5pm
  - Workshop, January 10, 2008; 6-7pm; romo gallery, 309 Peters St SW
- Park Pride Lead Volunteer Training, - Ayanna Williams, [ayanna@parkpride.org](mailto:ayanna@parkpride.org)
  - Saturday, January 12 9-11am City Hall East
    - Identifying and understanding invasive species and supporting parks in drought.
  - Saturday, February 8 9-11am Adams Park
    - Hands on opportunity to apply skills learned in the first training.
  - Saturday, March 8 9-11am City Hall East
    - Leading volunteers in City of Atlanta Parks

**Recreation Subcommittee – Nia Knowles, [niaknowsrealty@yahoo.com](mailto:niaknowsrealty@yahoo.com)**

While the goals of this subcommittee are still being developed, Nia Knowles is interested in developing and supporting Multigenerational and Senior Activities within NPU-T.

**Cultural Affairs Subcommittee – no chair**

While the goals of this subcommittee is still being developed Danielle Carney, Lessa Kellam and Evelyn Washington are discussing ways to celebrate the rich culture of our neighborhoods.

-END OF REPORT-