

NPU-T Meeting Minutes  
Wednesday, April 14, 2010

The General meeting was called to order at 7: 05pm EST by Chairman Knowles

**1) Invocation**

- a) The invocation was delivered by Dr. Gwendolyn Porter in the absence of NPU-T Chaplain Bill Cannon.

**2) Approval of Agenda –**

A motion was made by Robert Thompson to adopt the agenda as amended with deviations as the chair deems necessary. This was seconded by Richard Puls.

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

**3) Approval of Minutes – March 2010**

- a) Copies of the March minutes were distributed for approval prior to the meeting in softcopy. Hardcopies were available at the meeting for members without e-mail access.

A motion was made by Richard Puls to adopt the minutes as published. This was seconded by Robert Thompson.

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

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

**a) Police –**

**i) Zone 4 – Lt. Steed spoke.**

- (1) Copies of the past month's crime statistics were presented and provided to the NPU-T Chair.
- (2) Lt Steed also cautioned the residents to be aware of items left in their vehicles to deter potential thefts.
- (3) There will be a ribbon cutting for the Zone 4 Mini-Precinct sometime in the next 30 days.
- (4) There is currently a foot patrol in the NPU-T area.
- (5) There will be changes in the structures of Zone 4 beats.

**ii) Zone 1 – Lt. Charles spoke.**

- (1) Beat 107 has been having 2 beat cars assigned on most shifts
- (2) A burglary task force made 2 arrests today.
- (3) Lt. Charles spoke about the "Spring Festival" this weekend. This event has also been called Freaknik.
- (4) Copies of the crime statistics were distributed via e-mail prior to the meeting.

**iii) Fire – Assistant Chief Williams (Battalion #17) spoke about several community service initiatives.**

**b) Community Prosecutor – Ms. Blackett-Jones (Zone 4) 404.699.5294**

- i) ADA Jones spoke about the Court Watch Program.
  - (1) There is a court watch training session being held on April 24<sup>th</sup> from 9-noon.
  - (2) Questions were asked regarding a court watch for code enforcement
    - (a) The Executive Committee will work on an NPU-T message to the Mayor's office regarding addressing problems of code enforcement.

**c) Department of Watershed Management (Brent Brewer)**

- i) Mr. Brewer spoke about water conservation and watering restrictions that are still in force.

**d) Department of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs – Mr. Robinson**

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- i) Mr. Robinson provided printed information on upcoming initiatives of the department.
- e) Environment Health Services - Ms Edna Stevens
  - i) Ms. Stevens spoke about the services of her department and left a brochure with detailed information.

5) Presentations

a) **Atlanta Streets Alive – Hayley Richardson**

- i) Ms. Richardson was not present. In her absence, Vonda Henry spoke about the project.

6) **Planner’s Report – Brandy Crawford (404.330.6522 bcrawford@atlantaga.gov)**

- a) Planner Crawford was not present.

7) **Zoning**

- a) **Z-10-001 / 10-O-0314** (*Deferred at March meeting*) AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE 1982 ATLANTA ZONING ORDINANCE, AS AMENDED, BY AMENDING THE USE CHART FOR SPI-11 VINE CITY & ASHBY STATION SPECIAL PUBLIC INTEREST DISTRICT REGULATIONS SO AS TO PROVIDE THAT PAWN SHOPS ARE NOT PERMITTED USES WITHIN SUB-AREAS 1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,12; TO PROVIDE A DEFINITION FOR SUCH USE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

i) **The discussion: This item has been voted on and approved by the ZRB.**

ii) **Comments on the ordinance:**

- (1) Concerns were expressed about restricting lawful businesses rights to operate in an area that is zoned for that usage.
- (2) A comment was raised to restrict the distance of a Pawn Shop from a school.
- (3) A concern was raised as to Sub-Areas 11 and 13 being excluded from the ordinance.
- (4) **A concern was raised about the ability of students from the local schools to purchase guns.**

**The Action: No action taken as this item was already approved.**

b) **Street Abandonments**

- James P. Brawley Dr., SW and Raymond Street, S.W. between Martin Luther King Jr. Drive and Beckwith Street.
- Mitchell Street, S.W. between Pascal Boulevard and James P. Brawley Drive.

The discussion: Questions were raised regarding the fact that the city has indicated that a street abandonment does not require an NPU vote. The purpose of this street abandonment is to restrict the off-campus traffic access to the Clark Atlanta University Campus.

The NPU-T chair was advised by the NPU Coordinator that this does not require a NPU vote.

A motion was made by April Anderson to convey the displeasure of the NPU-T for the way this process was handled and that no NPU-T or Impacted Neighborhood vote is indicated for this process. This was seconded by seconded by Richard Puls

Chairman Knowles has agreed to follow-up on this and Vonda Henry will research the code to determine whether an NPU vote should have been requested for this item.

The Vote:        Y- ; 13 N- 0 → Motion Carries

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**8) License Review Board**  
**No items on the April Agenda**

**9) Text Amendments, Ordinances & Resolutions**

**Public Hearing** **April 27, 2010** **3:00 P.M.**

**10-O-0397** AN ORDINANCE BY THE PUBLIC SAFETY AND LEGAL ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE AMENDING SECTION 162-227 AND SECTION 162-232 OF THE CITY OF ATLANTA CODE OF ORDINANCES SO AS TO ESTABLISH FEES FOR THE ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH NONCONSENSUAL MOTOR VEHICLE TOWING; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES. *(NO VOTE REQUIRED)*

Because this is not indicated as "for information only," no vote was taken. There were no questions.

**Public Hearing** **May 26, 2010**

**10-O-0468** A SUBSTITUTE ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 150 (ENTITLED "TRAFFIC AND VEHICLES"), ARTICLE IV (ENTITLED "STOPPING, STANDING AND PARKING"), DIVISION 4 (ENTITLED "RESIDENTIAL PERMIT PARKING"), SO AS TO AMEND THE PROCEDURES TO BE FOLLOWED FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF RESIDENTIAL PERMIT PARKING AREAS WITHIN THE CITY OF ATLANTA; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Because this is not indicated as "for information only," a vote was taken.

There were questions regarding the fact that in NPU-T boundaries, parking citations are not written even for vehicles parked on the sidewalk or facing the wrong way. Restricting parking on a public street presents an unfair limitation on individuals in the city by limiting parking on streets that are funded by general funding. A concern was raised regarding the cost of paying for parking on a public street. A concern was raised regarding the unequal application of parking ordinances.

Because this is not indicated as "for information only," a vote was taken. There were questions.

Vonda Henry moved to deny support for this ordinance. This was seconded by April Anderston.

➔ The Vote: Y- 16 - N - 0 ➔ Motion Carries.

**10) Special Events / Outdoor Festivals**

**a) Malcom X Festival – Mr. Omowale spoke (May 22<sup>nd</sup>)**

The discussion: The impacted neighborhood (WEND) has made a favorable recommendation. Concerns were raised regarding the parking plan and blocking of resident's driveways and Mr. Omowale explained his plans to avoid this issue.

A motion was made by Jerry 'Tacuma' Brown to support the application. This was seconded by Bill Cannon.

➔ The Vote: Y- 0 ; N- 0 ➔ Motion Carries

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- b) Willie A. Watkins Festival – Sunshine Lewis and Cynthia Deering spoke**  
**i) The event will be held on May 31<sup>st</sup>.**

The discussion: The impacted neighborhood has made a recommendation to approve the application. Donations to the Hosea Williams Feed the Hungry and Homeless will be accepted as well.

A motion was made by Vonda Henry to support the application. This was seconded by Larry Carter.

→ The Vote: Y- 16; N- 0 → Motion Carries

- c) West Fest**

The discussion: This item has been presented previously and they have received their permits.

No further action needed on this item.

**11) Neighborhood Association Reports (2 minutes per report)**

- a) Tacuma Brown spoke about assuming the interim role of President for the CollegeTown Association until elections are held.
- b) Chairman Knowles introduced two new neighborhood associations: West-End Neighborhood Association for Residents (WENAR) and Ashview Heights.
- c) WEND – Vonda Henry spoke about West Fest, a rain barrel workshop and a clean-up at the Wren's Nest.
- d) Westview Community Organization - Scott Smith announced that a Community Garden is forming in Westview and a clean-up around the Kipp Strive academy will be on Saturday from 9-noon.
- e) Beecher-Donnelly – The EPA has offered to do a clean-up on the beltline on Lawton.

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

- a) Parks, Recreation and cultural Affaris offered appreciation to the participants in the green space conference.
- b) There will be a presentation at M. Agnes Jones on Thursday, April 15<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm.

**13) Atlanta Planning Advisory Board Report –**

- a) No report.**

**14) Announcements –**

- a) Sister Deborah invited members to join WENAR
- b) The West End Church of Christ invited ladies to the Ladies Day Seminar on April 24<sup>th</sup>.
- c) Gloria Smith ([glo1007@bellsouth.net](mailto:glo1007@bellsouth.net)) spoke on behalf of Cathy Ashe. There will be town hall meetings for her constituent communities on Monday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>, Wednesday, May 5<sup>th</sup>, Tuesday, May 11<sup>th</sup> and Thursday, May 13<sup>th</sup>.
- d) Ms. Middlebrook spoke on behalf of council member H. Lamar Willis and invited neighbors to the public hearings on the budget.

**15) Adjournment– The meeting adjourned at 8:54 pm.**

**Donations were not collected due to the absence of NPU-T treasurer, Patrick Berry**

**30 individuals were recorded on the NPU-T sign-in sheets.**