

General Body NPU-T Meeting

February 8, 2017 Minutes

Meeting was called to order at 7:06 pm by Terry Ross

1. Approval of Minutes

- a. We do not have minutes for the January meeting given that we did not have an official secretary
- b. This agenda item will be skipped and minutes will be sent out once they get compiled

2. Approval of Agenda

- a. Under presentation: Add Atlanta Streets Alive
- b. Under education: Add Emerald Coordior Roundtable
- c. Delete item i under educatioan and replace with Emerald Corridor Roundtable with Sherise Foster
- d. Delete item 4civ: Westview Bike Lanes

Motion to adopt agenda with amendments: made by Barbara Chambers and seconded by Tigist Slaton

There were no questions on the motion. The vote on the motion is below

- All in favor: 7
- All opposed: 0
- Abstentions: 0

Motion carries with 7 votes, no oppositions, and no abstentions

3. City Department Reports

a. Atlanta Police Department

- i. **Zone 1:** Last month pretty good month. Major issue is property crimes, predominantly larceny from vehicles. Had a couple of burglaries. Caught a burglar and car thieves. Issue is leaving items of value in plain sight. Please communicate with neighbors to take valuables out of the car. No questions for Zone 1.
- ii. **Zone 4:** Major Griffith is new to zone 4. Very concerned about crime in West End. Want to have direct contact with all public safety chairs of Zone 4 communities because wants to remain in constant contact, at least on a weekly basis and possibly have collective meeting of all Zone 4 public safety chairs. Any concerns please call 404-756-1903 or email at tgriffin@atlantaga.gov
 1. **Questions:** What are some of the concerns you have? Property crimes, vehicle larcenies, and auto thefts (60% of keys being left in vehicle)
- iii. **C.O.P.S.:** Major Shepherd and Inspector Clark (crime prevention inspector)- goal is to promote communities becoming part of the neighborhood watch. There will be 3 trainings. March 25th will be first city-wide neighborhood training for the year. Location: TBD. Also partnering with 15 city entities to implement Blitz, a program that goes to blighted communities and passes out information.
- iv. No representation from PATH (Atlanta Beltline Police)

- b. **Atlanta Fire Department:** No major fire events. There are a few programs happening, however.
 - i. Friday, February 10th: Winter Fire Safety Expo- help support with utility payemnts and learn more about fire safety. Will be held at City Hall located at 55 Trinity Ave. from 10am-2pm
 - ii. Home Safety Program: a prevention program where someone comes out to assess home for safety issues.
 - iii. Program to recruit more Latinos to the fire department
 - iv. Please call Ms. Claudine Nash at 404-546-7000 for more details on any of the above initiatives

- c. **Community Prosecutor:** Court invitation to a trial that starts on Monday, February 13th. Community prosecutor described incidents that led to charges for this particular trial. Defendant refuses to take the deal. Want to invite you to court to see the process of a community prosecutor in action in court. February 13th is jury selection and February 14th the trial should begin. You will get an invitation email from Danielle Simpson with all the information you need. Contact information is 404-449-6737. Email address is shari.jones@fultoncounty.gov
 - i. **Questions:** How old is the defendant? 32

- d. **Code Enforcement:** New homeowners must register property with code enforcement within the 1st 30 days of ownership. There are brochures with the information are at the front. Stats for the month: 15 property maintenance and 5 highly hazardous
 - i. **Question:** What if the property isn't registered in 30 days? Owner could be penalized
 - ii. **Statement:** Program through the solicitor's office to help elderly and veterans with properties. Does code enforcement help with this? Currently no but can check into it.

- e. **Board of Education:** No representation to provide report

- f. **Department of Public Works:** Issac Vines. Information Meetings happening for the department.
 - i. Public Information Meeting for Lawton Street: share preliminary design and take public comments. There is a flyer for the public information meeting at front and has been emailed to Terry
 - ii. Public Notice: City Utilities Committee: Ordinance by Councilmember Cleta Winslow regarding small cell antennas and the placement (in the right a way) and fees associated with them. The notice is for Tuesday 2/28/17 at 9:30 am at City Hall if you are interested in attending. There is a FAQ sheet that Issac will send to Terry to send out to the NPU.
 - 1. **Question:** What is small cell antenna and how dangerous is it? Send out FAQ as I don't know this information and will encourage you to go to the meeting. These meetings are also recorded so you can watch online afterwards.

- g. **Department Watershed Management:** No representation from this department

- h. **Solid Waste Education Enforcement Team (SWEET):** Officer Ferguson and Morgan run the southwest area. There are no concerns or issues. We want to do everything that we want to do to make the community as clean and safe as possible.
 - i. **Question: Has there been an improvement with Solid Waste Collection?**
Yes. Haven't heard any complaints
 - ii. **Comment:** Have noticed that they are putting the kirbies back on the curb and not leaving on the street
 - iii. **Comment:** Didn't pick up bulk collection and called 311 and they picked it up right away so good job
 - iv. **Question:** If you see someone dumping illegally, who should we call? APD.
Typically, illegal sites are vacant lots and not next to homes.

- i. **Mayor's Office (Atlanta 311):** 311 has been operating for 3 years under a grant for improving customer service. Meet with every city department to give us the most frequently requested information about public services so we can serve as a hub for all the city information. Now we are requesting an ambassador from each NPU to liaise with us to ensure that we are meeting the needs of the community. Call 404-546-3011 if you are not in the city but can dial 311 from cell or land line
 - i. **Question:** What is your relationship with animal control if it's a county responsibility vs. a city responsibility? If we get enough of those questions, we will do the research and create resources related to them to inform the community so that you get to the right place
 - ii. **Question:** Are you affiliated with the office of constituent services? It is an office within the mayor's office but they handle specific special projects but we are the link among the departments to make sure you get your questions answered.

- j. **Animal Control:** No representation

- k. **Marta PD:** Stay alert when using MARTA. There are a lot of crimes of opportunity but nothing specifically impacting this NPU. There was a shooting at the College Park Station. The suspect was caught the same day.

4. Committee Reports

a. Public Safety:

- i. **Update:** NPU Zone 1 citizen advisory council meeting has happened and we are working on having one for Zone 4. The objective is to get every community in NPU-T under the same umbrella to collaborate and problem-solve. We need your help with participation in the meetings (there was no NPU participation at the last meeting) so it would be great if each community appoints someone to attend. There is training with the Atlanta Fire Department, Neighborhood Watch, and Restorative Justice for communities to work with 1st time offenders to repair and make amends to community. If questions or interested in these opportunities, call me at 404-626-1644.

b. Education:

- i. **Update:** Meeting last week where we brainstormed for the upcoming year. We are looking for more people to join the committee, particularly someone who is savvy with social media. We meet at my house on the 4th Wednesday of the month. IF interested, see me after the meeting and give me your contact information. WCAG meets every 3rd Thursday of the month at Hollis Innovation Academy, 225 James P. Brawley.
 1. **Question:** Could you give more information about the cluster? Feeder schools in Washington H.S- M.A. Jones, Hollis Innovation, Tuskegee Airmen, and Brown MS
 2. **Question:** What is the status of Brown MS? Voted unanimously to keep the name the same
- ii. **Emerald Roundtable Discussion:** Director for Westside Community Alliance, conducting a small business roundtable to discuss how to become a vendor at Georgia Tech. The Roundtable will take place on Monday, February 13th from 11:30am-1:30pm at the Integrity Transformations CDC, 692 Lindsay St, NW Atlanta, GA 30318. We will decide if we need to do additional roundtables based on interest and feedback. Flyers were passed out and will be shared via email.

c. Transportation:

- i. **Update:** Had our first committee meeting to get everyone up to speed on what's going on with the corridors and complete streets projects. If you are interested in joining the committee, please see me after the meeting. We are having a follow-up meeting with Renew Atlanta on 2/23. I thought it would be a good idea for us to meet as a community before to have a stance with concrete options on what we want to see on the corridors. There will be a meeting on Wednesday 2/15 at 7:00 at Johnny's pizzeria at 904 Martin Luther King, Jr. Dr. (building right next to McDonald's). Please come out so we can give them tangible options. Dinner and non-alcoholic drinks will be provided by the NPU. February 23rd the west side of Atwood will be repaved. No parking- violators will be towed. Need to find out between what streets. The comprehensive transportation plan is looking for people for stakeholder's advisory committee. Application due Friday. If you are interested, see me after the meeting or visit www.atlantatransportationplan.com
 1. **Comment:** Have an issue with Ashby Station and the naming. Think that station name should be changed to Lowery St. Station given location and historical significance of Joseph E. Lowery. Station is outside of our NPU (NPU-L) but serves our NPU so might need collaboration with other NPUs
 2. **Question:** Do we speak to you with speeding in the areas? That's a police matter
- ii. **Atlanta Streets Alive** will happen again this year from Grant Park to Westview on Sunday, April 23 from 2pm-6pm with streets being closed from 12:30-7:30. There will be a public input meeting on February 28th. Everyone has opportunity to host an activity on the route or business who wants to participate on route. Contact information is on literature being passed around. If you have questions, please reach out.

iii. **Relay Bike Share Expansion:** 500 rental bikes are coming to the city in the Westend in April 2017. We have a few virtual hubs in the West End so you'll see blue bikes locked up around the neighborhood. We have 10 champions in the neighborhood who use the bikes. Next event is February 25th at 2pm- Urban Confidence Ride where we ride around the community. Follow us on social media: Relay Bike Share on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram. Find me after the meeting if you have any questions.

d. **Finance:**

i. **Update:** Last week Terry sent out information about the APAB grant process and how you can get reimbursed. If you don't have that information, let me or Terry know so we can get it to you. The neighborhood fund helps to fund community-based projects in the NPU- planning to apply for grant opportunities and elicit corporate and business sponsorship. If you have any leads, please let me know. Also, looking for people with businesses who want to do fundraising events. Finance committee will meet on Saturday, 2/11/17 at 9:30 am at McDonalds in West End on RDA to talk about criteria for Neighborhood Fund and identify sponsors. If you have any questions/concerns, contact me by phone at 404-790-4837 or by email at will.chandler@morehouse.edu

e. **Zoning and Land Use:** 3 items on the agenda. 2 require a vote and 1 is a review for comment. Phone number is 404-409-3932.

i. **Cascade Prime LLC:** Change of ownership of liquor license. Impacted neighborhoods (Beecher-Donnelly and Westview) supported the application with a Community Benefits Agreement. Zoning committee recommends that we agree with the impacted neighborhoods and support the application. Hearing is February 21, 2017

Motion made by Elmaree to deny applicant and seconded by Bill

Question on the motion: What information came out? Security, Working with community, Safety concerns. The vote on the motion is below

- In Favor: 4
- Opposed: 8
- Abstentions: 2

Motion Fails

Motion made by Cathy to approve with Community Benefits Agreement and seconded by Bill

There were no questions on the motion. The vote on the motion is below

- In favor: 7
- Opposed: 6
- Abstentions: 2

Motion carries.

- ii. **MLK Prime LLC:** Change of ownership of liquor license: Need to defer and not vote on tonight because they have not had time to meet with impacted neighborhoods (Booker T. Washington and Atlanta University Center Neighborhood Association). Will defer in March.
- iii. **985 Howell St:** Applicant seeking to divide one parcel into 3 sub-plots. Will add a comment and review- want to add they did not engage the community. This was passed on the West End Historic Preservation Committee. Community Concerns: Parking, Site plans, Using Alleyway
 - 1. **Question:** Do we know what the plans could be? No. Most likely homes based on how they plan to sub-divide

5. Presentation/Planners Report/Matters for Voting:

- a. Alcohol Applications: Motion carried to support Change of Ownership of 787 Cascade Ave. Vote deferred for change of ownership at 844 Martin Luther King Jr., Dr.
- b. Subdivision Application: Vote deferred and will add comments and review when applicable

6. New Business:

- a. NPU-T Secretary: Jacinta and Angela will share duties.

7. Announcements:

- a. Board openings with city: Tax Allocation District Advisory Committee, Ethics board, Code Enforcement Commission, Solid Waste Management Authority.
 - i. If you want to apply see will or email Terry. Will be presented next Saturday on February 18th at City Hall

8. Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 8:37 pm by Terry.