

**Minutes of NPU-B regular monthly meeting
Tuesday, December 6, 2016**

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m. by Andrea Bennett, NPU-B Chairperson.

Present: 18
*Al Smith attended on behalf of Susan Campbell
*Abbie Shephard joined following approval of the meeting minutes

Proxies: 3
Frank Toye to Bill Murray
Simon Foster to Bill Murray
Cory Tibbs to Randall Kent

1. OPENING REMARKS / CHAIRPERSON'S COMMENTS

Welcome, mission of NPU-B, and introductory remarks

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

NPU-B Action: A motion to approve minutes from the previous regular monthly meeting of the NPU-B passed by vote of 20-0-0.

3. REPORTS FROM CITY DEPARTMENTAL REPRESENTATIVES, ELECTED OFFICIALS, AND OTHERS IN AUDIENCE

Atlanta Police Department (APD) Zone 2

Major Van H. Hobbs, Precinct Commander Zone 2, VHobbs@AtlantaGA.gov

Major Hobbs pulled together crime numbers for the year to date for the Buckhead Coalition. Overall, there has been a small increase in crimes (8 additional crimes) from last year. Major Hobbs noted that the car and property thefts at gas stations was a big portion of the increase.

Some highlights from Major Hobbs presentation include:

Homicide: No change (1 same as last year)

Aggravated assaults: down 4 from last year

Residential burglaries: down 60

Sexual assaults: down 5

Aggravated assaults: down 5

Commercial crimes: up 15 due to smash and grabs

Vehicle property theft - up 168, people are leaving things of value in cars to be stolen

Larsony – down 141 (note that larsony is when stuff is stolen from a home and burglary is breaking in with an intent to steal)

Auto theft - up 73 for the year. However, 43% of auto thefts are due to the keys being left in the ignition. The number for the year would be down 50 if the vehicles with keys in the ignition were discounted.

Overall, there was an increase of 8 crimes for the year.

There was a question as to whether these crimes were located around hot spots, like around Lenox Mall. Major Hobbs noted that a summer plan for Lenox Mall is important as there appears to be a spike in crime in the summer when kids are out of school.

The vehicle thefts are up all over the metro Atlanta area and not just Zone 2. Juveniles know that they are not likely going to jail in Fulton County for property theft.

Major Hobbs noted that the tree lighting went well and preparations are being made for the Peach Drop on New Years Eve. New Years Eve and Day will be busy as Alabama is playing Washington at 3pm on New Years Day. Several officers will be deployed to help downtown.

There was a question regarding the arrest in Peachtree Hills today for burglary. Major Hobbs will find out for the NPU representative.

A member of the NPU asked about the convertible that was carjacked. Major Hobbs noted that the victim was caught. He added that Zone 2 has handled all of the cases that they have worked. The gentleman had a big file and will likely go away for awhile.

Atlanta Fire Rescue Department (AFRD)

404-546-4400 (or dial 404-546-4421 to reach station 21) Battalion Chief Andre Owens, 404-217-8180, aowens@atlantaga.gov (station 21, battalion 6)

No report.

Fulton County District Attorney Community Prosecutor's Office

Brenden Dougherty, Zone 2 Community Prosecutor (Brenden.Dougherty@fultoncountyga.gov)

No report.

City of Atlanta Office of the Solicitor: main office 404-658-6618

Alan Coleman acoleman@atlantaGA.gov

404-658-6658 office; 404-902-0934 mobile

L'Erin Barnes, Senior Assistant Solicitor, LFBarnes@AtlantaGA.gov (404-680-6498)

No report.

MARTA Police Department (MPD) North Precinct (404-848-3902) www.itsmarta.com

Major Easterling introduced Sergeant Wade and Lutienant Love. Crime is up on the north line for this year. Problems with people leaving personal items on the train and then charges to credit cards and/or new credit cards opened under their information. MARTA is aggressively educating the public about the need to protect personal belongings. No incidents during the Thanksgiving Holiday. No gifts stolen and no cars broken into. The Childrens Health Care parade and the SEC championship went well.

Major Easterling added that MARTA is preparing for NYE events. MARTAs parking lots are expected to be full.

One problem is the mobile phone charging stations. People are walking away from their phones and they are getting stolen.

Major Easterling informed the NPU that 6 weeks ago a dead man found at the HE Holmes station. The death was not MARTA related. The MARTA police have 2 suspects in custody and 2 more suspects that they are tracking.

Additionally, a female shot a man at a MARTA station outside of Zone 2. That woman is in custody.

Please keep your personal property next to you when you ride the train.

Department of Watershed Management (DWM) (404-982-1480) www.atlantawatershed.org
Denita Burten, Office of Safety, Security, & Emergency Management (404-546-3374) or dburton@atlantaga.gov; 404-798-8103 (cell)

Denita provided brief updates on the existing projects and ongoing work orders. Denita noted that Atlanta is in a Level 2 drought and asked that everyone use caution when using water and follow the ongoing drought restrictions. Also, she reminded everyone to dispose properly of fats, oils, and grease to prevent problems in our wastewater system. Denita will follow up with Watershed on the suspected water leak on West Paces Ferry between Regions Bank and the Atlanta History Center that has been reported several times prior.

Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) (404-546-6813)
www.atlantaGA.gov/iparcs
Stanton German, Manager, Peachtree Hills Recreation Center (PHRC), 308 Peachtree Hills Ave.
SMGerman@AtlantaGA.gov or 404-237-2756.

Stanton mentioned that December 16th was the end of the holiday season. The Peachtree Hills Center will be cleaning and repairing during the end of December. February 1st will be the start of the Spring Season with registrations at www.atlantaga.gov. The City is proposing changes to the City's fee schedule for Parks and Recreation. Stanton highlighted some of the changes.

Stanton provided answers to the question about golf course fees with the City taking over the management services of the golf facilities.

Department of Public Works
Marcus McGaw (404-865-8743) mlmcgaw@atlantaga.gov
Verna Singleton, VSingleton@AtlantaGA.gov
Officer O (404-807-2610)

Kim Brown the public information officer noted that they are currently looking for persons to attend the NPU meetings in the future.

Renew Atlanta Bond.com website has all of the details of upcoming projects. Capital Projects has a list that includes the discretionary projects and other internal projects that would be updated monthly on the website.

Kimbrown@atlantaga.gov – 404-865-8636

Code Enforcement Section, APD Community Services Division
CodesRequests@AtlantaGA.gov 404-546-3868

jhbrown@atlantaga.gov; 404-546-3800 office; 404-557-2748 cell

Officer Brown with code enforcement is the new Zone 2 code enforcement officer. Please let Officer Brown if you have any concerns.

There were questions about a previous complaint on West Paces Ferry Road. A violation has been issued. There was another question about a property Canter Road that Officer Brown was going to check on.

Buckhead Business Association

Bob Gibeling, VP, Community Alliance, BBA office: 404-467-7607

No Report.

Livable Buckhead, Inc (LBI) - Denise Starling, Executive Director

www.livablebuckhead.org

Buckhead Community Improvement District (CID)

www.buckheadcid.com

Buckhead Area Transportation Management Association (BATMA)

www.batma.org

No report.

4. PRESENTATIONS

Andre Dickens representative attended to listen and learn.

5. PLANNER'S REPORT

No Report.

6. INTERNAL REPORTS

Atlanta Planning Advisory Board (APAB)

Richard Rauh, NPU-B APAB delegate; Cathy Muzzy, alternate delegate.

Email Report.

7. STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

Randall Kent, Chair

Buckhead BBQ; 25 Irby Avenue / change of ownership / APPROVED IN COMMITTEE

Chili's Grill & Bar; 2240 Piedmont Road, NE / change of agent / APPROVED IN COMMITTEE

W Atlanta Buckhead Restaurant; 3377 Peachtree Road, NE / change of ownership/ additional facility/ change of status / APPROVED IN COMMITTEE

LB Buckhead, LLC (aka Le Bibliotec) ; 3035 Peachtree Road / change of agent / APPROVED IN COMMITTEE

Neiman Marcus; 3393 Peachtree Road NE / change of agent / APPROVED IN COMMITTEE

Courtyard by Marriott (Buckhead hotel and market) ; 3332 Peachtree Road / change of agent / APPROVED IN COMMITTEE

NPU-B action: A motion to adopt committee recommendations on the above-listed consent agenda passed by vote of 21-0-0.

B. DEVELOPMENT AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

No Report

C. ZONING COMMITTEE

Bill Murray, Chair

Applications on Zoning Committee Consent Agenda:

V-16-286 2520 Peachtree Road NW APPROVED
Applicant seeks a special exception to reduce the required on-site loading spaces from three 12x35' spaces to two 12'x35' spaces of a multi-family development.

V-16-288 4077 Statewood Road NE APPROVED
Applicant seeks a variance from the zoning regulation to reduce the required northern side yard setback from 10 feet to 8.5 feet to erect an addition to a single-family dwelling.

V-16-303 151 Peachtree Hills Avenue APPROVED
Applicant seeks a variance from the zoning regulation to reduce the required eastern side yard from 7 feet to 3 feet to allow an air conditioner unit over 30 inches in height in the required side yard.

V-16-315 2915 Andrews Drive NW APPROVED
Applicant seeks a variance from the zoning regulation to reduce the north yard setback from 15 feet to 4 feet to allow for a 2 story addition to an existing family dwelling.

Conditions:

- (1) There will be no construction in the jointly-owned tract excepting only paving for garage aprons; this means that the steps shown on certain versions of the plat as being within the joint property may not be built as shown.
- (2) The variance will only allow construction of the depicted addition, and will not apply to any other construction elsewhere along the south boundary of the jointly-owned tract.
- (3) The applicants agree that they will not seek to partition the jointly-owned tract.

NPU-B action: A motion to adopt committee recommendations on the above-listed consent agenda passed by vote of 21-0-0.

SD-16-026 3757 Peachtree Dunwoody Road

DEFERRED

Applicant seeks to create/ subdivide 2 lots.

*No action was taken by the NPU.

V-16-299 4007 Whittington Drive NE

APPROVED

Applicant seeks a variance from the zoning regulation to (1) exceed the maximum width allowed for a driveway in the front yard from 20 feet to 31.1 feet and to (2) permit a parking bay in the required front yard where it is otherwise prohibited.

*Discussion was held as this was a lot that had previously been subdivided. The committee was concerned about the precedent that would be set by approving a variance following a subdivision of land. Many noted that the City's regulation on driveway width does not permit a 3-car driveway. The applicant was minimizing the additional pavement and the variance was not really the result of the subdivision. It was noted that a variance to setbacks would have been difficult for the NPU to approve.

NPU-B action: A motion to adopt committee recommendations on V-16-299 passed by vote of 21-0-0.

8. OLD BUSINESS

No old business.

9. NEW BUSINESS

Andrea recommended that the NPU provide the annual gift to police and fire, which has been given in previous years. This suggestion was approved by acclamation.

Andrea reminded the NPU that it is time for NPU officer elections. Andrea recommended that the deferring the elections until the January NPU B meeting. Previously, the NPU had discussed a 2 term limit for NPU chairs and a change to the bylaws would be needed if the NPU wanted Andrea to continue to serve. Following a read of the bylaws, this restriction is not in the bylaws and therefore not a concern. The election of NPU officers will be old business at the January meeting.

10. ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next BZA meetings will be held on December 8th on the 2nd floor of the City Hall Annex at noon.

*The Peachtree Road appeal that was scheduled for the December 8th meeting has been deferred.

The next ZRB meeting will be held on December 8th on the 2nd floor of the City Hall Annex at 6 PM.

The next meeting NPU B meeting will be January 3, 2016.

11. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:52 p.m.