

**Minutes of NPU-B regular monthly meeting
Tuesday, February 7, 2017**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Andrea Bennett, NPU-B Chairperson.

Present: 17*

Proxies: 4
Anne Culberson to Bob Connelly
Steven Lam to Bill Murray
Abbie Shepherd to Jason Kendall
Bryan Steed 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, as amended, from the previous regular monthly meeting of the NPU-B passed by vote of 16-0-0.

*5 NPU member joined after the approval of the minutes.

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

Atlanta Police Department (APD) Zone 2

Major Barry Shaw, Precinct Commander Zone 2, JBShaw@atlantaga.gov ; 404-391-0081.

Major Barry Shaw shared that he wanted to refocus the traffic squad and move them to focusing on crimes. There have been 10 arrests of suspects driving stolen vehicles. The new team has been using the license plate readers and tend to go toward Lenox Mall. They follow the suspects until they stop and then swarm the car because for public safety, they cannot make chase.

Most of the crimes are from individuals outside of this zone. There was someone recently caught that had committed a crime in Brookhaven, had heavy guns, and were known gang members. About a week later, folks were caught near the Lindberg MARTA station. They are starting to

The "silver thief" was caught and has been associated with 25 independent crimes.

Crime summaries are not really used anymore. Zone 2 has a repeat offender officer, which is a full time job, making sure they don't get bonds. This officer was promoted. They are not producing crime summaries because that involves pulling someone off the street to do paperwork that is not really used to guide decisions. Officer White is still available to provide information to neighborhoods who need it. Officer White can be reached at: jwhite@atlantaga.gov. They wanted to confirm that the numbers are all available but will not be summarized as in the past.

Kingsboro armed robbery that happened recently. There was another incident that happened recently in Brookhaven. It was an unusual occurrence. The police are still investigating.

It was added that Major Shaw has really increased the use of the data coming from the License Plate Readers.

Atlanta Fire Rescue Department (AFRD)
404-546-4400 (or dial 404-546-4421 to reach station 21)

Chief McLemore provided the numbers from 2016. Engine 21 responded to 3,578 calls; Engine 29 responded to 2033 calls; engine 3 responded to 2384 calls last year. For comparison, the station at Howell Mill and Moores Mill responded to 1,600 calls.

The City is considering getting an EMS Quick Unit to the Buckhead area. The Quick Unit would respond to the EMS calls and addressing the needs of the aging citizens and then allow fire trucks to remain in service .

Station 3 could house a Quick Unit if approved.

The increase in demand is due both to added density and an aging population. For example, the Lindburgh area has increased in density which has created additional needs.

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 noted that there have been an increase in larsony since the beginning of the fiscal year. Most of these are people being careless with their belongings and opportunistic criminals. There are some large parking lots and parking decks in the zone. Theft from autos have been a problem from shopping bags being left on the seats and visible. There have been no thefts of autos. Keep your luggage and personal belongings with you at all times. Officers are stepping on and stepping off to monitor.

MARTA as a whole has had an increase in these crimes. But 98.9% clearance rate. Midtown domestic incident at a Kiss and Ride. Lindberg deck a young lady was taken at gun point and her cards were stolen, which allowed them to find and arrest him. A 17 was shot and killed in College Park. The Major caught the perpetrator. Stabbing on the east line at the Avondale Station

but that perpetrator was caught. There was a body found dead in a car and 7 gang members were found and arrested. The fiscal year starts in July and ends in June.

MARTA ridership is down overall due to Uber and Lyft. Major Easterling reminded everyone to use the See Say app.

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

Denita was thanked for her dedication to resolving the water leak on West Paces Ferry Road.

A new payment portal has been launched. There is still a Level 2 drought and associated outdoor watering restrictions. Several ongoing improvements are under construction. They are working on being more reactive to customers issues and improving communications to customers. Stormwater is going to be handled in a different manner in March.

Question about Norway Circle, there was a leak and some sewer issues. IN the course of fixing this, there was a gas main leak and other issues. While fixing this, there was a bigger leak that poured into someone's house and property. A ditch was dug temporarily to keep water out of his house. The question was whether the issue will be resolved.

Denita will be bringing some information about stormwater to the next meeting. Jason noted that the stormwater information will be a new few tied to impervious area on a lot.

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 is still running after school for \$35 per week with vendors coming in to do activities. Camp Best Friends is from 7am to 6pm, it includes breakfast and lunch. Registration is online.

Basketball is midway through the season. Track has opened. Camp Best Friends will open in March. Adult kickball will start up soon playing off Jonesboro Road in Atlanta.

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

Ms Huff asked if there were any concerns. There were notes of standing water concerns at the intersection of Peachtree Dunwoody and Peachtree on the Ridgedale Park side.

There was another concern about a recent repair at 2855 Peachtree Road water leak. The driveway is ripped up and needs to be repaired.

The third Saturday of every month you can recycle hard to recycle items at CHARM.

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 noted that there were not a lot of complaints from NPU B but encouraged everyone to call in concerns. He listed off some of the more common violations.

One property that has receive a number of calls 1050 Canter Road. The owner has been cited with 6 counts. 585 Mountain Way also needs to be addressed. There is a property on West Paces Ferry with concerns as well.

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 official report. There was a discussion of the ongoing Buckhead Redefined summary. Everyone was encouraged to go and provide feedback on the process and priorities.

Councilman Ceaser Mitchell's office
Jim Elgar

Jim shared information about a meeting about the permitting process. This is one manner in which many people interact with the City. Over the last year, the City did more residential permitting than several of our neighboring counties. Commissioner Keen is doing a major overhaul of the planning department, so there is a lot going on. One of the changes is trying to separate lines so that someone building a small addition to a home is not sent into the same line as the person with the major commercial development. They want to do a better job of intake to make sure that everyone has the proper paperwork. Some of the issues will be handled through express permitting. Another goal is to create a reserve fund so that the City does not have to layoff all of their institutional knowledge and re-hire new people and the next increase.

Commissioner Keen noted that there had been progress but that the starting point was so low that there is still a need for more improvement. Jim Elgar can be reached at 404-330-6052 if you have any comments or concerns.

There was a comment about inspectors changing the requirements on the site and allowing changes that are in direct violation with the site plan approved by the neighborhood.

Another comment was added about tree preservation being better integrated. Integrating the watershed management issues into the process better would be an improvement too.

SafeBuild inspections has worked well. They are thorough and professional.

Councilman Howard Shook's Office

Sally Silver

There was a question regarding the street abandonment permit. There was a request from the NPU to have the application deferred. The neighborhoods found out about it late. The applicant was supposed to attend. The road should be abandoned to become part of the conservation park and not part of his private lot. The City would have to sell him the land and the City would have to approve the sale of land. Sally offered to follow up on the issue. The agenda says for information only. Jim noted that there is also a draft ordinance on the agenda; would it be in the NPU's best interest to have a vote in this matter. Sally noted that the owner was instructed to attend the NPU. The neighborhood and NPU should give their opinion for the record. The neighborhood is adamantly opposed to this street abandonment. The natural area is intended to be natural as it currently.

NPU-B action: A motion to oppose the planned abandonment of Mayson Park West between Club Drive and Davidson Avenue passed by vote of 21-0-0.

Nancy shared that a house under construction is under a stop work order but there are still people working. Sally suggested calling the Office of Buildings to report this issue.

4. PRESENTATIONS

5. PLANNER'S REPORT

Jessica announced the Urban Design award application process. It is the 40th year of the award and they are hoping to have 1 award for each of the NPUs. Buildings, public space, art, and organization are the categories. The application is due March 1st.

Atlanta City Studio has an open house on February 25th from 11am to 4pm to see what they are doing. Andrea highly recommended going.

Kickoff of the comprehensive transportation plan on February 16th from 6 to 8pm. There will be a number of public meetings, including one on February 21st from 6 to 8pm at the Atlanta International School.

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

Longhorn; 2430 Piedmont Road / change of agent / APPROVED IN COMMITTEE

Residence Inn; 2960 Piedmont Road NE / change of agent / APPROVED IN COMMITTEE

The Fresh Market; 4405 Roswell Road / change of agent / APPROVED IN COMMITTEE

St. Regis; 88 West Paces Ferry Road / change of agent / APPROVED IN COMMITTEE

Whitehall Tavern; 2391 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.

Fado's Saint Patrick's Day event was also presented and there was no opposition. This item does not require a vote.

B. DEVELOPMENT AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

No Report. Met with the Zoning Committee.

C. ZONING COMMITTEE

Bill Murray, Chair

Applications on Zoning Committee Consent Agenda:

V-16-327 4141 North Stratford Road NE APPROVED
Applicant seeks a variance from the Zoning regulation to reduce the required eastern side setback from 10 feet to 5 feet 7 inches for a second story addition to a single-family dwelling.

V-16-328 100 Roanoke Avenue NE APPROVED
Applicant seeks a variance from the Zoning regulations to (1) reduce the required front yard setback from 35 feet to 32 feet and (2) to reduce the required east side yard from 7 feet to 5 feet 6 inches to construct a 2nd story addition to a single family dwelling.

V-16-333 37 Park Circle NE APPROVED
Applicant seeks a variance from the Zoning regulation to: (1) reduce the required front yard setback from 35 feet to 25 feet; and (2) reduce the southern side yard setback from 7 feet to 5 feet for a second story addition to a single-family dwelling.

V-16-344 994 Crane Road NE APPROVED
Applicant seeks a variance from the zoning ordinance to allow a reduction in the required south side yard setback from 7 feet to make alterations to an existing structure.

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

SD-16-031 3700 Peachtree Road, NE
Applicant seeks to create / subdivide 7 lots.

NPU-B action: A motion to approve the subdivision passed by vote of 21-0-0.

V-16-342 2839 Peachtree Road, NE
This project was briefly discussed and a copy of the letter that was drafted based on the committee discussion was read. There was no vote needed on this item.

8. OLD BUSINESS

9. NEW BUSINESS

Bob made a comment about the film industry. There is overall support but greater consideration is needed for the neighboring owners that are adjacent to the properties who are being directly paid. Bob has worked with Cardelia Hunter with the City and they are working with the film company to park trucks offsite and are paying an inconvenience fee to those who are impacted. Bob noted that it would be helpful if the neighborhoods had a voice in the permitting process. There was a comment that church parking lots are generally receptive to letting them use parking areas.

10. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please pay dues.

The next BZA meetings will be held on February 9th on the 2nd floor of the City Hall Annex at noon.

The next ZRB meeting will be held on February 9th on the 2nd floor of the City Hall Annex at 6 PM.

The BZA meeting will hear the appeal for the Shadowlawn property. Sally encouraged everyone who could to attend this meeting. If this appeal is granted it will essentially unravel SPI-9.

The next meeting NPU B meeting will be March 7, 2017.

11. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:03 p.m.