

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

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

Present: 14

Proxies: 4
Brian Steed to Cory Tibbs
Bob Connelly to Bill Murray
Cathy Boston to Bill Murray
Abbie Shephard to Jason Kendall
** Randall Kent to Sara Ohmer (Randall left early)

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.

*2 members joined following 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 Shaw noted that the Anchor Bar has had several problems. The overnight robberies and activities stemming from the Anchor Bar have been problematic. There was a note that their liquor license was suspended for 5 days last year. The NPU has taken a strong stance on their liquor license in the past.

There was one night where Peachtree Park and several adjacent neighborhoods got hit hard with car breakins. Overall, it has been a tough month in the Zone. The car breakins appear to be organized by crews. Major Shaw has convinced the City to assign a special crime teams to help work some of these corridors.

Bob noted that there is a meeting in Peachtree Park tomorrow. He asked how the NPU could help support the City resolve these issues. Major Shaw noted that the City is having trouble getting the word out about cleaning out cars - people are leaving items visible in cars, especially in residential areas. There was a report today of a car stolen with \$10,000 in the trunk. Major Shaw noted that everyone should get the ring cameras or other motion-sensored cameras that can help them triangulate the time that the incident occurred - which makes the license-plate readers more effective. Major Shaw also noted that people should report suspicious activity FIRST to 911 and not to nextdoor or others.

Wes asked if the recent crimes were likely a different group of criminals than previous crime sprees. Wes asked because this time the suspects busted windows, which is different than

previous breakins. Major Shaw noted that there are several loosely affiliated gangs working in the area. There is definitely 1 gang with about 40 or 50 people, but you never know who is going to work together. There was a recent arrest of a juvenile from Alabama. Another guy stole a purse and took it to the ice cream shop where he was arrested.

Susan noted that the police were able to take several neighbor's ring cameras in order to determine that people were pulling door handles on the cars. The footage was also used to isolate the time of the crime.

Arrests for wanted criminals are on the rise, which is good. The criminals are not as worried in the City because the City police are not allowed to chase... the criminals think they can just drive recklessly to get away.

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

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

No report.

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 noted that there is ongoing work on Roswell Road and a water line installation. Denita asked if we wanted her to provide the Public Information Officer our contact information so that they can target the affected neighborhoods ahead of capital projects.

The Public Information Officers (PIOs) for the projects on Roswell Road and Club Drive are LChelsey Greenwood 404-546-3297 and Mark Scott 404-519-6129. Andrea reminded everyone to be sure to let your neighborhoods know who to call at watershed to get answers.

Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) (404-546-6813)
www.atlantaGA.gov/iparcs
Jose Salazar, Manager, Peachtree Hills Recreation Center (PHRC), 308 Peachtree Hills Ave.
Jsalazar@AtlantaGA.gov or 404-295-3874.

Lauren James, the Youth Development Director at Peachtree Hills noted that on October 30th there was a big grand opening of the MLK Center that includes an outdoor running track, aquatic center, and climbing wall. She noted that the Center is worth checking out.

There are 15 locations across the City, including Peachtree Hills, with ongoing after school programs. The seniors recently took a field trip to Ellijay to pick apples.

Learn to swim classes are ongoing. Youth basketball starts soon and there are some openings at Peachtree Hills. There was a City-wide cheerleading competition last weekend with 16 squads participating.

Department of Public Works

Marcus McGaw (404-865-8743) mlmcgaw@atlantaga.gov

Verna Singleton, VSingleton@AtlantaGA.gov

Officer O (404-807-2610)

Sama 404-865-8621 samakoi@atlantaga.gov

Jesshu Pringle, Jason Sutton, and Calvin Watts presented on ATL Plus, which is the improvement and the replacement for Park Atlanta. The system has new meters and a new mobile app to pay by phone. As part of the program re-launch, the City is looking at the areas they are covering and making sure they are covering these areas properly. With changes in Buckhead, they are looking at removing some places on Paces Ferry Place and relocating meters to better locations. They are working with the Buckhead CID on this project. You can email: parkinginfo@atlantaga.gov with questions, comments, or concerns. Now you can use the mobile app (parkmobile) at any parking meter in Atlanta. These are the same meters and app that are used at Ponce City Market.

There was a question about new meters going into Buckhead. There were some new meters installed on West Paces Ferry Road, but these were to replace existing meters.

They are working on integrating technology to do license plate recognition to tie into safety. If there are pings on stolen cars, they will be able to engage the police.

Will ATLPlus be working on other parking issues or just on the parking metered spaces. They will be doing both. There is a new website: www.atlplusmobility.com/

Moving forward, the City will be taking public comments and then will be working with adjacent neighbors before a public comment session at a Transportation Public meeting.

Carla Lipscomb and Alfreda Stoops presented information regarding changes to the City's sanitation services. The City is working on a proposed plan (10 year) Solid Waste Plan and Sustainability Plan. One key element is eliminating the front footage fee and replaced with a vacant lot assessment (\$500) and commercial lot assessment (\$400). The City feels that this shifts the burden of paying for illegal dumping on those responsible.

As part of the program, there is an RFP for a long-term disposal in order to lock in a rate. The City will continue to collect the trash and the selected contractor will be responsible for disposal. The RFP includes disposal of sludge, solid waste, yard debris, and tires. The services will also include removal of dead animals and excess signs in the ROW. The cost for services has remained the same since 2004. The rates will increase but the City notes the increase is minor.

Alfreda Stukes can be reached at alfreda.stukes@rccsc.net or 202-487-0266 with comments, questions, or concerns.

Code Enforcement Section, APD Community Services Division
CodesRequests@AtlantaGA.gov 404-546-3868
jhbrown@atlantaga.gov; 404-546-3846 office; 404-557-2748 cell

Leline Parks noted that there were only 9 new complaints filed last month. Officer Brown noted 127 West Paces Ferry - the citation was returned unserved. It is going to Compliance Resolution Department where the project may get referred to Public Works. There was a question as to when a lien could be placed on the property as it has been an issue for at least 3 years. The Compliance Resolution Department includes liens.

Mayor's Office of Resiliency
Megan O'Neil, moneil@atlantaga.gov

Regene Martin noted that the City Council passed a resolution to develop a clean energy plan that includes increasing the percentage of municipal operations run by clean energy by 2025 and expanding that goal to citywide by 2035. They are currently developing a plan to achieve that goal. The Office of Resiliency would like information from residents on how they think these goals can be achieved.

She encouraged everyone to take the survey. She noted it takes about 6 minutes to answer.
<http://p2catl.com/100-clean-energy/plan/>

She also noted that there would be a community meeting on December 7, 2017 from 6pm to 8pm at the Cathedral of St. Phillip.

There was a question as to whether this program would allow residents with solar panels to sell energy back to the grid. The City current uses a very small sliver of solar power but wants Gerogia Power to expand their solar power sources and other sources to diminish reliance on fossil fuels. There was also a question to clarify that this survey is different from the resilience survey previously sent around.

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

Darion Dunn, 404-842-2693, ddunn@buckheadcid.com

Darion Dunn with Buckhead CID Peachtree Phase III and IV improvements are ongoing. The restriping on Peachtree gets the inner lane of Peachtree moving and they are looking to continue that progress.

Piedmont widening process from Peachtree to Piedmont will expand the road from 5 to 7 lanes. The CID is currently working on acquiring the ROW and will extend RFPs for design soon. Responding to a question, Darion noted that the lanes will be narrower to facilitate the additional lanes.

There was a question regarding the Phipps Road and Wieuca roundabout. This project is under a peer review by the City of Atlanta to make sure that roundabout is the best answer. The peer review is being done by Mark Winters, an independent contractor out of Atlanta.

E Paces Ferry project is under construction between Roxboro Road. This is a road diet project that will reduce traffic to 1 lane in each direction with a trail on the MARTA property on the south side of Lenox Mall. This project should be completed by the end of next year.

Stratford Road. The CID hopes to use impact fee money to add a turn lane. This is a much needed project. There is a lot of new development in that area.

Piedmont Road south of Peachtree - There is a scoping project that extends I-85. The CID hopes to partner with Atlanta to go all the way to downtown.

<http://www.buckheadcid.com/> website has the schematics and additional information on the above mentioned projects.

There was a question regarding Lenox Road between E Paces and Peachtree, the road is in awful shape on the side of the Mall. Darion noted that there is an overall scoping study that would include a multi-purpose trail from E Paces to Piedmont. The question was related to potholes. Darion noted that the Buckhead CID doesn't do repaving, that is a City public works function. He clarified that the RFP for the study went out about a year ago.

The LCI will identify projects and then the CID will pick projects within the boundary and implement them. There were questions about the tie in with the Renew Atlanta bond and the TSPLOST project. Darion added that the Buckhead CID does partner with the City on some of these projects too.

Buckhead ReDefined

Eric Bosman, Kimley-Horn; 404-201-6135, eric.bosman@kimley-horn.com

Marsha Swider, Kimley-Horn; 404-201-6148, marsha.swider@kimley-horn.com

Eric and Marsha commented that Buckhead ReDefined is an update from the first Buckhead Master Plan, developed with NPU B participation, in 2001. A lot of great ideas resulted from the initial plan, but it was time to determine what comes next for Buckhead.

The market analysis shows that less than 2% of the Buckhead core lives and works in Buckhead, which is why traffic is such a challenge. Buckhead households have grown. The workforce for retail, trade, and wholesale services cannot afford to live in Buckhead. The challenges is getting these employees out of their cars and able to get to Buckhead to work.

The main themes were summarized as "Vitality", "Mobility", and "Livability". There was a comment that mobility and affordable housing go hand in hand. Public safety and sustainability are also seen as key.

Part of the challenge in looking at Buckhead is protecting the existing and established single-family neighborhoods. There are 2 areas that the NPU noted need to be excluded from the study area as these are established single-family residential areas.

There was a question about the 2% of the people working and living in the zone - if the zone doesn't include the adjacent neighborhoods, these numbers are skewed. There was an additional comment about those who work at home within the adjacent residential areas.

There were a LOT of improvement projects identified. The key projects are addressed as the 6 big ideas.

1. Buckhead Cultural Loop Trail - connecting east and west sides across GA 400 and taps into PATH 400
2. Public Art and Street - key locations identified
3. Studies to look at 2 interchanges including Lenox and GA 400 and E Paces Ferry and GA 400 interchange - these are causing heartburn
4. Lenox Road scoping study corridor
5. Diversity of housing options
6. Park over GA400 Greenspace and Plan - identifying other greenspaces including the park over GA400

There was a question about who is funding the study and who is funding projects moving forward? The Master Plan was funded by a grant from the ARC and the Livable Cities Initiative. Completion of this 10-year update means that Buckhead remains eligible for ARC LCI funds. The match was paid by the business groups. Only 1/3 of the project's stakeholders are Buckhead residents. There was a question about how many of the Board members live in Buckhead. Eric said that he would have to find the answer.

There was questions about cyclist and biking paths. The hard core people don't feel safe cycling in Buckhead. How was this going to be resolved. Marsha responded that the cultural trail will limit the number of conflict points with vehicles, creating a safer environment.

There was a discussion about how the noted traffic issues are addressed in the Plan. Eric noted that the Plan does include improving interchange efficiency and improvements to high speed bus traffic. The NPU commented that these recommendations seem like they should be in the "top six" list. Another NPU member commented that there are a number of roadway projects, which seems old school, as many feel the future is in driverless cars and other changes in driving patterns.

There was a follow up question regarding making the requested changes to the map.

Atlanta Citizen Review Board

Lee Reed talked about the mediation program. The review board reviews citizen complaints against City of Atlanta police officers. The program uses a mediator to build relationships between the community and officers. Lee left some brochures and is happy to answer any questions. If you have an interaction that you don't think was handled properly, mediation is a good way to resolve the issues.

4. PRESENTATIONS

There were no special presentations.

5. PLANNER'S REPORT

CDP-17-39: Jessica noted that there is an ordinance to adopt a plan. November 27th this will be presented and then voted on the committee and by council at the last meeting of the year. One of the things that ARC looks at is how the plan is progressing before extending additional funds. She noted that there were not any land use changes within the residential areas. There were changes recommended within SPI-9 to look at changing these regulations (but not boundaries). Jessica couldn't remember what these changes are.

The quick fixes open house already happened but will be more opportunities in the future.

Text amendment to create Buckhead parking overlay district. The new ordinance would create parking maximums. The new ordinance only addresses areas outside of SPI-9. You can ask Keyetta Holmes, the Zoning Administrator for more information (kmholmes@atlantaga.gov or 404-546-0166).

There was a discussion that the parking maximums were a good first step, but were not going to fix the problem. There are concerns from the NPU that the parking maximums will result in multi-family cars parked in established residential areas. The area is not well supported by transit and similar ordinances have worked in other parts of the country under similar circumstances.

NPU-B action: A motion to approve the Buckhead REdeFINED LCI Plan (CDP-17-39) with the following amendment that the residential areas mis-identified as commercial including but not limited to 127 W Paces Ferry Road area and the R5 area in Peachtree Park between Peachtree Road and Martina and Park Circle passed by vote of 12-6-0.

6. INTERNAL REPORTS

Atlanta Planning Advisory Board (APAB)

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

Email Report. There was an additional note about the NPU grant program and deadline.

7. STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

Randall Kent, Chair

Chili's Grill & Bar / 2440 Piedmont Road NE / change of agent / APPROVED IN COMMITTEE

Harry's Pizzeria / 3500 Peachtree Road NE (Room No. 1096B) / new business / APPROVED IN COMMITTEE

Revelator Coffee Company / 3065 Peachtree Road NE, Suite #210 / change of ownership / APPROVED IN COMMITTEE

The Piedmont at Buckhead / 650 Phipps Boulevard NE / change of agent / APPROVED IN COMMITTEE

Twin Peaks / 3365 Piedmont Road NE, Suite #1050 / change of agent / APPROVED IN COMMITTEE

Zoe's Kitchen / 3655 Roswell Road, Suite #100 / change of agent / APPROVED IN COMMITTEE

Miracle Bar / 262 Buckhead Avenue / new business / APPROVED IN COMMITTEE

NPU-B action: A motion to adopt committee recommendations on the above-listed consent agenda passed by vote of 18-0-0.

B. DEVELOPMENT AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

No Report.

C. ZONING COMMITTEE

Bill Murray, Chair

V-17-255 2590 Rivers Road NW APPROVED WITH CONDITIONS
Applicant seeks a variance from the zoning regulations: (1) to reduce the required front yard setback from 60 feet to 40 feet, (2) to reduce the required half depth front yard setback from 30 feet to 25 feet, and (3) to reduce the required rear yard setback from 30 feet to 22 feet to add a 2nd story addition to a single-family dwelling.
**Conditioned on site plan

V-17-259 4580 Club Terrace NE APPROVED WITH CONDITIONS
Applicant seeks a variance from the zoning regulations to reduce the required front yard setback from 50 feet to 35 feet to construct a single-family dwelling.
**Conditioned on site plan

V-17-276 238 West Andrews Drive NW APPROVED WITH CONDITIONS
Applicant seeks a variance from the zoning regulations to reduce the required eastern side yard setback from 15 feet to 2 feet for a Porte Cochere addition as well as a special exception to allow a 5 feet gate/ fence in the required front yard whereas only a 4 feet fence is allowed.
** Conditioned on no living space above the Porte Cochere.

NPU-B action: A motion to approve the above-listed application passed by vote of 18-0-0.

8. OLD BUSINESS

Andrea asked if anyone had any comments regarding the bylaws. They need to be approved.

Bob asked if we wanted to consider extending the due date for dues, as most don't pay dues on time. The NPU decided that it was best to keep the deadline stated in the bylaws.

9. NEW BUSINESS

There is a City Program to recognize community leaders. Susan suggested that we nominate our local reporters. There was concurrence.

10. ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

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

Business rep elections will be on November 28, 2017 from 5:30pm to 7:00pm. You have to live and work in NPU B to vote and cannot be a residential representative.

11. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 p.m.