



NPU-B Monthly Full Board Meeting Minutes August 2022

Date: August 2, 2022

Time: 7:00 PM

Location: Zoom

The meeting was called to order at 7:07 PM by Nancy Bliwise, NPU-B Chairperson.

Present: 17* present; 6 proxies (*6 joined after the meeting was called to order)

Officers Present: Nancy Bliwise, Jefferson McConkey, Kim Shorter

Proxies: Sherri Tanner to Bryan Steed; Mandi Gibson and Kim Wachtel to Kim Shorter. Shawn Perez and Robert Patterson to Jefferson McConkey; Rebecca King to Abbie Shepherd

1. OPENING REMARKS / CHAIRPERSON'S COMMENTS

Dr. Bliwise welcomed everyone. No media present.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

NPU-B Action: A motion by Jefferson McConkey to approve the July 2022 minutes passed by a vote of 16-0-0.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

August agenda amended to remove V-22-90 from Zoning (deferral).

NPU-B Action: A motion by Jefferson McConkey to approve the amended July agenda passed by a vote of 16-0-0.

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

Atlanta Police Department (APD)

Major Ailen Mitchell, Zone 2 Commander, 404-323-1386, aamitchell@atlantaga.gov

Captain Ben Vayens, Assistant Zone 2 Commander, 404-323-6344, bvayens@atlantaga.gov

Captain Jason Smith, jksmith@atlantaga.gov

Maple Drive Precinct, 404-848-7231; Non-Emergency 911, 404-658-6666

Major Ailen Mitchell reported that it is National Night Out tonight, and it is a very busy night.



Year to date, Zone 2 is down 10% overall in crime. Only zone that is down in crime. Citywide crime is up 7% year to date. About 40% of crimes in Zone 2 are thefts from cars. The city is still promoting the Clean Car campaign, as leaving items visible in cars is driving crime. Vehicles stolen while the engine is running or with keys in the vehicle are the second most prevalent crimes. Complete stats are available online (<https://www.atlantapd.org/i-want-to/crime-data-downloads>).

Major Mitchell encouraged all residents and businesses to connect home security cameras to the city system at www.ConnectAtlanta.org. The network helps the city fight crime efficiently and effectively.

Officers are doing great work in the community in NPU-B and Zone 2. Social media highlights recent community outreach efforts.

Officers on bike patrols are patrolling from Buckhead Village to Lenox Mall and from Lenox to Lindbergh Morosgo area. Major Mitchell hopes to add additional officers to these patrols. Zone 2 has been promised 10% of the officers from the next few graduating classes.

Zone 2 is still working cooperatively with Fulton County Sheriff's Office and GA State Patrol. The recent meeting with Buckhead bars went well and they will fund additional security in the bar district.

Zone 2 will soon transition to the Fall policing plan. Efforts in the Fall focus on reminding residents not to leave their cars running while they are warming up as it is a prime target for theft.

Major Mitchell recommended people register and track specific cases on Court Watch (<https://fultoncountyga.gov/inside-fulton-county/fulton-county-departments/district-attorney/courtwatch>).

Applications for the Citizens Police Academy are being accepted. Major Mitchell would like to see representation from NPU-B. The Academy meets on Tuesday evenings from 6 – 9pm from September 6 to October 25. The application was distributed via email from Nancy Bliwise on August 2, 2022.

Atlanta Fire Rescue Department (AFRD)

Main 404-546-4400, Station 21 404-546-4421

Captain Rae Manion

Battalion Chief Ken Mitchell, Battalion 6

Captain Carter, Station 21

Chief Quincey Watts, Battalion 6 Chief reported that the number of fires in Buckhead are trending down. Chief Watts noted that the captain and promotion testing will conclude this weekend. The Battalion recently added 24 new firefighters.

Chief Watts reported that the new training center will be on Key Road in SE Atlanta. New apparatus is being added to service. Station 21 is the last station to be renovated and renovations are complete.

Last week, AFRD successfully rescued 6 people from the Chattahoochee River.

A board member asked how to obtain the list of needs from the local fire station. Chief Watts reported that the Fire Foundation has a list. Contact person is Shirley Ann Smith (404-538-7112, s.smith@atlfrf.org).

Mr. Jason Glasgow with AFRD was also in attendance.

Atlanta Office of the Solicitors

Judge Sylvia J Lee, 404-932-5566, sjlee@atlantaga.gov

Hala Carey, Senior Assistant Solicitor, 404-658-6003, hcarey@atlantaga.gov

150 Garnett Street, 3rd floor 30303

Traffic Diversion inquiries: ptit@atlantaga.gov

Hala Carey provided a written report as she was celebrating National Night Out. Nancy provided highlights from the report. The Office has completed four senior citizen public safety events and one is planned for Zone 2 on October 7th from 10am to 12:30 pm. The event will provide an overview of cyber telemarketing scams with tips to avoid, Zone 2 presentation of tips to avoid crimes, fire safety tips, AARP Driver Safety Course and 50+ Driver Safety concerns, and the commercial harassment ordinance.

There is a proposed new Young Adult driver safety event covering speeding/drag racing/aggressive driving, accident reconstruction, fire response to serious accidents including extractions from mangled vehicles. The even will present Do's and Don'ts for roadside traffic stops to avoid escalation and other topics.

Fulton County District Attorney

Gregory Ware, Community Resource Specialist, 470-637-1926, gregory.ware@fultoncountyga.gov

No report.

MARTA Police Department (MPD)

North Precinct 404-848-3902, itsmarta.com

Major Frederico Jackson, 404-427-6047

Major Jackson noted that there were 9 property crimes and 4 crimes against persons last month, which is an increase compared to last year. Most of these crimes were bike thefts and aggravated assaults. Reviewing the statistics, more incidents occur on Tuesdays and Thursdays, and the incidents were spread across different locations (train, bus, station). Major Jackson is adjusting staffing to try to reduce crime. He is participating in National Night Out tonight.

Department of Watershed Management (DWM)

404-982-1480, atlantawatershed.org

Louis Sheppard, 404-546-1181, cell 770-624-0793, lsheppard@atlantaga.gov

Mr. Sheppard reminded everyone to stay hydrated during the heat of the summer.

A board member asked about forever chemicals and whether the city was testing for them. Mr. Sheppard did not know the answer but noted that he would get back to Nancy. A board member noted that most of those chemicals were tested but that removal was difficult at this time.

A resident noted that he was really worried about the levels of COVID virus that was getting into streams from sanitary sewer overflows (SSOs) and combined sewer overflows (CSOs). The levels in streams indicate that wastewater is not being properly collected or treated. The resident asked to make a presentation at the appropriate time in the meeting.

Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR)

404-546-6813, atlantaGA.gov/iparcs

Erica Collins, Manager, eknox@atlantaga.gov

Peachtree Hills Recreation Center (PHRC), 308 Peachtree Hills Ave

No report.

Department of Public Works

Officer V. Ferguson, 678-221-8215, vferguson@atlantaga.gov

SWEET Officer J. Walker, 470-698-6976, jawwalker@atlantaga.gov

Pete Francis noted that the department of public works only picks up items that are “grab and go.” Larger items are considered a bulk pickup and homeowners must schedule these bulky pickups separately. Currently, it is a 3 to 4 weeks wait from the date the bulk pickup is scheduled. If a pickup is missed, report this to 311 so that the city can get the missed pickup.

Atlanta Department of Transportation

No report.

Code Enforcement Section, APD Community Services Division

CodesRequests@AtlantaGA.gov, Report issues: 404-546-3800

Officer Willie Grayer, wgrayer@atlantaga.gov, 404-387-4688

Supervisor Kanzada Wimberly, 404-546-3868 or 404-416-5781

3200 Lenox – Mr. Grayer is continuing to escalate this case and is working with Captain Baxter to apply additional pressure and get the issues resolved.

2761 Alpine Road – A case was created. The street was blocked off due to construction today. Mr. Grayer will attempt to visit the site tomorrow. A board member noted that this site can also be accessed from Piedmont as the site sits on the corner.

127 West Paces Ferry – A board member asked about the status of this address. Mr. Grayer will check to see if a citation was issued and the status of serving that complaint.

Residents of 3200 Lenox Road thanked Mr. Grayer for his efforts.

ATL311

Barbara Dougherty, Community Affairs Coordinator, 470-698-5171, bdougherty@atlantaga.gov
Johnny Wilson, Supportive Services Coordinator

Ms. Wilson reminded everyone that PAD is available for non-emergency quality of life concerns. Call 3-1-1 and press 1 to make a PAD referral. This includes quality of life issues. Report potholes, water main breaks, traffic light maintenance and more by calling 3-1-1. Ms. Wilson noted the Pothole Posse is active with a goal of 30 per day – report all potholes to ensure everything is repaired.

A resident on the call noted that Peachtree Road has issues with manhole covers that have not been raised after the street is paved. This is not a “pothole” but is an issue on Peachtree Road between Piedmont Road and I-285. There was a question as to whether this was a GDOT or city responsibility.

Buckhead Coalition / Livable Buckhead / Buckhead Community Improvement District (CID)

Jim Durrett, Buckhead Coalition President, thebuckheadcoalition.com/
Denise Starling, Livable Buckhead Executive Director, livablebuckhead.org
Tony Peters, BCID Director of Capital Projects and Programs, buckheadcid.com

No Report.

5. COMMENTS FROM ELECTED OFFICIALS

District 6, Alex Wan; District 7, Howard Shook; District 8, Mary Norwood.
Jordan Kemp, Legislation Liaison & Community Engagement Manager for City Council President
Doug Shipman, 470-650-8970, jkemp@atlantaga.gov

No Report.

6. COMMITTEE REPORTS

APAB Report was distributed by email on Tuesday, 8/2 at 3:44 PM by Richard Rauh.

A. PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

Bryan Steed, Chair; Sherri Tanner, Vice Chair.

Savi Provisions (Specialty Food Store) / 316 Pharr Road / Approved
Savi Provisions (Restaurant) / 316 Pharr Road / approved
Change of ownership. The committee voted 12-0-0 to approve.

Element Buckhead (Restaurant) / 3491 Piedmont Road / Approved
Element Buckhead (Patio) / 3491 Piedmont Road / Approved
Change of agent. The committee voted 8-0-0 to approve.



Nobu (Hotel and Café) / 3520 Peachtree Road / Approved
New business. The committee voted 12-0-0 to approve.

NPU-B action: A motion by Jefferson McConkey to approve the consent agenda passed by a vote of 20-0-0.

B. DEVELOPMENT, TRANSPORTATION and SPECIAL PROJECTS COMMITTEE

Jason Kendall, Chair; Abbie Shepherd, Vice Chair.

The D&T committee reviewed [22-R-3414](#), NPU Best Practices Draft #1. The draft is available to review online: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1h_mem6_f81weYXw2hUnStbi70EOW8l0y/view. The D&T committee did not have any recommendations. Nancy commented that she was pleased that the document included “representative NPUs” and that the emphasis on best practices for engagement and communications, which has been a focus of NPU B.

Chastain Park Fall Arts Festival / Chastain Park / November 5-6, 2022 / Support
Special event (NPU-A).

*This event is in NPU A and therefore for NPU B comment only. A board member noted that a parking deck would make the event more enjoyable for attendees. There were no significant concerns from the board.

C. ZONING COMMITTEE

Bill Murray, Chair; Kim Shorter, Vice Chair.

V-22-090 / 3243 Andrews Court / Deferred

Applicant seeks a variance to reduce the rear-yard setback from 20ft to 3.49ft for the construction of a gazebo.

7. PLANNER’S REPORT

Jessica Lavandier, Assistant Director, 404-865-8522, jlavandier@atlantaga.gov

Nate Hoelzel, Project Manager, nhoelzel@atlantaga.gov

July NPU University events include Bylaws Clinic on August 11th from 6pm – 8pm and Election Integrity Clinic on August 31 from 6pm – 8pm. To register or learn more, visit <https://www.npuatlanta.org/npuuniversity>.

Permitting in the Park – Jessica reported that the Planning Department was hosting opportunities for residents to get help completing permit applications at different parks on different days.

<https://www.atlantaga.gov/government/departments/city-planning/about-dcp/office-of-buildings>

To offer feedback and ideas on how to improve services for Atlanta residents, email elizabeth Johnson, Business and Service Improvement Manager, at eajohnson@atlantaga.gov

NPU Best Practices Draft #1. The draft is available to review online:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1h_mem6_f81weYXw2hUnStbi70EOW8l0y/view. Feedback is due by August 12th. npuatlanta@atlantaga.gov

Office of Housing has started an affordable housing online tracker. As part of the faith-based Development Initiative, the city is hosting a meeting on August 25th at St Luke's. The meeting will present details for faith-based organizations interested in providing affordable housing. <https://www.atlantaga.gov/government/departments/city-planning/housing/affordable-housing-tracker>

8. MATTERS FOR VOTING

None.

9. PRESENTATIONS

Bob Schreiber shared some concerns that he had regarding Tanyard Creek and the Nancy Creek Sewer Tunnel. There are documented problems with both the combined sewers and the separated sewers. Nancy asked whether Bob was part of an official advocacy organization. Bob responded that he had been with several different groups over the years but now was working with a loose organization of people concerned about water quality.

10. OLD BUSINESS

None.

11. NEW BUSINESS

Dr. Bliwise noted that there was a request to add a permanent role for the Buckhead Condo Alliance. A board member commented that multi-family is expected to increase as a percentage of the population and these residents need to have a voice. One member was concerned about the number of members that may get added. One board member noted that there is a process for becoming a recognized neighborhood within the City that was followed recently by Lindbergh Morosgo and that the Buckhead Condo Alliance could follow that process.

Nancy reported that the only vertical subdivision in NPU-B is Buckhead Heights and that getting representatives to participate in meetings has been difficult. She added that some neighborhoods don't allow for multi-family members participate in their civic association. A board member noted that we need to make sure that they don't participate both as a residential and a commercial representative. A board member noted that the way zoning matters are addressed, the condo owners may not be brought into the process at the beginning if they are not a geographic neighborhood. A board member noted that Livable Buckhead had previously requested a permanent seat on the NPU B board, and this request was denied as they weren't a neighborhood – but they were advised to apply to be a business representative. It would make sense for the Buckhead Condo Alliance to follow the same process. A public comment noted that this is an important issue across all NPUs and not just in NPU B. John Bailey noted that the process to become a vertical neighborhood was complicated but that the effort was worthwhile. A public comment noted that it is important to plan for the future as well as address issues at the moment. There is consensus that the vertical neighborhood voice is important but that there are many considerations in determining the best method to integrate this voice. Nancy asked D&T to



research this issue and make recommendations to the NPU B board at the next meeting. Bylaws changes must be voted upon in September, so this is a time sensitive issue.

12. ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next NPU-B meeting is September 6, 2022 at 7 PM via Zoom.

The next BZA meeting is August 11, 2022 at 12 PM in person.

The next ZRB meetings are August 4 and August 11, 2022 at 6 PM in person.

13. ADJOURNMENT

NPU-B action: A motion by Kevin Glass to adjourn passed by a vote of 23-0-0.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:23 PM.