



## **NPU-B Monthly Full Board Meeting Minutes May 2024**

**Date:** May 7, 2024

**Time:** 7:00 PM

**Location:** Zoom

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 PM by Rebecca King, NPU-B Chairperson.

**Present:** 13 present; 5 proxies (\*additional board members joined after meeting called to order)

**Officers Present:** Rebecca King, Bill Murray, Kim Shorter

**Proxies:** Mandi Gibson to Kim Shorter, Keith Biggs to Bill Murray, Robert Patterson to Bill Murray, Brian Steed to Sherri Tanner

### **1. OPENING REMARKS / CHAIRPERSON'S COMMENTS**

Ms. King welcomed everyone. No media present.

### **2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**NPU-B Action: A motion by Kim Shorter to approve the June 2023 minutes passed by a vote of 20-0-1.**

### **3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**NPU-B Action: A motion by Kim Shorter to approve the amended July 2023 agenda passed by a vote of 21-0-0.**

### **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](mailto:aamitchell@atlantaga.gov)

Captain Ben Vayens, Zone 2 Assistant Commander, 404-323-6344, [bvayens@atlantaga.gov](mailto:bvayens@atlantaga.gov)

Lieutenant Walls, Bike Patrol, 404-823-3771, [kwalls@atlantaga.gov](mailto:kwalls@atlantaga.gov)

Lieutenant Allison Leduc, [arleduc@atlantaga.gov](mailto:arleduc@atlantaga.gov)

Maple Drive Precinct, 404-848-7231

Buckhead Village Precinct, 404-546-5486

Lenox Mall Precinct, 404-467-8061

Non-Emergency 911, 404-658-6666

Captain Dearlove with Zone 2 Precinct. Continuing with reduction in violent crime of 35% for the year. Property crimes showing a 12% reduction, the most prevalent crime remains theft from auto. Preventative actions include the clean car campaign, especially from our visitors. Burglaries and issues on vacant properties remain a problem but arrests have been made. Theft from auto during the daytime are often the result of landscape companies leaving equipment unprotected while they are working on the property.

What is the procedure with the law against squatting? The marshalls office will be the POC for squatters issues. If it is a criminal trespass, then it will be addressed by APD.

A board member asked what to do with non emergency issues. 311 from 7am to 7pm is the correct number to call.

There was a question about illegal tree cutting on the weekend and evenings and what residents should do if there is illegal tree cutting in action. Captain Dearlove will check into the proper protocols.

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

Claudie Nash 404-546-7000, 404-392-0040 cell, [cnash@atlantaga.gov](mailto:cnash@atlantaga.gov)

No report.

Atlanta Office of the Solicitors

Judge Sylvia J Lee, 404-932-5566, [sjlee@atlantaga.gov](mailto:sjlee@atlantaga.gov)

Hala Carey, Senior Assistant Solicitor, 404-658-6003, [hcarey@atlantaga.gov](mailto:hcarey@atlantaga.gov)

150 Garnett Street, 3rd floor 30303

Traffic Diversion inquiries: [ptit@atlantaga.gov](mailto:ptit@atlantaga.gov)

Ms. Carey confirmed that the arborist is the proper responder to illegal tree cutting. Ms. Carey shared the concern about illegal weekend cutting at a recent event. Safe and secure housing folks are moving cases forward. Hala is moving forward the DUI cases.

Outreach and engagement continues with participation at the Mayors Summit for Neighborhoods. The breakout sessions were well attended. Working on confirmign the Senior Citizen Public Safety event – probably 1 hour exclusively on cyber security. Brown bag lunch. Confirming availability of St. Phillips Cathedral for that event.

PTIT for traffic citation is an option. Please email [ptit@atlantaga.gov](mailto:ptit@atlantaga.gov) and include your name and citation information.

There was a question about the Colter Styrofoam and the process of the citation. Ms. Carey did not have an answer but noted that she would determine the status. If information on cases is requested ahead of the meeting, then she can prepare answers for meetings.



There are continued illegal tree cutting information and it appears that the rules and regulations are not being followed properly.

Fulton County District Attorney

No report.

MARTA Police Department (MPD)

North Precinct 404-848-3902, [itsmarta.com](http://itsmarta.com)  
Major Britt, 404-427-6047, [cbritt@itsmarta.com](mailto:cbritt@itsmarta.com)

No report.

Department of Watershed Management (DWM)

404-982-1480, [atlantawatershed.org](http://atlantawatershed.org)  
Louis Sheppard, 404-546-1181, cell 770-624-0793, [lsheppard@atlantaga.gov](mailto:lsheppard@atlantaga.gov)

Evan Bennett shared a few talking points. Crews are working on Club Drive and Vermont Road NE to address drainage issues. This project should be completed by the end of May.

Contractors are performing Closed Circuit TV work to review and assess the stormwater infrastructure to ensure pipes are functioning correctly. The CCTV may lead to cleaning or repairs.

The Bellwood Quarry is now a drinking water reservoir and recreating in the quarry is illegal. In addition, there are high powered pumps that could cause personal injury.

There is an adopt-a-drain program that residents can volunteer to periodically clear stormdrains. Participants receive materials and a yard sign.

There was a question as to whether the Bellwood Quarry is fenced off for use. There is a fence that separates the public from the quarry.

There was a comment that the ongoing project on Club Drive has been ongoing for 2 years but it will be a great improvement and the staff responsible for communications has done a great job.

Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR)

O'Kelvis Hambrick, Interim Facilities Manager, 678-815-3653, [okhambrick@atlantaga.gov](mailto:okhambrick@atlantaga.gov)  
Peachtree Hills Recreation Center (PHRC), 404-237-2756, 308 Peachtree Hills Ave

No report.

Department of Public Works

Officer V. Ferguson, 678-221-8215, [vferguson@atlantaga.gov](mailto:vferguson@atlantaga.gov)  
SWEET Officer Ebony Jefferson, 470-304-6757, [edjefferson@atlantaga.gov](mailto:edjefferson@atlantaga.gov)



Officer Pete Francis, 404-938-1183, [pfrancis@atlantaga.gov](mailto:pfrancis@atlantaga.gov)

Officer Francis reminded people to put only recycling within their bins to keep recycled materials high quality.

There was a question about whether glass was actually getting recycled even though it is allowed. Officer Francis is going to check.

There was a question about whether plastic bags can be in the recycling bin. No plastic bags are allowed to be put in the recycling bin.

Code Enforcement Section, APD Community Services Division  
[CodesRequests@AtlantaGA.gov](mailto:CodesRequests@AtlantaGA.gov), Report issues: 404-546-3800  
Officer Joseph Young, [jeyoung@atlantaga.gov](mailto:jeyoung@atlantaga.gov), 470-694-1236  
Supervisor Kanzada Wimberly, 404-546-3868 or 404-416-5781

**Officer Y. Fader**

**ATLANTA POLICE DEPARTMENT | CODE ENFORCEMENT SECTION**

**818 Pollard Blvd**

**Atlanta GA 30315**

**Office: 404-456-3815 Cell: 470-643-4339**

**Email: [YFader@atlantaga.gov](mailto:YFader@atlantaga.gov)**

**Office Hours: Monday-Friday 8 AM - 5 PM**

Officer Fader provided updates on a few cases.

2510 Rivers Road NW – owner has been identified. Court date is July 15<sup>th</sup>. The building has been placarded as it is highly hazardous.

711 Greenview Avenue NE – the owners live outside of Fulton County and a sworn officer will have to submit the citation.

29 Park Circle NE – highly hazardous and has been placard. This is being processed.

Including a picture with the complaint request is helpful for the officers. Officer Fader noted that she is out of the office and calling or texting her may be more efficient than leaving a voicemail.

ATL311

Barbara Dougherty, Community Affairs Coordinator, 470-698-5171, [bdougherty@atlantaga.gov](mailto:bdougherty@atlantaga.gov)  
Johnny Wilson, Supportive Services Coordinator

Ms. Murillo provided a description of non-emergency 311 calls. This could include reporting an abandoned vehicle or theft from vehicles.

Ms. Murillo reminds everyone to call 3-1-1 for everything from potholes to traffic lights to missed trash pick-up to code violations to mental health issues. Dial 3-1-1 inside city limits or call 404-546-0311, visit and chat at [atl311.com](http://atl311.com) or email [atl311@atlantaga.gov](mailto:atl311@atlantaga.gov). Sign up for City of Atlanta emergency alerts by texting NOTIFYATL to 888777.



There was a question about what number prompt to pick for non-emergencies. The response was to pick prompt 2 to talk to an agent.

There was a question about why a work order was closed and why it was coming from IT. The City should send the email with a better City of Atlanta reference versus IT services.

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

Jim Durrett, Buckhead Coalition President, [thebuckheadcoalition.com/](http://thebuckheadcoalition.com/)

Denise Starling, Livable Buckhead Executive Director, [livablebuckhead.org](http://livablebuckhead.org)

Tony Peters, BCID Director of Capital Projects and Programs, [buckheadcid.com](http://buckheadcid.com)

Livable Buckhead had a 5k this weekend and despite the rain, there was a great turnout for the event. May 18<sup>th</sup> there is a Gallery Stroll. June 15<sup>th</sup> Secret Gardens on Path 400. Yappy Hours at the Intercontinental and Hyatt Centric. Path 400 has secured the steel needed to continue the bridge in the Mountain Way Commons area. Mountain Drive will be closed from Monday until when school starts. The hours of construction will be extended in the summer hours to regain schedule. Buckhead Walks is ongoing throughout May with challenges to get everyone out and walking.

SPI 9 saw two small projects. The Seasons 52 is being redone and redoing the outdoor dining. The Disco starbucks had some minor changes.

The CID is working on several upcoming construction projects. Piedmont Road from Peachtree to Lenox Road widening is underway with utility work in progress with intermittent lane closures. There will be lane closures for the roadwork that follows.

<https://livablebuckhead.com/switchyourtrip/> will keep everyone informed of the closures.

There was a question about Adina and Lindburgh and finishing the connection. They are working on the agreement with city of Atlanta on the funding for that section. The schedule is unknown at the moment.

Office of Ombudsmen

Amber Ware

Neighborhood Relations Manager in the Office of the Ombudsman of Neighborhoods, Jodi Merri day(jlmerriday@atlantaga.gov 470-316-

2382). Please be in touch if we can assist. We can surface concerns to Departments, help you find information, mediate discord, and explore options to resolve outstanding constituent and neighborhood issues.

Amber Ware

(470) 834-6453

amberware@atlantaga.gov

## 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](mailto:jkemp@atlantaga.gov)  
 Jodi Merriday, Community Engagement Program Director for the Executive Office/Ombudsman  
 of Neighborhoods, 470-316-2382, [jmerriday@atlantaga.gov](mailto:jmerriday@atlantaga.gov)  
 Kennedie McClung, Chief of Staff for State Representative Stacey Evans, District 57,  
[kennedie@staceyevans.com](mailto:kennedie@staceyevans.com)

## 6. COMMITTEE REPORTS

APAB Report was distributed by email on Tuesday, 6/6 at 11:05 AM by Richard Rauh.

Presentation at Historic Buckhead neighborhood  
 Park presentations and meetings are ongoing. Nancy Bliwise noted that for Indian Creek Park  
 there is an effort to represent the anticipated users. There is a survey that will go out next week  
 to guide future planning efforts.  
 There are several parks with plans that are moving forward to develop their list of requests.

Spreadsheet – Cultural Assets. Add your information. The Buckhead Guidebook is a good  
 starting point.

Nancy and Rebecca will be working to update the website.

### A. PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

Bryan Steed, Chair; Denise Starling, Vice Chair

Hotel Coley (Rooftop Bar) / 3377 Peachtree Road NE / Approved  
 Change of Ownership. The committee voted 8-0-0 to approve.

Hotel Coley (Restaurant) / 3377 Peachtree Road NE / Approved  
 Change of Ownership. The committee voted 8-0-0 to approve.

Hotel Coley (Lobby Bar) / 3377 Peachtree Road NE / Approved  
 Change of Ownership. The committee voted 8-0-0 to approve.

The Dive Bar (Nightclub) / 3184 Roswell Road NW / Approved  
 Change of Ownership. The committee voted 8-0-0 to approve.

Buckhead Saloon (Restaurant) / 34A Irby Avenue NW / Approved  
 Change of Ownership. The committee voted 8-0-0 to approve.

Buckhead Saloon (Nightclub) / 34A Irby Avenue NW / Approved  
 Change of Ownership. The committee voted 8-0-0 to approve.

Grits and Eggs Breakfast Kitchen (Restaurant) / 2625 Piedmont Road NE / Approved



New App/Old Location. The committee voted 8-0-0 to approve.

**NPU-B action: A motion by Bill Murray to approve the consent agenda passed by a vote of 22-0-0.**

**B. DEVELOPMENT, TRANSPORTATION and SPECIAL PROJECTS COMMITTEE**

Jason Kendall, Chair; Abbie Shepherd, Vice Chair

No report.

**C. ZONING COMMITTEE**

Kim Shorter, Chair; Vacant, Vice Chair

V-24-045 / 2397 Hurst Drive / Approved 8-0-0 with Conditions

Variance to the half-depth front yard setback from 17.5 feet to a maximum of 2 feet 5 inches applies to the corners of the patio and deck on the eastern side of the setback.

Special exceptions to the retaining walls include:

- Front Yard: Increase the height from 3 feet to a maximum of 5 feet (Section 16-28.008 (5)(1)).
- Half-Depth Front Yard: Increase the number of retaining walls from 2 to 4 and to increase the height from 3 feet to a maximum of 8 feet 10 1/2 inches (Section 16-28.008 (5)(1))
- Rear Yard: Increase the height of a retaining wall from 6 feet to a maximum of 8 feet 10 1/2 inches.

**NPU-B action: A motion by Bill Murray to approve the V-24-045 with conditions passed by a vote of 22-0-0.**

V-23-85 / 2535 Chantilly Drive / Comment only (NPU-F)

Applicant seeks a variance to increase the sign height from 35 feet to 45 feet.

**7. PLANNER'S REPORT**

Jessica Lavandier, Assistant Director, 404-865-8522, [jlavandier@atlantaga.gov](mailto:jlavandier@atlantaga.gov)

Nate Hoelzel, Project Manager, [nhoelzel@atlantaga.gov](mailto:nhoelzel@atlantaga.gov)

Troy Smith, Zoning Enforcement, [trosmith@atlantaga.gov](mailto:trosmith@atlantaga.gov)

Mr. Vats noted that Love the Neighbor phase is ongoing. Partnering to co-host a bike ride on May 17 to celebrate.

Zoning 2.0 meeting will be May 20<sup>th</sup>.

Plan A is continuing to be updated from mid-May to mid-June and will continue throughout the year.

He provided information on upcoming training opportunities and several upcoming meetings.

V-24-20 – 370 Ivy Knoll NE – The BZA denied the application on April 4th.

## 8. MATTERS FOR VOTING

None.

## 9. PRESENTATIONS

Brian S with the Marta Army Organization. Nonprofit 501c3 that is dedicated to lifting the transit experience throughout the community. They are not a part of MARTA. They are present to solicit advice and suggestions for projects in our community. [www.martaarmy.org](http://www.martaarmy.org), [Contact@martaarmy.org](mailto:Contact@martaarmy.org) or 404-393-0966. They have done several train station cleanups.

MARTA app where you track the next bus or train. The train app is very accurate but the bus is not accurate. No wayfinding on the beltline to help a pedestrian find a bus or train station.

Steven Aceto with Office of Design – Described the process of the Plan A update including the public outreach efforts.

There was a comment that they seemed pressed to have an opinion at the meeting.

There was a comment that it was hard to see how meaningful output would be gained based on the nature of the meeting. There was a hope that the process will include sufficient time on the tail end for comment.

## 10. OLD BUSINESS

None.

## 11. NEW BUSINESS

None.

## 12. ANNOUNCEMENTS

## 13. ADJOURNMENT

**NPU-B action: A motion by Bill Murray to adjourn passed by a vote of 15-0-0.**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:07 PM.