

**WHEN: Monday, March 17, 2008**

**TIME: 7:00 P.M.**

**WHERE: Hillside Facility  
1301 Monroe Dr, N.E.**

**SPONSORS: NPU-F and the Bureau of Planning**

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Dianne Olansky, Chairperson (404) 885-9846

Liz Coyle, Vice Chairperson (404) 685-9958

Secretary, Jenifer Keenan (404) 875-3536

Charletta Wilson Jacks, Assistant Director (404) 330-6145

Wendy Scruggs-Murray NPU/Citizen Participation Coordinator (404) 330-6899

Doug Young, Planner (404) 330-6702

## **AGENDA**

### **1. Welcome and introduction of guests**

### **2. Announcements**

**Ethics Workshop** – learn about your ethical responsibilities as a city board member or NPU officer. Thursday May 1, 2008 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.; Saturday Oct 4 2008, 9am – 11am. Old city Council Chambers, City Hall Tower, 698 Mitchell Street, SW, Third Floor. To register call the Ethics Office at 404.330.6286 or write [ethicsofficer@atlanta.gov](mailto:ethicsofficer@atlanta.gov)

**April 22<sup>nd</sup> is Earth Day** and there are events in celebration throughout the City. Details are available on [www.KeepAtlantaBeautiful.org](http://www.KeepAtlantaBeautiful.org)

**Congress John Lewis of 5<sup>th</sup> District is leading a Congressional Foreclosure Forum** on April 26 from 11:30 am – 2:30 pm at the Dunbar Recreational Center (GYM), 477 Windsor Street SW, Atlanta, GA 30312.

**Senior Citizen Services will hold a volunteer day on May 3 to assist seniors with homes in need of improvement and maintenance. To volunteer, contact Steven Hargrove at 404 351 3889 or [shargrove@scsatl.org](mailto:shargrove@scsatl.org).**

### **3. Reports by City Representatives (Fire, Police, Council Members, etc.**

- **Community Prosecutor Zone 6 - Warren Atkinson**

Diane O'Lansky received recognition for attending Court Watch with a certificate.

Court appearance in the coming weeks include: Corey Williams who committed a shooting in L5P will go to trial on April 28<sup>th</sup> at 9am Judge Bedford. Citizens are encouraged to attend. A Mr. Busby ,who conducted multiple robberies on Monroe, will appear in Judge Russell's court room on April 25. A Mr. Sperling was caught stealing an automobile and, on separate occasion, breaking into a car. Mr. Sperling will appear 8:30am in court at the Fulton County Jail. Mr. Atkinson noted that citizens CAN come to jail if interested in following up on specific criminals and their case. While calendars can change, we are encouraged to show the judges we are interested in following up.

Inspector A.E. Dorsey emphasized importance of auto safety. We were encouraged not to leave anything in cars and keep them locked. Items which are visible encourage theifs to break and enter.

- **Fire Department – Station 19 (North Highland)**

No report.

- **APD Zone 6 – Major Propes, Sgt. Gorley**

Reports that Atlanta Vice has been giving increased attention to the Cheshire, Piedmont and Lindberg areas. The “blue jean bandits” have hit again, this time at Mittzi and Marano’s at 2:30am by breaking the glass front. Major suggested to consider how your alarm is set: to call the police or you own phone? The police responded in approximately one minute after the alarm call though it went to the building owner rather than police. In other reports, six incidents of entering autos with arrests occurred in the last month. All of those arrested had multiple prior arrests which led underscores the importance of our Court Watch program.

Court Watch provides the guidelines for citizen’s to be visible to our judicial system and let them know how the public feels about repeat offenders being in jail or free. A citizen inquired if there were video tapes on the Court Watch program. Mr. Atkins indicated there are videos and documentation on the program which can be shared.

Major Propes indicated there were several false alarms for bomb squads in recent days. None were true bomb incidents.

Diane asked the police to monitor the streams in Lenox Park where it is evident that some individuals are defecating in the area.

- **Dept of Parks – Ken Gillette, Director.**

Jazz festival is being planned now but under modifications due to the drought. This years emphasis is on local, smaller venues. Events include an all-day Youth Jazz competition Spelman on April 26 and a concert by Santana in the evening at Chastain Park. For more information see [www.atlantafestivals.com](http://www.atlantafestivals.com). Young adults, seniors and others with day time availability are encouraged to consider lifeguard opportunities at the Camp Best Friends 404 817 6765 and Lifeguard Samantha Terry 404 817 7904. Check [www.atlantaga.gov](http://www.atlantaga.gov) or call 404 853 7586. There will be Camp Best Friends for Seniors – no fees for seniors.

- **Bureau of Housing and Code Compliance – Harold Jackson**

No report

- **Bureau of Public Works, Solid Waste Services – John. Busby**

Liz Coyle pointed out her new pick up day is going very well. Charlie Nalbome on East Pelham indicated his service was intermittent and that not all items (trash, recycling and yard wastes) were not being picked up. Mr. Busby indicated there had been changes in the program and some disruptions, however, he is now directing collection of all three types of rubbish and will personally oversee it’s successful implementation.

- **Dept of Watershed Management – Diane Badger**

Road work is going on throughout our area on Cheshire, Lindberg, Piedmont, Beech Valley and others. Diane asked that the ‘road work’ signs not be located on the sidewalks. A resident noted the phone number published on the road signs has a mail box which has been full for several weeks, so it is not possible to leave messages. There was concern over gravel and trash that was left by the crew in Morningside.

A resident asked why Monroe is being torn up and repaved. The answer is that Atlanta Gas & Light had a project which came around just as the water/sewer in the area was concluded. Ms. Badger indicated at that point in time there was no coordination point on this type of topics, but that there is such a process now.

- **Atlanta City Council – Anne Fauver, District 6**

Anne reviewed the press conference conducted earlier in the day on the City Budget. She indicated that the presentation was incorrect that Council has the responsibility for reviewing these budget changes. The example she raised is where personnel cuts determined on May 2, will be presented to Council after the fact on May 5. Anne

indicated Mayor Franklin's position was not popular among Council members and was not considered to accurate. To provide balanced coverage, Anne will provide a Town Hall meeting on this topic May 5th or 6<sup>th</sup>. She indicated the podium will be shared with at-large representatives if they are present. Liz Coyle requested confirmation that the Mayor's administration is responsible for hiring and firing of the Chief Financial Officer. Comments were made by Ann and Liz that it appears the CFO has done some important things and is not responsible for our current circumstances. Per Anne, Howard Shook's legislation that 10 council members must be in support for a tax increase. Anne indicates she does not think a tax increase is likely at this time based on her perception of Council member positions known to her at this time. Suggestions for improving the situation are to email Howard Shook and members of the Finance Committee. Winnie suggested NPU make an Open Records Request to review all the books. Anne suggested Winne and anyone else contact her with specific question and she will find available details via the CFO. Cash accounting was the old method, we are now on accrual basis

- **H. Lamar Willis (assistant Will Sellars)**

Suggested if you know of individuals in public works or and city department that are doing good work, to please inform your council so they can be recognized during this important time.

Liz Coyle asked for feedback on the ethical concerns in Lamar Willis. Mr. Sellars indicated they believe in accountability, but a statement had not yet been released but that he would call Liz on the following day with indication of a time frame. Diane asked that Mr. Willis appear in person next month to respond to ethics questions on his involvement in a foundation.

- **Cesar Mitchell (Wayne Martin)**

Daytime curfew legislation was introduced where they must not be on the streets without adults during school hours. Liz noted this is an issue of enforcement as there are existing truancy laws. Mr Martin indicated the legislation is intended to give incentives to our enforcement officers and increase awareness of the topic.

The Clean Green Team is available for assisting in neighborhood clean up. Call 404 330 6052.

Councilman Mitchell indicated we have a budget shortfall projected of \$70 million. He does not think we will be able to roll back the millage rate leaving options of reducing city payrolls and/or increasing taxes. Another point is the proposal for a 15% sur charge for water. Liz requested a specific answer on what \$ is required for Atlanta remain in compliance and the options for reaching that amount. Diane repeated the point made throughout the evening that there is a lack of visibility and no means for accountability. Liz proposed the Council support zero-based budgeting in the City. Mr. Mitchell indicated that in recent years Council has given up it's position of financial oversight and now this oversight needs to come back. Legislature was introduced today.

- **Mary Norwood (assistant Georgia Robert)**

No report

- Fulton County Commission – Nancy Boxill, District 6

No report

#### 4. **Planner's Report**

No report

## 5. Committee Reports

- **Lindridge-Martin Manor Neighborhood Association** – Jane Rawlings, President; Richard Sussman, Representative; Marty Reynolds, Representative

No report

- **Morningside-Lenox Park Association** – Kevin Lyman, President; Charlie Nalbone, Neighborhood Representative

Annual meeting for MLPA for April 22, 2008

- **Piedmont Heights Civic Association** – Baron Jordan, President; Jean Johnson and Marty Kleinman, Representatives

No report

- **Virginia-Highland Business Association (VHBA)** –Mike Zimmerman, President; Lynn DeWitt and David Burleson, Representatives

No report

- **Virginia-Highland Civic Association (VHCA)** –Pamela Papner, President; Rob Glancy, Representative

No report

- **Traffic and Transportation Committee** – Jane Rawlings

May 13<sup>th</sup> 6:30pm meeting is scheduled to review the open records request on the GDOT proposal for changes to the GA 400/I-85 exchanges along Piedmont.

- Public Safety Committee – John Wolfinger

No report

- Parks and Recreation Committee – Rob Glancy

No report

- Trees Committee – Charlotte Gillis

Charlotte reported the demolition process is not coordinating with Arborist as evidenced by a stop work order administered in Morningside due to tree destruction. Piedmont Park master planning is now available – check the website and see Charlotte or Jack with comments on the plan. Charlotte passed out information from the National Park Service. In consideration of Earth Day, Charlotte challenged us all to do *something* different this year to make a difference this year, starting tomorrow.

- Environment Committee – Jack White  
No report

- APAB - Cary Aiken; Gerry Neumark (alternate)

Cary reported that at the last meeting Lisa Borders was scheduled to attend, but did not appear. Ceasar Mitchell was present and appreciated. Cary encouraged residents to seek out the recordings of the meeting on public access channels. NPU-F was recognized as the most engaged NPU in the City. April 29<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm a regional transportation meeting will occur. It was confirmed by Cary that it appeared the regional planning and city planning (Connect Atlanta) are working together to leverage the concurrent planning activities. June 6 will be the APAB awards, nominations are open to mid May.

- NE Beltline Study Group Rep. - Baron Jordan/ Liz Coyle.

Second of EVERY month are the planning meetings. The next one is Thursday May 8<sup>th</sup>, meetings are now monthly, 6:30-8:30pm here at Hillside.

**6. Old Business**

Eric Cline from Loca Luna was present to recognize concerns from the community regarding changes in the business operations. The topics included reports of a man accosting women in the parking lot. The other topics included noise and live entertainment. Residents were surprised with live entertainment since Mr. Cline indicated this was not a part of the business plan when he initially visited NPU F for licensing. Regarding noise, he has hired Georgia Tech to assist and worked with the development owners for increased security.

**7. New Business**

**8. License Review Board**

Applicant	Type of Business	Name of Business	Location Address	Request
Hakim Hilliard	Convenience Store	Phillips 66 d.b.a Intown Food Mart, LLC	2319 Cheshire Bridge Rd.	Change of Ownership
Jeffery Lim	Restaurant	TOP SPICE	1529 Piedmont Ave.	Change of Ownership

**2319 Cheshire Bridge - change in ownership. This was unanimously agreed to support. This is consistent with the neighborhood vote**

**1529 Piedmont Avenue - change in ownership. This was unanimously agreed to support. This is consistent with the neighborhood vote**

**9. Zoning Matters**

The correct version is:

**Board of Zoning Adjustment June 6, 2008 1:00 P.M.**  
**V-08-048 841 North Highland Avenue - Appeal – for information**

Applicant, Cloteen Bigger Jasmin, seeks to appeal the City of Atlanta Administrative Officer decision of Issuance of land disturbance permit #BB200800512 based upon material mistake of fact

**Board of Zoning Adjustment**                      **May 16, 2008**                      **1:00 P.M.**

**V-08-63**                      **630 Elmwood Drive**

Applicants Sean and Paige Cucchi, seek a variance from the zoning ordinance to reduce the side yard setback from the required 7' to 3.' For an addition to an existing single-family residence and a variance for a front yard setback reduction from 35' to 29' for the construction of a two story addition to an existing single-family residence.

Virginia Highlands voted to approve. NPU-F motion to approve subject to plans dated March 6 was approved unanimously.

#### V-08-073 -- 1957 Lenox Road

Applicant, Joel Ingraham, seeks a variance from the zoning ordinance to reduce the half-depth front yard from 25' (required) to 18' to allow for the construction of an addition to an existing single-family residence.

MLPA Board approved unanimously, MLPA Zoning approved 10-1. Letters of support were provided. NPU-F motion to approve was approved unanimously based on [the site plan dated March 19, 2008](#)

#### **Ordinance 08-O-0556**                      **Text Amendment** *(requires NPU vote)*

An ordinance by Councilmember Anne Fauver to reinstate the boundaries of the Morningside/Lenox Park Neighborhood in NPU F which was changed in the update of the City of Atlanta 2007 Official Neighborhood Boundary Map pursuant to the authority granted by ordinance 07-O-0935; and for other purposes.

Discussion was held on the "subdivision by lot of record" where a applicant to subdivide that was voted for denial by NPU-F and BZA but overturned by Superior Court. Charlie will investigate and report back next month.

Liz noted that Piedmont Heights Civic Association should submit language to the NPU regarding proposed designation of Area of Interest for previously unrecognized area in Armour Yard. Baron Jordan and Jean Johnson will follow up.

#### **10. Special Events/Outdoor Festivals**

- A Taste of the Highlands
- Virginia Highland Summerfest
- Improv in the Park presented proposal for event in Piedmont Park September 10, 17, and 24 from 7pm – 10pm. Shows start at 8pm. The event is free and been logistically reconfigured with consideration for drought conditions. Event was unanimously approved.

#### **11. Public review and comments:**

#### **12. Adjournment**

**Upcoming Special Events and Outdoor Festivals**

#### **10. Special Events/Outdoor Festivals**

#### **11. Public review and comments**

## 12. Adjournment