

NEIGHBORHOOD PLANNING UNIT – F



Monday, August 15, 2022 at 7:00 PM

Please pre-register by clicking [HERE](#)

Dial-In: 646-558-8656 Access code: 92815131493#

Meeting ID: 928 1513 1493

CONTACT INFORMATION

Debbie Skopczynski, **Chair** – 404.874.7483 or chair@npufatlanta.org

Kay Stephenson, **Vice-Chair** – kay.stephenson@gmail.com

Doug Young, **City of Atlanta, Planner** – 404.330.6702 or dyoung@atlantaga.gov

Leah LaRue, **City of Atlanta, Assistant Director** – 404.330.6070 or llarue@atlantaga.gov

Minutes

1. Welcome and Opening Remarks

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 pm

Motion to adopt the agenda made by Kay Stephenson 2nd by Rich Sussman carries without objection.

2. Approval of Minutes

Thanks to Carol Shunnarah for taking the minutes last month. The July minutes were posted on the NPU website and sent to those on the NPU mailing list which includes verified members.

o Motion to approve the minutes was made by Phyllis Wingo 2nd by Kay Stephenson and carries by a vote of 24 with no objections.

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3. Announcements

- This is final call for proposed changes to the NPU-F By-Laws and our Policy Sheet. You can find a link to both documents on the Consent Agenda or on the NPU-F website. We will discuss proposed amendments under New Business tonight. We are required by ordinance to submit a copy of our by-laws for 2023 by September 30th or the city will not accept any recommendations from the NPU. A vote will be taken at next month's meeting.
- Calendar events are on the Consent Agenda
 - i. Allure Due Cause hearing tomorrow night (8/16/22) at LRB hearing at City Hall, 5 pm
 - ii. Beltline SA6 Master Plan Update to review recommendations from public input sessions on August 18 at 6:30. This is a virtual meeting.
 - iii. The last public meeting for the Clifton Corridor transit project is August 23rd, Lindbergh Center MARTA station, 2424 Piedmont Road, 4-7 pm. A link to their survey is on the consent agenda.
 - iv. A Special Administrative Permit (SAP) hearing will be held on August 24th. NPU-F has 2 items on the agenda including plans for renovating the lower level of the Heritic and for the Intown Jewish Pre-school on Cooleage and Monroe. A link to the full agenda is on the Consent Agenda.

4. Reports from City Departmental Representatives

<p>Atlanta Police Department Zone 2 – Major Allen Mitchell Zone 6 – Major Andrea Webster</p>	<p>Major Webster – awebster@atlantaga.gov</p> <p>The Middlesex Rd incident – the parents hosted a party for their highschoolers and when they realized others not invited came, they shut down the party. As the kids were leaving, a shooting happened outside after a verbal altercation. They are looking into what happened.</p> <p>A question about whether this was accidental, it seems it was due to an argument. It seems one group from another high school shot at another There was no return fire.</p> <p>The parents did the right thing by shutting down the party.</p> <p>Major Mitchell - Zone 2 Commander aamitchell@atlantaga.gov. 404-848-7231</p> <p>Car break-ins have decreased but are still 40% of our crimes.</p> <p>YTD we have recovered 243 stolen guns which is a 22% increase from last year. Glad to get these guns off the street</p> <p>We are up 20% in traffic stops and 18% in arrests. We are proactively policing in zone 2.</p> <p>Guns recovered from other zones: Zone 1- 268, Zone 3 -288, Zone 4- 299, zone 5- 279, zone 6- 162</p> <p>www.atlantapd.org for the crime stats and COBRA report. www.connectatlanta.org for information regarding cameras</p>
<p>APD Code Enforcement Delores Bryant Officer Lyles – In Rem manager</p>	<p>Officer Parks- for Code Enforcement Officer K.Mitchell 404-546-3820</p> <p>Two areas with building issues.</p> <p>4 Highly hazardous address:</p> <p>A notice has been sent to the following addresses.</p> <p>1074 Ponce de Leon Ave 1190 Woodland Ave 980 Todd 897 North Highland</p> <p>We will investigate the property then wait 2 weeks for owner information. Then we send a certified letter to the owner stating the violations. After 30 days if they do not comply, we write a citation to the owner.</p> <p>Right now we are on pause for LLC's. We will know later about LLC which maybe a civil case. If not an LLC we will write a citation and we will go to court. Once in court it is out of our hands. We can only voice our opinions. Or call the</p>

	complainant with the court dates so they can come to voice opinion so that we can get property in compliance.
ATL311 Barbara Dougherty	<p>Marlene Mangham- trainer at ATL 311:</p> <p>ATL311 is the Non-Emergency Call Center for City of Atlanta Services, and we are open Monday-Friday from 7am-7pm. You can contact us by:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Dialing 3-1-1 inside city limits or (404)546-0311. 2. Visiting us online at www.ATL311.com. 3. Emailing us at ATL311@atlantaga.gov. 4. Downloading & reporting issues via our app by searching "ATL311" in your app store. 5. Sending us a message on Social Media. <p>Just search "ATL311" on Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, Reddit, NextDoor, and YouTube</p> <p>Sign up for City of Atlanta emergency alerts by texting "NOTIFYATL" to 888777.</p>

5. Comments from Elected Officials - None

6. Consent Agenda

Board of Zoning Adjustment

Application	Request	Recommendation
V-22-111 1665 Noble Dr NE	Applicant seeks a variance to reduce the west side-yard setback from 7ft to 4.8ft for the addition of a screened porch	Withdrawn - no action required

Special Events

Event Name/ Applicant	Class/ # Participants	Event Location/ Date	Recommendation
Piedmont Park Summer Arts Festival Randall Fox (AMENDED: Times changed: from 10 am - 5 pm to 10 am - 9 pm. NPU-F previously voted Support at 2/21/2022 meeting)	Class E/ 1,999 Participants	Piedmont Park August 20-21, 2022	Continue to support
2022 KIDFITSTRONG FITNESS CHALLENGE ATLANTA Howard Daniel	Class E/1,500 Participants	Piedmont Park October 16, 2022	Applicant not present
Freedom March Jeffrey McCall	Class E/1,000 Participants Assembly & Outdoor Festival	Piedmont Park -Oak Hill October 29, 2022	Support Applicant present
2023 Atlanta Science Festival Exploration EXPO Tanner Garrard	Class D/ 5,000 Participants	Piedmont Park March 25, 2023	Support Applicant present

	Recurring event		
Walk MS Atlanta 2023 Paul Nevill	Class E/ 1,950 Participants	Piedmont Park April 22, 2023	Applicant not present
Inner G Fest Wellness Festival DaGean (Dae) Samuel (Amended: Date changed 7/29-31/2022 to 6/16-18/2023. NPU-F previously voted support at 4/18/22 meeting)	Class D/9,000 Participants New Event	Piedmont Park Clara Meer Dock, Oval Circle, Meadow, Oak Hill,+) June 16-18, 2023	Continue to support

NPU-F Action: Motion by Kay Stephenson 2nd by Rich Sussman to approve the Consent Agenda removing Kidfitstrong Fitness Challenge and Walk MS Atlanta (because the applicant was not present) carries by a vote of 14 in favor, 0 opposed, no abstentions.

7. Matters for Voting

Special Event Applications (MOSE)

Event Name	Class/#Participants	Event Date
2022 KIDFITSTRONG FITNESS CHALLENGE ATLANTA Howard Daniel	Class E/1,500 Participants	Piedmont Park October 16, 2022

Comments: Consent Agenda – Support; did not attend July, August meeting

NPU-F Action: Motion to defer made by Jane Rawlings 2nd by Rich Sussman carries by a vote of unanimous consent.

Walk MS Atlanta 2023 Paul Nevill	Class E/ 1,950 Participants	Piedmont Park April 22, 2023
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Comments: Consent Agenda – Support (applicant not present)

NPU-F Action: Motion to defer made by Rich Sussman 2nd by Kay Stephenson carries by a vote of unanimous consent.

Alcohol License Applications (LRB)

Name of Business	Property Address	Request
Sri Thai Sittichai Mekpongsatorn	1540 Avenue PI B2-280	New Business Restaurant

Alcohol Chair report: The application is for a new business to operate as a restaurant serving/selling liquor, beer and wine for on premise consumption. No live entertainment is planned. Property is zoned MRC-3-C with seating capacity of 9. There is no history of alcohol denial/suspension/revocation either for the applicant or for this location. Operating hours Mon-Thur 11AM-10PM; Sat 12PM-10PM, Sunday 12PM-10PM.

Comments: Taylor Harper attorney for the applicant is present.

NPU- F Action: Motion to recommend approval by Jane Rawlings, 2nd by Kay Stephenson carries by a vote of 21 eyes and 0 nays.

Knock Music House Alfredo Isaac	1789 Cheshire Br Rd	New Business Restaurant
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Alcohol Chair report: The application is for a new business to operate as a restaurant serving/selling liquor, beer, and wine for on premise consumption. No live entertainment is planned. Property is zoned NC-5 with seating capacity of 125. The property has not had an alcohol license for the past 12 months. Operating hours Mon-Sun 11AM-11PM. Applicant has previously (1/28/22) submitted an application as a convention center and then withdrew when it didn't meet the distance requirements.

- The online presence for the business consistently advertises as an event venue which would not be eligible for an alcohol license at this location nor is it a permitted use
- The menu submitted by the applicant is more consistent with an event venue
- The original alcohol application lists the business as a convention center
- The 7/15/22 approval for the alcohol license application published on Accela (ZLA-20223045) lists the use as a convention center
- E-mail correspondence footnotes from the applicant identify the business as an "Atlanta private event venue and party entertainment company . . .with locations at 1052 St. Charles Ave NE and 1789 Cheshire Bridge RD"
- Received Stop Work Order 1/10/2020 (20CAP-00000036) citation working without a permit

Alfredo Isaac the applicant states that he is seeking to change business to a hip hop restaurant. This will not be an event location but a family-oriented restaurant. Social media branding will be changed.

When do you expect to open? – they are hiring people to help have a good start when school started but that didn't happen and they hope to open closer to Halloween.

Todd Greene is supportive of this applicant and excited to see this type of restaurant.

Sue McHale asks what a hip hop restaurant is? Alfredo Isaac states it is a culture they want to promote around their genre of music.

Raymond Kao – reiterates what Todd said he is also excited to see this type of restaurant.

Alfred Isaac response to Jane Rawlings motion to recommend denial is that he does have a restaurant license, he has kids in school, supports Virginia-Highland. He is trying to change the original application.

NPU-F Action: Motion to recommend approval with the conditions that there be no live entertainment and it will not function as an event space by Jane Rawlings, 2nd by Kay Stephenson carries by a vote of 26 ayes and 0 nays.

Board of Zoning Adjustment Applications (BZA)

V-22-66 654 Kimberly Ln NE

Applicant seeks a variance for active recreation (swimming pool) adjacent to a street.

Comments:

Ed Hicks representing the applicant. They want to build a relatively small pool with decks around it on the side of the house. They cannot put in backyard due to space. Jack White and Rebekah Falkler visited the site and recommend approval based on adoption of the tree plan by Arboguard on May 9th, 2022.

NPU-F Action: Motion made by Jack White, 2nd by Rebekah Falkler to recommend approval based on tree plan by Arboguard carries by a vote of 16 ayes and 0 nays.

V-22-100 552 Park Dr NE

Applicant seeks a variance to reduce the east side-yard setback from 7ft to 3.33ft and increase the size of an accessory structure from 30% to 37.2% of the main dwelling for construction of an accessory structure and an addition to an existing single-family dwelling.

VHCA Report: Recommend approval

Comments: Andy Stillman representing the applicants. Holly Sasnett asks if trees can be spared with re-doing the structure due to the age of tree which is a 17 inch oak.

NPU-F Action: Motion to recommend made by Jack White 2nd by Rebekah Falcker carries by a vote of 16 ayes and 0 nays.

Text Amendments – Zoning Ordinance

Z-22-53

An Ordinance by Councilmember Alex Wan to amend the regulations of NC-4 (Cheshire Bridge Road North Neighborhood Commercial District) by amending regulations to allow parking structures and lots within the district; and for other purposes

Comments: NC-4 extends just south of the Chevron station to the Peachtree South Fork/CBR bridge; both sides of CBR. Note SUP in ordinance should be SAP.

NPU-F Action: Motion to recommend approval made by Rich Sussman 2nd by Jack White carries by a vote of 13 ayes 0 nays.

Z-22-54

An Ordinance to amend the regulations of NC-5 (Cheshire Bridge Road South Neighborhood Commercial District) by amending regulations to allow parking structures and lots within the district; and for other purposes

Comments: NC-5 extends from Piedmont Road to the CSX railroad tracks; both sides of CBR

NPU-F Action: Motion to recommend approval made by Rich Sussman 2nd by Holly Sasnett carries by a vote of 16 ayes and 0 nays.

8. Presentation - Keona Jones – Invest Atlanta “ATLInBusiness” resource

This program is business consulting services for the city of Atlanta entrepreneurs.

9. Planner’s Report – Doug Young, Interim Director, Office of Design, Department of City Planning, 404-330-6702, dyoung@atlantaga.gov

10.
 CL 1005 Bylaws Clinic on Thursday, August 11th 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM
<https://www.npuatlanta.org/event-details/cl-1005-bylaws-clinic>

CL1006 Election Integrity Clinic on Wednesday, August 31st 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM
<https://www.npuatlanta.org/event-details/cl1006-election-integrity-clinic>

To register for NPU University courses or for more information, call 404.546.0158 or visit
<https://www.npuatlanta.org/npuuniversity>.

For information on "Permitting in the Park":
<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, please email Elizabeth Johnson, Business and Service Improvement Manager, at eajohnson@atlantaga.gov.

Affordable Housing Tracker - <https://www.atlantaga.gov/government/departments/city-planning/housing/affordable-housing-tracker>

Faith-based Development Initiative - <https://www.atlantaga.gov/government/departments/city-planning/housing/faith-based-development-initiative>

22-R-3414: Best Practices for NPUs. A draft of the Best Practices topics to be included can be found on COA NPU website. To submit feedback, please contact your APAB representative or DCP at npuatlanta@atlantaga.gov.

Follow NPU voting activity on the NPU Dashboard: <https://www.npuatlanta.org/npu-dashboard>. To stay informed, follow us on social media @npuatlanta

11. Neighborhood and Committee Reports

Lindridge Martin Manor	Rich Sussman – President is moving and resigning. We are in the process of finding a new president of Lindridge Martin Manor.
Piedmont Heights	No report
Morningside Lenox Park	<p>Marla Johnson – we have a lot of events coming up.</p> <p>First of 3 fall concert series at Sydney Marcus on Aug 26th.</p> <p>Friends group is hosting a food drive on August 26th and 27th.</p> <p>Meet the MLP Board on Aug 31st. Neighbors can bring concerns and learn what we do.</p> <p>New member at Family Dog on Sept 8th.</p> <p>Inaugural Pickle ball tournament at Lenox Wildwood park on October 1st.</p> <p>Most of this is available on our website on the calendar.</p>

Virginia-Highland	Leah Matthews – Tour of Homes on October 1 st and is only one day. We are looking for volunteers. https://vahitourofhomes.org/web/page/volunteer/
Edmund Park	N/A
Emory/CDC area/ Druid Hills	N/A
Parks, Trees & Environment (Rich Sussman)	Trees Atlanta had an incredible announcement. For the next 10 years in downtown Atlanta will increase tree canopy from 3.3% to 18% over the next 20 years. It engaged Steve Sanchez and Steve worked with Greg Levine to put together this document to make this happen. They will plant 8016 trees and will cost 15 million dollars.
Education (Leah Matthews) leah.kelly05@gmail.com	On August 8 th the APS Board voted a new K-5 into the Inman building space and will happen in 2023-2024 school year. APS is working on the hiring committee that will consist of affected schools with parents that are being rezoned to the new school as well as staff from other clusters. There will be a renaming committee for Inman School. It could remain Inman or get renamed. Please email Leah Matthews if you have a strong opinion on the name. There will be a historian to talk about Samuel Inman and the name.
Public Safety (Kay Stephenson)	This was covered earlier in meeting.
APAB (Kay Stephenson, Delegate, Debbie Skopczynski, Alternate)	The next APAB meeting is Saturday, August 19. Debbie will attend.
Chair Report -	The NPU-F Executive Committee met on July 25 to discuss proposed By-law and policy sheet amendments and to preview the zoning amendments on tonight's agenda. We'll discuss the proposed amendments during New Business. As you know, Music Midtown 2022 has been cancelled. MM offered NPU-F 100 tickets for 2022 and will roll them over to next year. In addition, we will also receive an additional 100 tickets for 2023. VaHi has expressed interest in the tickets and will use them for a fundraising project. APD is accepting applications for the Citizen's Police Academy. The Academy takes place on Tuesday evenings from 6-9 pm, Sept 6th to October 25. The deadline to receive applications is August 29 th . Application is in the chat. The next set of public meetings on Atlanta Zoning 2.0 will begin at the end of August. A flyer is in the chat. We will continue to meet virtually.

12. Old Business – None

13. New Business – recommendations for amendments to the 2023 By-Laws and Policy Sheet

Some items that have been proposed:

- Additions to our Consent Agenda – We have been working with a consent agenda for the last 3+ years and have found that there are additional types of variances that once they have been reviewed and a site visit has been taken place, that these requests require little or no NPU scrutiny. Jack and Rebekah are proposing changes to the Consent Agenda listing that broadens the types of applications. Our process remains unchanged and an item can be removed by a neighbor, applicant, or anyone attending the meeting.

Comments: None

- After some discussion, the Executive Committee has suggested that the new meeting date for the NPU be moved to the third WEDNESDAY of the month. This should avoid any federal or city holidays, or city meetings. I am currently vetting the day with participants who attend our meetings to be sure that we won't be creating other issues. This will require a by-law change since our meeting date is specified in the by-laws.

Comments: None

- Process for adding new organizations formally into the NPU (like PiHiAlliance, VH District Association) is proposed to be added into the Policy Sheet. The requirements will be the organization is located and primarily serves NPU-F neighborhood(s); the organization must be located in the City of Atlanta, it must meet at least annually and have officers and a board, and the appropriate neighborhood organization(s) must support it as a recognizable, viable organization. Recognition will result in a seat on the NPU-F Executive Committee.

Comments: None

- Retention schedule for Zoom recordings of NPU meetings. Currently Zoom recordings of our meetings are on my laptop. Each meeting is more than a gig. Everyone agrees this is not ideal. Kay has done some research and her recommendation is to transfer them to an NPU-F YouTube channel and to retain the copies for as long as there is no charge.

Comments: None

14. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:26 pm. Motion by Kay Stephenson 2nd by Rich Sussman.

PUBLIC NOTICES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Campaigning by Elected Officials & Candidates

Campaigning at NPU meetings is strictly prohibited by the City of Atlanta's Code of Ordinances.

Sec. 6-3019 Prohibition of Political Forums

"Neighborhood planning unit meetings shall not be used for political forums or campaigning for city, county, state, or federal elections."

Examples of campaigning could include, but not be limited to:

- Introduction of elected officials as political candidates in upcoming elections;
- Distributing campaign materials and literature; and
- Conducting either of the above in City Hall, its rooms or offices.

Please contact Leah LaRue at 404.546.0159 or llarue@atlantaga.gov with any questions or concerns.