

NEIGHBORHOOD PLANNING UNIT – F



Wednesday, September 20, 2023 at 7:00 PM

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

Meeting ID: 845 9824 9006

Dial In: +1 646-558-8656

Access Code: 845 9824 9006#

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, Director** – 404.330.6070 or llarue@atlantaga.gov

Minutes

1. Welcome and Opening Remarks

- Meeting started at 7:09PM
- Agenda has been adopted without objection.

2. Approval of Minutes

Thanks to Aruna Narasimhan for taking minutes last month. The August minutes were posted on the NPU F website and a link was sent to those on the NPU mailing list.

August minutes are adopted without objections.

3. Announcements

We will be voting on a Bylaw Amendment and the entire NPU-F Bylaws later in this meeting. All NPU-F residents may vote on Bylaws. We are required by ordinance to confirm our bylaws each year by the end of September and send them to the City.

Recommendations from NPUs who do not send in their bylaws will not be reported to the various Boards (BZA, LRB, MOSE, etc.)

4. Reports from City Departmental Representatives

<p>Atlanta Fire Department Station 19 North Highland, Station 29 Monroe Drive Battalion Chief Derek Harris</p>	<p>Matt Driver with Battalion 3A – We are still taking applications for civilian positions and sworn fire fighters. Best method of contact is social media. See links below.</p> <p>We are turning our clocks back and suggest changing batteries in fire detectors at this time.</p> <p>Music Midtown went smoothly for us and we are at the end of the hydrant season.</p>
---	--

<p>Atlanta Police Department Zone 2 – Major Ailen Mitchell Zone 6 – Major Webster</p>	<p>Captain, Dorian Graham Asst Zone Commander (dgraham@atlantaga.gov– Zone 6 - We are in a good space especially since the first of the year we were over 20%. We have been chipping away at it. So now we are only up 11% and trying to break even. We are still having our Hyundai and Kia problems. We are up 106% in auto thefts. We are up 5% in thefts from shoplifting and packages porches etc. We are up 2% in burglary</p> <p>Please do not store firearms in vehicles.</p> <p>Kay Stephenson asked about homelessness and individuals urinating in streets. – A quality of life officer comes out and has conversations with these people about the complaints. We also have PAD. Call PAD for non-emergencies and 911 for emergencies.</p> <p>Lt. Allison Leduc Zone 2 Evening Watch Commander (arleduc@atlantaga.gov 404-276-0113 – We are up in auto vehicle and down in shoplifting and down overall in crime. Please keep car clean and check our social media about stories about officers. We have open crime maps on our website.</p>
<p>APD Code Enforcement Delores Bryant Officer Lyles – In Rem manager</p>	<p>Pete Francis DPW SWEET Officer (404-938-1183) – we are approaching the fall season, so we have a lot of leaves. We are still operating on the bi-weekly pickup of trimmings. Anything in excess of 20 bags is considered bulk and you need to call for pickup.</p>
<p>ATL311</p>	<p>Cheyenne Forbes : 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. Dial 3-1-1 inside city limits or 404-546-0311 2. Visit and chat at www.ATL311.com 3. Email at ATL311@atlantaga.gov 4. Mobile App by searching “ATL311” in your app store 5. Social Media @ATL311 <p>Sign up for City of Atlanta emergency alerts by texting NOTIFYATL to 888777.</p> <p>PAD (Policing Alternatives and Diversions Initiative): To make a PAD Community Referral for non-emergency quality of life concerns related to mental health, substance use or extreme poverty, please call ATL311 at 404-546-0311 and press the option to speak with ATL311 Supportive Services. PAD only accepts Community Referrals through the ATL311 phone line</p>

	<p>Monday-Friday, 7am-7pm. For more information visit www.atlantapad.org or email info@atlantapad.org.</p> <p>If you would like to leave ATL311 feedback from today's meeting, ask us questions, or report any outstanding issues, please take our survey by</p> <p>Cheyenne Forbes : cforbes@atlantaga.gov</p>
--	---

5. Comments from Elected Officials

<p>Council members</p> <p>Alex Wan, awan@atlantaga.gov, 404-330-6049</p> <p>Amir Farokhi, District 2, 404-330-6038</p> <p>Liliana Bakhtiari, District 5, 404-330-6048</p>	<p>Alex Wan – They have started the paving of the Beltline Northeast trail from 10th Street to behind Ansley Mall. The good news is when they get to 10th and Monroe which will trigger the Monroe Drive Complete Streets Project.</p> <p>Piedmont Park new CEO is Doug Widener starting this fall.</p> <p>The deadline to register for the November is October 10th</p> <p>We do have an election on the ballot for school board representative. Those that vote at Virginia-Highland Elementary (former Inman Middle school) will get a notice stating the name change.</p> <p>District 6 voting lines have changed and Virginia Ave is now the most southern boundary for district 6. If you are South of Virginia you are now voting in district 2.</p>
--	--

6. Consent Agenda

Board of Zoning Adjustment

Application	Request	Neighborhood Report	Recommendation
<p>V-23-81 638 Park Drive NE</p>	<p>Applicant seeks a variance to 1) reduce the rear yard setback from 15 feet to 1 foot, 2) reduce the eastern side yard setback from 7 feet to 2.6 feet, 3) increase the lot coverage from 50 percent to 54.6 percent and a special exception to allow active recreation in yard adjacent to the street.</p>	<p>VH: Applicant deferred</p>	<p>Defer at the request of the applicant</p>
<p>V-23-126 1073 Cumberland Road NE</p>	<p>Applicant seeks a variance to 1) reduce the rear yard setback from 15 feet to 12 feet and 2) exceed the maximum total floor area allowed for an accessory structure from 30 percent of the main structure to 46 percent</p>	<p>MLPA: Recommend Deferral</p>	<p>Defer at the request of the applicant</p>

	of the main structure for construction of an accessory structure for an existing single-family dwelling.		
<u>V-23-124</u> 1009 Amsterdam Avenue NE	Applicant seeks a variance to 1) reduce west side yard setback from 7 feet to 3 feet, 2) reduce the rear yard setback from the required 15 to 12 feet, 3) increase the allowable height of an accessory structure from 20 feet to 21.33 feet and 4) increase the floor area of the accessory structure from 30 percent of the main structure to 65 percent of the main structure.	VH: Recommend approval	Approval
<u>V-23-116</u> 1153 Reeder Circle NE	Applicant seeks a variance to reduce 1) the east side yard setback from 7 feet to 5 feet and 2) the rear yard from 15 feet to 5 feet. Change setback from 7 feet to 3 feet not 5	MLPA: Recommend approval	Approval

Special Events

Event Name/Applicant	Class/# Participants	Event Location/Date	Recommendation
Abnormal Market of Uncommon Bizarre Randall Fox	Class E/ 1,999 Participants New Event	Piedmont Park June 15-16, 2024	Support
Festival Peachtree Latino Ray Ortega	Class D/ 9,999 Participants Recurring Event	Piedmont Park August 25, 2024	Continue to Support

NPU-F Action: Motion by Kay Stephenson 2nd by Jane Rawlings removing Abnormal Market of Uncommon Bizarre to approve the Consent Agenda carries by a vote of 29 in favor, 0 opposed.

7. Matters for Voting

Annual Bylaws Confirmation

All NPUs are required to review their bylaws annually and to submit a copy to Department of City Planning by September 30th. For the last two months, a proposed amendment to the Article III Voting (Business Verified Members) has been discussed at our meetings. No other amendments have been proposed. All residents of NPU-F may vote on the bylaws and any amendments.

Reason for change: Currently there are only a small handful of business members who have requested to be verified. Most are small business owners or live in the NPU. This amendment:

- simplifies the process for verifying business members by eliminating the notary requirement
- aligns the bylaws with current practice

-the definition of who in an organization may become a verified member representing their business or organization is not changing.

-no changes have been made to the verified resident process or sign-in requirements

2024 NPU-F Bylaws - Simplification to Article III – Voting Proposed Language:

VOTING. Each resident, as defined in Article II, Membership, shall have one vote, to be cast in person or virtually. Corporations, other business entities, organizations, institutions, agencies, businesses or professionals shall, by letter of appointment or e-mail message, designate one person as voting representative. For corporations, the voting representative shall be either the president, vice president, or registered agent as recognized by the Georgia Secretary of State. For sole proprietorships, the voting representative shall be the sole proprietor. For partnerships, the voting representative shall be either a general partner or a managing general partner, and if such partner is a corporation or other business entity, the voting representative shall meet the requirements applicable to such business entity. For limited liability companies, the voting representative shall be either the manager or the managing member, if such entity is member managed, and if such manager or member is a corporation or other business entity, the voting representative shall meet the requirements applicable to such business entity. For organizations, institutions, or agencies, the voting representative shall be the executive director of such organization, institution, or agency or their designee. For professionals, the voting representative shall be the individual person conducting such profession within NPU-F.

That Designee shall have one vote, to be cast in person or as established by policy for virtual meetings. Corporations, other business entities, organizations, institutions, agencies, or professions owning more than one piece of property or having more than one office or place of business or profession within NPU-F shall have only one vote which shall represent the primary property, office or place of business or profession in NPU-F.

Any resident, as defined in Article II, Membership, desiring to vote at an NPU-F meeting, shall sign in on an official sign-in sheet or in the method established by policy for virtual meetings. He/she shall list his/her address and present reasonable proof of residency.

The Designee of the corporation, other business entity, organization, institution, agency, or profession shall sign in on the official sign-in sheet or in the method established by policy for virtual meetings and shall present reasonable proof of such designee's identity, and proof of the entity's location within NPU-F in the form of a copy of a business or professional license or other official document. After properly signing in, each person shall be issued a voting card (or chit) to be used to cast any official vote. Only one voting card (or chit) shall be issued to any person. Verification of eligibility to vote during a virtual meeting will be managed as established by policy.

The Chairperson of NPU-F (or his/her designee) shall have final discretion in determining if "reasonable proof" of residency, identity, and authority has been presented for qualification as a voter. The Chairperson of NPU-F may or may not vote at his/her discretion, but must cast a vote in the case of a tie.

NPU-F Action: Motion to approve the proposed amendment to Article III made by Kay Stephenson 2nd by Jane Rawlings carries by a vote of 37 ayes and 0 nays

NPU-F Action: Motion to approve the amended Bylaws for NPU-F is made by Kay Stephenson 2nd by Mike Parkinson carries by a vote of 32 ayes and 0 nays.

Alcohol License Applications (LRB)

Name of Business/Agent	Property Address	Request
Whiskey Bird R. Anthony L. Vipond	1395 North Highland Avenue	Restaurant Change of Agent

Neighborhood report: none

Alcohol License chair report: recommends approval

NPU-F Action: Recommend to approve made by Jane Rawlings and 2nd by Kay Stephenson.

Motion carries by a vote of 38 ayes and 0 nays.

Chic n Cone Emory Point Kingsley N. Dike	1540 Avenue Place	Restaurant New Business
---	-------------------	----------------------------

Neighborhood report: Druid Hills has no objections.

Alcohol License chair report: recommends approval

NPU-F Action: Recommend to approve made by Jane Rawlings and 2nd by Kay Stephenson.

Motion carries by a vote of 31 ayes and 0 nays

Cheshire Bridge Food Mart Brian Pimentel	2319 Cheshire Bridge Road NE	Convenience Store w/ Gas Change of Ownership
---	------------------------------	---

Neighborhood report:

Alcohol License chair report: recommends deferral due to applicant not present

NPU-F Action: Recommend deferral made by Jane Rawlings and 2nd by Kay Stephenson.

Motion carries with no objection.

Copper Cove Adamma McKinnon	1782 Cheshire Bridge Rd NE	Restaurant Change of Ownership
--------------------------------	----------------------------	-----------------------------------

Alcohol License chair report: confirms 120 is total seating capacity. Live entertainment is not planned. This is a 2nd location. Neighbors asked about noise volume and whether Hooka will be provided to the clients.

NPU-F Action: Recommendation to approve application by Jane Rawlings 2nd by Jack White

Motion carries by a vote of 11 ayes and 25 nays.

Alternate Motion to oppose approval 26 ayes and 10 nays

Copper Cove (Additional Facility) Adamma McKinnon	1782 Cheshire Bridge Rd NE	Restaurant Change of Ownership
---	----------------------------	-----------------------------------

Alcohol License chair report: Recommends approval of application

NPU-F Action: Recommendation to approve application by Kay Stephenson 2nd by Jack White Motion carries by a vote of 11 ayes and 25 nays.

Nathaniel Hopkins motions to deny approval and 2nd by Steve Canis. Motion carries by a vote of 23 ayes and 9 nays.

Board of Zoning Adjustment Applications (BZA)

V-23-53 885 Highland Terrace NE

Applicant seeks a variance to reduce the west side yard setback from 7 feet to .5 feet.

Virginia-Highland Report: VHCA Planning Committee and Board voted to oppose.

Comments: applicant not present

NPU-F Action: defer to next month.

V-23-14 (Amended) 1832 Monroe Drive NE

Applicant seeks a variance to increase the lot coverage from 50 percent to 56.9 percent and a special exception to exceed the maximum limit of one-third of the required front yard being paved.

[AMENDED SITE PLAN](#)

Piedmont Heights Report: The PHCA Board reviewed this variance application at our regular meeting yesterday on 09/05/2023. The motion was to “Recommend denial of variance application V-23-014 due to: inadequate remediation of parking situation in most updated plan presented, and the fact that we have not seen issues of water remediation addressed.” The vote passed unanimously.

Comments: Adam Rozen presented reasons why the variance is needed to avoid backing onto Monroe Dr

NPU-F Action: Motion to recommend denial made by Bill Compton, 2nd by Jeremy Patton carries by a vote of 19 ayes, 2 nays 0 abstentions.

Special Event Applications (MOSE)

<p>Winterfest 2023 Mallory Izbick Also 5K, Parade, Vendor booths</p>	<p>Class E/ 500 Participants Recurring Event</p>	<p>Virginia Circle - btwn Todd and Barnett Lanier Blvd NE/Virginia Ave December 8-9, 2023</p>
---	--	---

Comments: on the 8th is a tour of lights block party. The 9th is jingle jog and holiday parade, and festival.

NPU-F Action: Motion to support made by Kay Stephenson 2nd by Todd Corely carries by a vote of 16 ayes 0 nays and 0 abstentions.

8. Presentations – None

9. Planner’s Report - Doug Young

Doug Young, Director of the Office of Design, Dept. of City Planning, Your NPU F Planner,
dyoung@atlantaga.gov, 404-330-6702

From Doug Young : September 2023 Planner's Report Link:

<https://www.atlantaga.gov/government/departments/city-planning/neighborhood-planning-units/updates>

10. Neighborhood and Committee Reports

Lindridge Martin Manor	No report
Piedmont Heights	No report
Morningside Lenox Park	No report
Virginia-Highland	VaHi held elections for new board and have 2 new board members along with all incumbents that ran. Officer selections is in the next few weeks.
Edmund Park	No report
Emory/CDC area/ Druid Hills	No report
Parks, Trees & Environment (Rich Sussman)	Sunken Garden update
Education (Leah Matthews)	No report
Communications (Andrew Mackler)	No report
Public Safety (Kay Stephenson)	The technical advisory committee has met and put together a document to recommend to the board. For Safety Report here is a link to the Alcohol Technical Advisory Group III Recommendations https://drive.google.com/file/d/1s_Edh3accdMMx3vPQN09Hkdt9cc6_R7h/view?usp=sharing . Please review and send feedback to atag@atlantaga.gov
APAB (Debbie Skopczynski, Voting Member)	APAB met twice since our August NPU meeting. Nothing significant to report from the August meeting. At the September meeting, Kay presented the ATAG3 recommendations. Also, there was a presentation from Planning on the CDP Community involvement plan. It is fairly comprehensive and include 50 community land

	<p>use and neighborhood planning workshops hosted by each NPU. As well as pop-ups, walk and talk tours and other events throughout Atlanta. The first phase of Community Input will start in Feb 2024. APAB has been working through issues discussed at a Strategic Planning retreat held earlier in the year. Recommendations have been made to reduce the number of officers to 2 (president and vp) and reduce the number of committees to 3. Rules for Decorum have been finalized and a policy for establishing and amplifying a unified voice has been drafted.</p> <p>While these rules will not apply to NPUs, it's a reminder that any correspondence that represents the NPU should be copied to me so that I can respond and support if I receive a question from the City.</p>
2023 Community Impact Project Status Reports	<p>Sidney Marcus Park signage for new park entrance – Sign has been installed. Project COMPLETED.</p> <p>Other projects on track.</p>
Chair Report	<p>NO Updates on SAP-23-012 1783 Cheshire Bridge Road. (former Rhodes Bakery location.)</p> <p>Nominations for 2024 NPU officers will be open in October with elections in November.</p> <p>Reminder – if you live near Piedmont Park and your street becomes impassable during a special event, call 911 and notify your street captain. The Street Captain leads and the neighborhood Public Safety chairs for both VaHi and MLPA have contact info for the event organizer and their security lead. They can also send info to me so that I can work with the Event Organizer for future planning.</p> <p>NPU-F will continue to meet virtually on the third Wednesday of the month.</p>

- 11. Old Business – None
- 12. New Business – None
- 13. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 10:07 pm. Motion by Kay Stephenson 2nd by Jane Rawlings

PUBLIC NOTICES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Provided for informational purposes. Votes/comments are neither required nor expected.

2024 NPU Bylaws

2024 NPU Bylaws must be submitted by September 30, 2023. There shall be no restrictions on a resident's right to vote on Bylaws.