



**Westview Community Organization
Monthly Meeting Minutes
September 14, 2009**

The meeting was called to order by President John Davis at 7:00pm.

Invocation – The invocation was presented by the Assistant Chaplain, Raymond Gambrell.

Approval of the Minutes – No minutes were taken during the August meeting.

Moment of Silence – There was a moment of silence in memory of Treasurer Dorothy Robinson.

OLD BUSINESS

2009 Officer Nominations – Election nomination sheets were passed out. Discussion regarding voter eligibility took place. Attendance records have not been tracked over the last term to indicate which members would be eligible to vote. Selery Heard made a motion to forego Bylaw requirements to have a September vote and instead take nominations in September to have an October vote. Darrick Young seconded the motion. More discussion regarding proper procedures took place. Darrick Young retracted his motion. John Davis in turn seconded the motion. Vote – 3 Yes, 10 No

Due to lack of attendance enforcement throughout the term it was determined all residents of Westview would be eligible to vote during these elections. Mark Malaguerra and Andrew Young counted the submitted votes. The elected 2009 to 2011 officers are:

President – Scott Smith	Vice President – Patrick Berry
Secretary – Steffi Langer-Berry	Assistant Secretary – Deloris Pickens-Crawford
Treasurer – Tonyel Stewart	Assistant Treasurer – Patrick Michaels
Parliamentarian – Wesley Wills	Assistant Parliamentarian – Lisa Ruggs
Chaplain – Raymond Gambrell	Assistant Chaplain – Sheryl Brown

Fall Festival – The Beautification Committee sponsored Fall Festival will only involve a yard sale this year. On September 19th from 9:00am to 5:00pm a yard sale will take place. A handout was passed out with addresses of yard sale locations. Funds raised from the yard sale will go to the Westview Community Organization.

Mayor Candidate Forum – On September 19th from 4:00pm to 6:00pm the Southwest Atlanta Neighborhood Consortium (“SWANC”) will host a mayoral forum at KIPP STRIVE Academy (1444 Lucile Ave.). The four confirmed candidates, Lisa Borders, Mary Norwood, Kasim Reed, and Jesse Spikes, will be asked questions that are of specific concern to the southwest Atlanta area. SWANC is comprised of the Westview Community Organization, West End Neighborhood Development, Beecher-Donnelly Community Organization, and Oakland City Community Organization.

Holiday Dinner – The WCO is looking for community members to assist Events Committee Chair, Ayana Gabriel, in organizing the upcoming annual holiday dinner.

NEW BUSINESS

UCDC/Pete Hayley – Pete Hayley provided an update on the Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP) progress and asked the WCO to help him with an updated list of available homes. He answered resident questions regarding NSP.

Additionally UCDC announced they are looking for three to five members of the neighborhood organization to participate in their Economic Development Institute classes. The six classes will be

based on the Community Economic Development Study done on behalf of UCDC in 2006 and aide in teaching participants in the understanding of economic development. The ultimate goal of the study and the classes is to bring more business to the southwest Atlanta area and enable AUC graduates to receive jobs. Residents interested in the classes need to inform the WCO by September 28th.

Spelman College/Bonner Scholars – Scott Smith informed that all Spelman women are required to carry out community service as part of their program and the Bonner Scholar office is looking to work with the WCO as part of the program.

Thanksgiving Dinner – The WCO is once again going to work with other neighborhood organizations to provide a Thanksgiving Dinner to seniors at the John O. Chiles Senior Residences. The WCO is committing to provide green beans. Michelle Greene has volunteered to assist with the process.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Resident Introduction – Scott Smith asked for all attendees to give a brief introduction about themselves.

BeltLine – Patrick Berry has been told by Rob Brawner of the BeltLine Partnership that the PATH Foundation has received permission to start construction of the BeltLine path along the railroad tracks. A tentative groundbreaking date has been set for October 19th. This would happen in conjunction with a mural unveiling along White Street in West End. More details are to be announced.

Braves Tickets – Neighborhood Planning Unit T provided the WCO with free tickets to the September 15th Braves vs Mets baseball game. The tickets were a courtesy of Turner Broadcasting for BeltLine night.

Cascade Springs Nature Preserve – Scott Smith and Ayana Gabriel will organize a neighborhood outing to the nearby Cascade Springs Nature Preserve.

Green Space – Mark Malaguerra attended a meeting discussing green spaces in the City of Atlanta. The goal is to increase the city's current 25% tree canopy coverage back to 40% coverage.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Development – Kenny Ellsworth reported that the Development Committee has continued working on the Comprehensive Development plan. He introduced Larry Silver from The Community Foundation and Valencia Coar from the Community Design Center of Atlanta. The Development Committee has received a \$2,100 grant from The Community Foundation to carry out the work required by the City of Atlanta to get the plan officially adopted, and Larry has been assigned as the project coach as part of the grant. Kenny asked for volunteers to help map street conditions. The goal is to hold the public planning meetings before the end of the year. A venue is to be determined. Larry provided a check for 50% of the grant in order for the Development Committee to be able to start sending out informational postcards.

Beautification – Volunteers are requested to participate in the "Yard of the Month" awards. As yard of the month a sign will be placed in the garden and the winner will receive a certificate from the Beautification Committee. Scott Smith will share member addresses with the committee to review yards that may be eligible.

\$162.00 of dues were collected. The meeting was adjourned at 8:30pm.

Submitted by Steffi Langer-Berry, Secretary