



**Westview Community Organization
Monthly Meeting Minutes
February 7, 2011**

The meeting was called to order by President Scott Smith at 7:00pm.

Invocation – The invocation was presented by Chaplain Raymond Gambrell.

Approval of the Minutes – Mark Malaguerra motioned to approve the December meeting minutes. Ayana Gabriel seconded the motion. Vote – Yes: 12, No: 0 → Motion Carries

OLD BUSINESS

Tree Planting – Fulton County provided funding for trees in southwest Atlanta. Trees were planted on February 5, 2011 on Rogers Avenue. Chad Carlson will clarify with Trees Atlanta if funding for trees on Westwood Avenue is still available.

GUEST SPEAKERS

Police Report – Lieutenant O.W. Sherrer gave a report about crime statistics. He additionally answered resident's questions about the disbandment of the Red Dog Unit and police procedures regarding burglaries. Residents encountering procedural concerns should call Zone 4 Precinct at (404) 756-1903.

KIPP STRIVE Elementary – Ed Chang, the Principal of KIPP STRIVE Academy, came to give an update about the school: They have invested \$2.5 million into building renovations, the currently have 180 children enrolled, and were already one of the top performing schools in the first year. KIPP has had a lot of inquiries about an elementary school expansion. Ed Chang asked for the WCO's support to move forward with the expansion. The expansion would be on the current grounds. The earliest opening year would be the 2012-2013 school year.

Leslie Gage motioned to write a letter of support for the elementary school expansion. Mark Malaguerra seconded the motion. Vote – Yes: 20, No: 0 → Motion Carries

NEW BUSINESS

Code Enforcement Court Watch/HB 110 – 1640 Rogers Ave and 1616 Derry Ave will be in Code Enforcement court for a preliminary hearing on Tuesday, February 8. Neighbors are encouraged to attend the preliminary hearing and the presumable follow-up reset date.

Mark Malaguerra will keep the community informed about the upcoming House Bill 110, which will address some issues with vacant and abandoned properties. City of Atlanta Municipal Court, Courtroom 3B, 8:00am. Scott Smith advised community members shouldn't need to show up before 8:30am.

Special Use Permit on Beecher – Leland Jones, son of Valerie Belt-Jones, came to get support from the WCO to expand their daycare. The day care, located at 1629 Beecher Street, has been open for 16 years. They have purchased the adjacent property at 1621 Alvarado Terrace for the anticipated expansion. They want to make it a community/after-school center. Student enrollment is currently at 35 ranging from infants to pre-school age, as well as an after-school program.

Raymond Gambrell motioned to write a letter of support for the daycare expansion. John Davis seconded the motion. Vote – Yes: 18, No: 0 → Motion Carries

Youth Programs in the Community – John Lewis of the Sankofa Cultural Center asked for a letter of support to the Mayor in an effort to get funding from the City for their children's program. He further informed of the center's plans to offer seniors programs, and about their efforts to purchase property at 1548 Ralph David Abernathy Blvd. They are planning on opening a reservation-only restaurant for additional income.

Mark Malaguerra motioned to write a letter of support for a community center. Raymond Gambrell seconded the motion. Vote – Yes: 17, No: 0 → Motion Carries

Station 16 Recognition for Fire Rescue on West Ontario – The WCO would like to recognize the crew of Fire Station #16 for saving the life of a resident on West Ontario Ave.

CDP Participation – Patrick Berry reminded neighbors to participate in the City of Atlanta's Comprehensive Development Plan. The plan allows resident to provide input of development for the next 20 years. The January meeting already happened. The next meeting will take place in March.

Historic Preservation in Westview – Chad Carlson informed that he is working on pursuing the National Register of Historic Places designation for Westview. Mark Malaguerra suggested to create a committee to develop the plan. Further discussion will be pushed to the March meeting.

Special Events for 2011 – Ayana Gabriel handed out a calendar of planned events for the next 6 months. A community yard sale could be filled in for the open month of May.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Community Garden 2011 – Scott Smith asked for individuals interested in participating in the community garden for the 2011 season.

Calvary United Methodist Church – Calvary announced they are hosting Bible studies on Wednesday's.

Olympian Apartment – Cheryl Brooks is opening up her property for gardening, drumming circles, and more.

T-shirt/Hoodie – One t-shirt and one hoodie with the Westview logo are still available for purchase.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

None

COMMUNITY CONCERNS/QUESTIONS

None

DUES

Dues - \$5 per family per month or \$2 per senior citizen family per month. Dues can be also be paid by credit card/PayPal at www.westviewatlanta.com.

\$46.00 of dues were collected by Assistant Treasurer Claudia Hicks.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40pm.