

# Westview Community Organization Monthly Meeting Minutes September 12, 2011

The meeting was called to order by President Scott Smith at 7:04pm.

**Invocation** – The invocation was acknowledged with a moment of silence.

**Approval of the Minutes** – Wesley Wills motioned to approve the August meeting minutes. John Davis seconded the motion. Vote – Yes: 10, No:  $0 \rightarrow$  Motion Carries

#### POLICE/PUBLIC SAFETY/COA SERVICES

**Herbie Curbies** – Claudia Hicks expressed concern about an increase in the apparent theft of herbie curbies.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

**1616 Derry/1556 Stokes** – Scott Smith reported the property at 1616 Derry Ave is still scheduled to be demolished in 2011.

Mark Malaguerra informed that UCDC had found replacement funds for the demolition of 1556 Stokes Ave. They already have a demolition permit and anticipate tearing the building down in 2011. The vacant land will then be donated to the WCO to turn into a pocket park. Patrick Berry noted the WCO may be able to arrange a tax exemption with Fulton County as long as the park will remain a park.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Bylaws – Scott Smith walked residents through the changes proposed by the Executive Committee:

- Clarification of neighborhood boundaries
- Changing Recording Secretary and Corresponding Secretary positions to Secretary and Assistant Secretary
- Eliminating the Assistant Parliamentarian position
- · Changing officer terms to one year
- Changing officer elections to be held in December (effective 2012)
- Eliminating the Economic Development Committee

Mark Malaguerra motioned to approve the revisions to the WCO Bylaws. Patrice Capers seconded the motion. Vote – Yes: 16, No:  $0 \rightarrow$  Motion Carries

**Elections** – Election ballots were distributed of members that had accepted nominations leading up to the September 12, 2011 meeting. Mark Malaguerra collected the filled out ballots and tallied up the results. The following slate of officers had been elected to serve through December 31, 2012:

- President Patrick Berry
- Vice President Ayana Gabriel
- Secretary Steffi Langer-Berry
- Assistant Secretary Michael Johnson
- Treasurer Shelton Brown
- Assistant Treasurer Claudia Hicks
- Parliamentarian Scott Smith
- Chaplain Raymond Gambrell

**Upcoming 2011 Events** – Planning for the annual holiday party at Fire Station 17 will start at the October meeting.

A neighborhood clean-up is considered for October 2011.

#### **GUEST SPEAKERS**

Scott Smith reminded residents about the upcoming November 8 special election to fill the School Board District 2 position. The following candidates were present to speak:

**Angela Brown** – Angela Brown has resided in West End since 1996. She has been a youth advocate and community organizer for 20+ years. She has never previously run for public office. Her parents were both teachers and she attended public school. More information: www.ElectAngelaBrown.com.

**Dwanda Farmer** – Dwanda Brown lives in Mechanicsville. As a professional grant writer she has been involved in getting 500 affordable housing units to the area. Some of the programs she's involved with include after-school mentoring, anti-bullying, and food and nutrition. She attended Howard University and holds two masters degrees and is finishing a PhD. More information: www.forwardwithfarmer.com

The candidates had a few minutes to answer resident's questions.

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**NPU-T** – The next Neighborhood Planning Unit T meeting is on Wednesday, September 14, 2011 at 7:00pm at KIPP STRIVE Academy, 1444 Lucile Avenue.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

None.

#### COMMUNITY CONCERNS/QUESTIONS

**Zoning Signs** – Evelyn Battle inquired about the zoning signs along Langhorn Street. West End Neighborhood Development President Vonda Henry explained this was in regards to changes to the historic West End district.

**Vandalism** – A resident on Westwood expressed concerns about youth causing destruction on the street. Various neighbors offered suggestions to the issue.

## **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.

\$92.00 in dues were collected by Assistant Treasurer Claudia Hicks.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20pm.