

Westview Community Organization Monthly Meeting Minutes October 7, 2013

The meeting was called to order at 7:03pm by President Gabriel following a moment of silence.

Approval of the Minutes – we will review September and October meeting minutes next meeting in November

POLICE/PUBLIC SAFETY/COA SERVICES

OLD BUSINESS

Still have a parliamentarian position available. Would need to hold it for the remaining months of 2013. Contact Ayana if you are interested.

Fall Hike: Ken Carey will be hosting this year's annual Fall Hike at Sweetwater Creek Park on October 19th. There is a \$5/car entry fee. Those attending will meet at the South Gordon community garden at 1pm the day of. Those interested can call Kendal for more info.

NEW BUSINESS

- a. safety initiatives: Darrick Young spoke
 - a. Safety Initiative progress: so he has spoken with several of the community leaders and police members to discuss persistent safety issues and what to do with them. Our problems have now been brought in front of the city safety committee and we are beginning to make real progress toward making Westview as safe as the rest of the city communities.
- b. **Annual Holiday Potluck** at the Westview fire station; next month there will be a signup for dishes needed that we will have out. Ken Carey will confirm a date with Captain Doug.
 - a. Items needed
 - i. Turkey
 - ii. Ham
 - iii. Bottled water
 - iv. Sides
 - v. Desserts
 - vi. Ice
 - b. Please contact Kendal Carey if you'd like to supply something!
- c. **Tiger IV Grant for the beltline** Patrick Berry spoke on the progress of the grant. The Beltline is hoping to break ground within the year. Some zoning issues and temporary easements need to be ironed out first, which will take time. There will be more access points here than on the East Side Trail for safety and ease of use. They will also extend the task force of the police to ride our trail once opened.
 - a. Patrick said Angel is giving a walk this Saturday at 10am that starts at the Ashby Marta Station and goes up to through the neighborhood to Adair Park. Patrick will email out the details.
- d. **Garden Presentation**: We applied for and received a grant for Seed Saver that hands out heirloom seeds. With this plant, you can take the fruit from it and replant so that it will keep giving. We received 70 different types of seeds, which Abby will distribute as seen fit through our community garden program.
 - a. Patrick will also be teaching the neighborhood community members how to save these seeds so that they can be used in the future.

Treasury Report (Claudia): balance of \$4,200 start of 2013, received grant for "love your block grant" \$1000, received late payment from city for Summer Solstice for \$1250. Various events paid out \$501 to currently leave us with \$4,901.

Police/Public Safety: Major Bryant spoke:

- a. burglary increase here, but many arrests as well; mostly made by people within the community, not transients
- b. gang issues: he has received a number of emails about the email; APD recognizes that the problem exists, but they need to interrupt them during a criminal act; admitting you're in a gang is not enough cause to be arrested.
- c. Kroger continues to be a problem
- d. Zone 4 is using "PredPol" which is a program that helps utilize statistics to predict where a future crime may occur; it has proven effective
- e. Also using the "rocket" system helps keep tabs on individual squad cars and their daily patrol patterns (are they spending enough time in certain problem issues, for example)
- f. 10 hour work days for the officers (4 days on, 3 days off); overlapping shifts therefore more officers on the street in Zone 4.
- g. Captain Gibbs is being promoted as of this Thursday so she will no longer be our Zone 4 Captain. She will be replaced by Lt. Scott Kreher. His email is <u>mkreher@atlantaga.gov</u>
- h. If you have bad service from the APD, you call the Zone 4 supervisor to file a complaint at 404.756.1903
- i. Major Bryant will be doing group "tours" of the neighborhood to drive by potential problem areas. This group will be made up of NPU leaders.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Development Committee: nothing additional

Beautification: John Davis spoke; grass has been cut and kept up throughout the past 2 months (Aug/Sept); gardens have been cleared and prepared for the fall plantings

Available calla lily and peoni plant seeds passed around by Ms.

Community Affairs/Special events: Ken is working on a getting together a group for tire cleanup around the neighborhood as well as coordinating a neighborhood cleanup. Date for fall cleanup TBD.

Garden Committee: Darryl from Wawa did a rain barrel giveaway this past Saturday (25 total).

Also: Next Monday, October 14th 1pm-4pm we will have volunteers from the Atlanta Food Bank that will come out to clear out the remaining garden beds, mulch and clear the whole back so fall planting can begin!!

Membership Committee: no report

Youth Outreach: Abby, Jamie and Octavia met to discuss the Youth Committee; discussions on mentorship program with adults in the community; also talking about working together with other established youth organizations in the greater community

ANNOUNCEMENTS

COMMUNITY CONCERNS

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.

No dues were collected.

Andre Dickens introduced himself at the meeting as a candidate for Councilmember at Large. Check him out at <u>www.andredickens.com</u>

The meeting adjourned at 8:19 pm by Ayana Gabriel.