



**Westview Community Organization
Monthly Meeting Minutes
May 5, 2014**

Meeting Called to order at 7:05 by Vice-President Octavia Vogel.

No Invocation

Approval of Minutes Motion to approve. Motion approved by 13 members

Old Business

Summer Solstice – Muse Street, June 21st. 2-8pm. Call for volunteers and given a sign-up sheet. Bruce will be in contact.

Next meeting to continue planning:

May 12 – 7PM 1606 S. Gordon

May 29th - 7PM 1606 S. Gordon

June 4 - 7PM 1540 Olympian Circle SW

June 9 - 7PM 1540 Olympian Circle SW

June 19 – 6:30 Westview Pizza Café for Third Thursday and Meeting for the Solstice.

Atlanta Streets Alive - taste of what the Solstice might look like. Great Westview Presence.

New Business

Westview Pizza Café – Kietra – announced application for beer and wine license. Will take questions and concerns. Can contact Kietra on her cell phone or will arrange a meeting during the week. Will also be at next NPU meeting to take questions or concerns. All of the beer will be priced at restaurant prices. Will give the opportunity to have a beer or glass of wine in a family setting. Steffi expressed her enthusiasm; Ken expressed enthusiasm for improving the community with the license even though he doesn't drink alcohol. Bruce made a motion to write a letter of support for Westview Pizza Café. Question was posed about micro-brews or local beer being served. Kietra is unsure now what will be served. 12 votes of support out of 22 attendants. No nay's. 10 non-voting.

Treasurer's Report

No report this month.

Committee Reports

Beautification – John reports April Update: April 10, cut grass at Ontario Park; sewage drain cleaned at S. Gordon and Westwood. Cynthia and Claudia planted flowers planted and the grass was cut at Willard and S. Gordon. Grass cut at Olympian Way Triangle. April 12 Olympian Way clean up from Cascade to S. Gordon. Neighbor cleaned Marler of leaves. April 21-22 – Grass cut again at Olympian Way and all Triangle. S. Gordon and Abernathy clean up – sidewalk clean up and planting. Deloris and Craig Cleaned up Abernathy across from Kroger.

Community Affairs / Special Events – no report at this time.

Development – Most recent Beltline meeting on April 24 about the streetcar being built on Edgewood and Auburn. Those streetcars will also run in the Beltline Corridor. Questions were asked about the Westside Trail. June 11, Beltline will hand in 100% trail design to GDOT. Hope to get approval to proceed by June 30. Then they bid for contractors. August meeting with contractors to meet with the community. Construction should start in Sept. 2014 with trail opening in 2016. Ken asked, who has authority to run the Street Cars. Has not be determined yet.

Garden – Seedlings started by Steffi, Patrick, Rebecca. Peas, okra, tomatoes, Brussels sprouts, cucumbers, etc. were planted April 26. 15 people came out to plant along with kids. More land tilled. Abbey talked to West End Farmers market (Every Sunday in front of the Wren's Nest from 2-6) about having the kids there this summer to sell vegetables from the Westview Community Garden at the market.

The shed now has a Westview Garden Mural sign on it. Plan being made to have willow planted in the garden to grow and then use to teach neighborhood youth to weave the willow and possibly sell the baskets. Blueberry bushes hope to be planted this season.

Jen Farris connected with C. Low Green to support the youth program.

Patrick passed on contact to HGTV (Felicia) will like to learn more about the garden.

Membership – reported 41 members and that we have t-shirts for sale.

Public Safety- No Report

Youth Want to strengthen the summer program to expand the program to the full 2 months. Will try crowd sourcing to raise \$5,000 to support the kids. Money for the program feeds the kids. Goal is to provide a small stipend to pay the kids to keep the neighborhood clean. Abbey would like to get the kids to the horse farm to have the kids help with compost, etc.

Next meeting is May 7th at 7pm at 1606 S. Gordon

Zoning and Code Enforcement – Tracking some reports. We have a Google number to call in a report zoning or code concerns. 678-883-8849

Police / public safety – Lieutenant Ellis: Police involved shooting at Dunkin Donuts. Suspect started in Fulton CO robbed many sites along Cascade. Man shot at police and fled. Man is in custody and police officers are all ok.

Shooting across the street 752 Cascade. Silver Club. Fight in parking lot. Shots exchanged. The person was shot and is still at Grady.

Motor bikes are still an issue. Major Bryant is looking into addressing this.

Rebecca asked for more speed control presence.

Abbey – asked about a program APD calls a repeat offender program. Not run by APD but they have do have these conversations with probate court. Meet with offender's individual probation officer to see what they can do to help them not repeat a crime. This program tracks who is committing crimes over and over again. The Repeat Offender program puts the focus on these individuals. The Probation Officer looks at why they are not in jail. APD goal is enforcement. Have to go through Community Enforcement Department to help stop offenders from committing the crime in the first place.

Steffi - Question on statistics on recent burglaries – 412 by Campcreek having a spike in vehicle crimes.

Lieutenant Ellis: In Westview – 4-5 property crimes....Can pull up crime stats on City of Atlanta.gov updated every week. Our Beat is 404.

Resident reported traffic stops can help reduce all over crimes.

Lieutenant reported – state law changed on traffic stops. There is a no chase policy in ATL. 4 units will be assigned to a certain area and moved day to day.

Abbey – comments that locking people up doesn't work. Rehabilitation not happening in jail. Recommend looking at what other cities are doing that is successful and put that into action.

Lieutenant reports – offenders appearing in court may be given two options from the court: Rehabilitation process (6 months) or go through courts (which can have people released in 24 hours)

Lieutenant: Fulton County District Attorney office handles the Community Prosecutors.

Lieutenant: Court Watch – lets the community see how many times there have been problems with an individual. Community can give recommendations to the court for how to solve the problem. This is done at the county level and the city level.

Bruce: reports community members can get trained on participating in Court Watch.

JEllis@atlanta.gov

Lieutenant Ellis reports that many officers are very young – mostly under 25. The turn-over time is 3-5 years. Their youth and inexperience makes their interactions with the neighbors less than the quality expected. Currently officers are getting training on interaction with community members. Let Lieutenant know if officers are not responding well to community members.

Sherry asked again about having foot patrols.

Lieutenant said looking in to bike patrol.

Kietra suggested some of the young officers come to the neighborhood meetings.

Lieutenant: Come on a ride along with the officers for a shift. Email Lieutenant if you want to do the ride along. Community Police Academy to teach community members about the perspective of the officers. 18 YO and older.

Cleta Winslow: recommends inviting officers to the Summer Solstice Festival. Cleta offered to donate money to support the Summer Solstice.

Patrick: The Solstice started as a Police / Community Picnic

Other Questions – none

Community Concerns / Questions / Announcements –

Neighbor reports the mulch by the Stokes Pocket Park is blocking the sidewalk and blocking the street. Mulch delivery has stopped. Patrick did have our name removed from a list from a company that was delivering the mulch.

Gloria Smith – from Pat Gardner office quickly reviewed some legislation that recently passed. Gun law was passed. Medical Marijuana law was not passed.

Contact: 404-523-0071 ; (Cell) 678-772-4011; Miss Gloria @bellsouth.net; 404- 873-6208

Cleta Winslow - Did a cleanup with West End Coalition. Contact her about a bigger clean up. Offered money to support the solstice.

Mr. Carter – Works with Councilman Dickens – New website. Dickens wants to work with youth and education.

[Opportunities for Atlanta](#) is the website. Go to the website to learn about the programs.

Contact 404-548-6480 Email AAcarter@atlantaga.gov ; adickens@atlantaga.gov

Working with other council members and ATL Public Schools to make a liaison position to connect the agencies. Allows city council to know what is going on with APS.

Sherry: created Westview Neighbors page on Facebook for neighbor connection.

Adjourned at 8:35