



**Westview Community Organization
Monthly Meeting Minutes
August 4, 2014**

Meeting Called to order at 7:08 by Vice-President Octavia Vogel.
Prayer by Rebecca Cater

No invocation today.

Approval of Minutes

No approval of minutes. Will approve them the next time.

Old Business

No old business to address.

New Business

- Pete Haley - Talking about the neighborhood fund grant. Want to ask the neighborhood if they're interested in applying in conjunction with UCDC. Help neighborhood-based organizations to achieve goals (NPU's). Their garbage cans get used for the solstice event. Have an opportunity to do a grant for one of the neighborhoods in the area. This grant could probably help you get that done if you want to do that. Introducing Rita Gibson. She works with them as a consultant.

Obligation: Work with us on putting together an application and figuring out what you want to do. Amounts are \$2000 to \$10000.

Rita: Have been working with Pete for the past couple of years. The application deadline is 9/4/14. Not a lot of time. The application is several pages long. Looking for someone to work on the grant.

Possibilities/eligible activities:

- Cleanup
- Block party
- Health fair
- Garden
- Equipment

You need a bank account and peoples' names who are part of this organization that are willing to make sure the event goes off. Wants to make sure it's a neighborhood effort. They're asking for 5 people who will be committed to making sure this happens. Are you interested?

General response: Yes

Looking for a committee to work through the application. Get together during the day or at night.

Steffi: Is it one project or multiple projects?

Rita: I think it would be better to channel efforts to one project. Application likely to be stronger if there's just one. Would like to pick a time to start this week.

Ms. Battle: Is there a stipulation? 3%? Free?

Rita: No stipulation, but you have to complete the project. You will probably be notified within 30 days after being notified. Then probably a year to complete it. There is no repayment; it is not a loan.

Patrick: UCDC was instrumental in the creation of Stokes Park. He renovated the apartment building across from Kipp on Lucile. This particular grant, WCO received and utilized during the master planning process. We're connected with both of these things. I would recommend that we figure out something.

Rita: Other ideas: Youth cultural events, athletic activities, etc.

Octavia: Leave me your information. I will follow up with Ayana, and we will get back to you by the end of this week.

Rita Gibson : 404-572-3698 rgibson-ucdc@aucenter.edu

Rita: Also, 9/20/14 8:30 to 5 is a homeownership seminar. Hopefully at Kipp Strive. The participants will get a certificate which will let them get downpayment assistance. This will be through Event Brite online.

David Cater: if you contact one of us when you have the information, we can send out the flyer as well.

Pete: This other flyer is a job placement program. You get a job under this program. If you have any interest, go to the web site and fill out the application. This is for a job in health care.

- Love Your Block grant - \$1000. Due this Friday. 404-936-7130 Octavia Vogel. olvogel@yahoo.com. Patrick and Steffi may modify their application and resubmit it. If anyone has other ideas, contact Octavia.
- Code Enforcement Summit - 8/16 at the Atlanta Civic Center. (see contact information on the agenda for today's meeting). Ayana and Bruce are intending to go.
- Animal Control - They assured Sherry they would have someone here. Haven't seen anyone yet. Sherry says she would appreciate it if people would call animal control when they see dogs running loose. Sherry will follow up and see if she can get someone here. Claudia noted that it's illegal now to tether or tie up animals in any form. Someone else said that they have to be on a tether line at least 10' long. If you're outside with them they can be on a leash. There is a group that can help people with controlling their animal humanely (there is a toll free number).

Treasurer's Report

Claudia: We are still waiting to close out the solstice. We have one check outstanding. Did get the check from C. T. Martin for \$250. The money that we collected for the John Perdue Legacy fund was paid out to Pat to use for the youth. We have 60 members as of this past month. The only expense this month were for the newsletter. Part of the NPU-T grant from 2013 that is going to the community garden (\$500).

Balance: \$1962.45.

Committee Reports

BEAUTIFICATION

John: see DropBox for a scan of the specific items that John did.

COMMUNITY AFFAIRS/SPECIAL EVENTS

Ken:

- National Night Out. 6:30pm till 9pm. Going to be at the South Olympia Way and Waters intersection. I have invited the police, several politicians. There will be a district executive from the Boy Scouts. Will also give out school supplies to the children that drop by. David noted that there is going to be an art gallery/sale as well of the neighborhood kids' artwork.
- Tire Roundup - The company lost their license to collect tires. They asked Ken to reschedule.
- Westview Splash - Chattahoochee River Reserve and float down the river. Saturday August 23rd is the date of the event. For us it will be free. The deadline is August 16th. Call Ken (404-788-3431) or email kenscarey@yahoo.com.

About a week before we go, we need to know how many rafts we'll need. A very fun time, particularly on a hot day like today.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

David made a plea for membership dues.

SAFETY COMMITTEE

Police/Public Safety

Major Bryant: With zoning, primarily in Westview, we're seeing a significant reduction. In the past week, met with the district management of Kroger. Expressed concern about the level of shoplifting they were having. Requiring a lot of police visibility. They agreed to work with us by reengaging with their security to make sure they're walking throughout the aisles as well as talking to people walking in/out. They agreed to do those things. Asked them to work with the owner to request authority over the parking lot. Kroger leases that parking lot. We want them to have authority so they can remove him from the premises. Implementing back to school truancy. They didn't see a kid on the street. We encourage you to give us a call. Their goal this year is to engage the parents. The only driving issue we continue to have is larceny from vehicles. We're seeing it more in residential areas now. Make sure you do the "clean car campaign". Don't hide it, take it out.

To report truancy, call 911.

DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Patrick:

- Chad Carlson took the historic research we've done and submitted the application to the state, who will then submit it to the national register. Doesn't mean a lot, because that's just a national register. Technically no protection, and no design restrictions. But, if someone wants to do a historic rehabilitation, you are eligible for tax refunds from the federal government. It will be a few months before they submit it to the federal level.
- The city next year is looking to allow the general public to vote on whether to fund a bond to support infrastructure. 250 million. It will not increase your taxes (at least that's what they're saying now). That money will get spread out over the city. They have \$1 billion in backlog, so not everything will be covered. But we're trying to get as much for Westview as possible. Held a development meeting on 7/22 and put together a list of projects. We decided to focus on RDA, Cascade and Langhorn. Those are the three bigger-ish roads. Today I sent an email to the various council heads and gave them the notes from that meeting. Cross your fingers that we get something significant. We've had meetings all the way back to the winter. And this is really what the master plan is all about. The last time they did an infrastructure project, we didn't have a master plan. Now we have a plan, so hopefully we'll see millions of dollars of improvements in the neighborhood.

Eric: Will that help with pavement?

Patrick: We're mostly focused on sidewalks and streets.

Bonita: On Cascade between the liquor store and Church's. Do you know who we call to get that repaired?

Patrick: We can call public works and ask them to come out.

Ms. Battle: That got demolished a few years ago. It's overgrown.

Patrick: Get him to give it to us.

Bonita: Who do we call for overgrown properties?

Octavia: It's on the back of the agenda under frequently called numbers.

YOUTH OUTREACH

Abbey: Had a youth camp the past couple of weeks out of Ms. Pat's house that we did for children from 11 to 17 (and a couple younger). Done by Ashley Dobson (art teacher in the public school system). She introduced the STEAM camp (STEM + Art). Children did all different kinds of projects. For example, a tower out of fettucini, marshmallows and gumdrops. A lot of art projects. Had various speakers come in. We had a lot of help from the community. Also gave the youth \$15 stipends each week. My friend from Red, Bike and Green under bicycle coalition for 11 kids bikes. They got bike safety lessons as well. They also went to the garden, learned how to do mounds, and did art in the garden. Hopefully next year we'll be able to do it all summer.

David: I'm going to suggest that the Youth Camp could be a reasonable "project" for the UCDC camp.

David: Gave the results of the Westview/Sports Authority video contest.

Abbey: Also, a couple of field trips we took the kids on: Heritage Arts and Soul Festival at Underground. Also Living WEll, the urban farm near the King Center.

GARDEN COMMITTEE

Abbey: We've been harvesting various vegetables from the garden. We gave some of that produce to Westview Pizza in exchange for a donation. We've also connected to other gardens locally. Fresh to Health harvested food from Southwest Atlanta/West End and used that for the food they served at the Ashview Heights block party.

We are going to have an event (Sacred Earth) in our garden. They transform gardens into movie theaters. Lights, concessions, etc. Pillows, blankets, etc. Some of the proceeds from the food go to the garden. Will probably do that next month in September.

Bonita: Went by the garden a couple of weeks ago. Noticed that we have a chicken coop back there.

Abbey: We need funds to secure that so we can get chickens, fresh eggs for the community, etc. Also, garden work days are Saturdays from 10 till 2. This Saturday we are going to be planting sweet potatoes and a few other crops, and maybe a seed saving workshop. We'll be doing some planting; we have 4 empty beds.

ZONING/CODE ENFORCEMENT COMMITTEE

No report

PUBLIC SAFETY

No report

Community Concerns/Questions/Announcements

Steffi: Note the ice cream social and the Westview pizza night.

Action Items

- Octavia discuss Pete's grant with Ayana and get back with Rita by the end of this week.
- Sherry will follow up with Animal Control.
- Steffi and Patrick will modify their Love Your Block grant in case no one else submits any ideas.
- Bonita will contact public works about the sidewalk in front of Church.

Meeting adjourned at 8:01:33 PM