

# Westview Community Organization Monthly Meeting Minutes September 14, 2015

# 9/14/2015

Octavia Vogel (President) opened the meeting at 7:06 PM

In attendance: 23

# Main Meeting

Invocation

Saifa (chaplain) did invocation.

# Approval of Minutes

Ken motions to approve the minutes from the August meeting. Saifa seconded. 12 ayes, no abstentions or nays.

# Police / Public Safety

Sgt. Renaldo Ranaya. New officer in Zone 4. Been with dept 14 years, in zone 4 for 9 months. He is going to talk to his sgt. Whoever comes will be more prepared next time; he was just told a few minutes ago.

# Old Business

• Northside Drive group. Presentation apparently varies depends on who they are talking to. They didn't mention the possibility of an interchange at I-20 before. Some neighborhoods have come together to send a letter and request transparency, and to request inclusion before decisions are made. The study is supposed to be done summer of next year, just before the stadium finishes. Somewhere it was mentioned that they were considering routing I-75 traffic down Northside Drive to I20. There is a copy of the letter that was sent as well as GDOT's response. If you would like to see the letters, send email to:

# olvogel@yahoo.com

• WCO meeting guidelines. We have been going over the 8:00 end time. Presentations are limited to 5 minutes, comments are limited to 2 minutes. Octavia is going to start enforcing that.

Ms. Battle asked Octavia to research when that was added to the bylaws and when it was voted on. Octavia said she would do that for the next meeting.

• Octavia: it was brought to our attention that we have not been sending out correspondence when events occur in the community like a death in the family, a graduation, a baby being born. That would be the responsibility of the secretary. Bring that to David Cater's attention if something needs to be sent. If we were to want to send small gifts, we would need to discuss a budget for that.

Ms. Battle: in the past, some flowers or a gift would go out. Madame President has put it out as to whether this would be something the community would be in favor of. Darrick: has there been an average amount in the past? Ms. Battle said we should just pick one.

Ms. Chambers: In the past, perhaps a flower arrangement that could be planted, or \$25. In the 70s it was a \$25 limit for flowers. In the past, the organization provided meat, and the community handled veggies. And there was a separate secretary for that; there was a correspondence secretary. Also, people could choose whether they wanted the flowers or the money.

Octavia said the body would need to approve the position of correspondence secretary. Ms. Battle suggested we vote on the idea of whether the body approves of the idea of a correspondence secretary and sending gifts.

Lydia made a motion to approve the position of correspondence secretary. Bonita seconded. 15 ayes. 1 nay. 0 abstentions.

At the next meeting we will take a closer look at the budget and discuss how much could be budgeted. And we'll try to find someone to fill that position.

#### New Business

• Department of planning met with Patrick and Steffi and I to discuss zoning. Currently C1. Hoping to have legislation introduced to council in early December. If not, January. New designation would be neighborhood commercial. There is a one-page description of that at the front. We would need to have a special meeting to solicit feedback from the community. When we move to that zoning, we can put restrictions on the zoning. We also have examples from other areas of the city as far as what they did: specific business uses, specific trees to plant, setbacks. Working with the city to determine when we can have that meeting. Hoping for second or third week of October. Hoping to fix that date by next general body meeting.

Ms. Chambers asked where it would be held: in the community. They would come to us. Email Octavia at the email address above for more information.

• The neighborhood has created a Westview Commercial District Association. Their meeting it tonight. They are trying to figure out what the development needs to look like, what needs to be put in the rezoning ordinance. Asst Secretary Kyiomi Rollins is the president of that association. Their meetings will be on the third Monday of every month. Their executive committee meeting will be on the second Monday of every month. Location will vary; time will be at 7. The next location will be at Kipp Strive.

### **Committee Reports**

Treasurer's Report

Kendal Carey - kenscarey@yahoo.com

There was thought about changing banks. We will remain at First Citizens (which was Capitol City). We have close to \$8000 in the account, but it has stipulations. We have outstanding expenses that need to be taken care of.

Planning on fundraiser October 25th. Will bring out tv for Falcon's game. Will be selling hot dogs, drinks. 525 Westmeath Drive. More information available at the next general body meeting.

Ms. Chambers wanted to know why he didn't have an exact amount.

Ken: Actual amount is \$7837.15.

### Written Committee Reports

Some committee reports are included in the agenda. You can read through those.

#### **Beautification Committee**

John gave the report. It has been uploaded to DropBox.

#### **Business Committee**

New restaurant : Night Train, wings, etc. opening in Big Apple Inn's old space. They will be coordinating a candy stroll as well for Halloween Day.

To volunteer, contact Keitra Bates @ 404-322-7671

Ms. Chambers noted that there is a "Chocolate Treat" going on in the church that same day as well, so the events should be coordinated.

Public Safety

Darrick Young 314-435-9088 darrickyoung2004@yahoo.com

Last month there was an assault at the mechanic's shop at Willard and RDA. Still trying to figure out what happened.

### Garden Committee

Abbey sent a report. A company is continuing to dump woodchips over there. She is planning on being there Saturday and doing things. She's going to try to get them to stop. Apparently there is no number on the truck that is dumping it. Compost has been put at the garden through the Food Well alliance that she has a contact with. She is working on trying to secure grants to acquire tools, etc. that the garden needs to run.

A community member asked her to post when they would be meeting on Saturday. Ms. Catherine also suggested that we put something out on the Yahoo group indicating that people are welcome to come get that.

### Community Affairs/ Special Events

• Bruce discussed a tentative date for the holiday party at the fire station: December 12th. He will have more information and a signup sheet at the next meeting.

### Community Concerns/Questions/Announcements

- Ms. Catherine. People are bringing things to the garden. I would like to know what's going on in the garden. It needs to not be an eyesore. People in the neighborhood are starting to complain that things are being piled there but it's not moving forward.
- Octavia is passing out a one-sheet with budget information for the camp. Jacinta discussed it. If we have a camp next year, the extra money left over could be rolled over to a camp next year. There will be some discussion with the donors shortly about whether the money can be used for the youth organization in general.
- A community member from the West End said that his day job is as a bereavement counselor. They have a camp for 7 to 17 year olds who have had a loss in their family. It is free. Cannot transport, and it's in Acworth. Secondly, it starts this Friday. They have openings. And he apologizes for the late notice.
- Damon Waring said that there is a Creative Writing workshop 6:30 to 8:00. Art of Personal Essay, Academic Scholarships for teenagers 15 to 18. It is an 8-week program. Starts Tuesday the 22nd. See fultonarts.org for more information.

#### Important Upcoming Dates

- September 19th The Veggie Taste. It is this Saturday. An event to get tastings for vegetarian foods. There will be tickets for sampling. It is an education event to get people to eat healthier. There will be a monthly meal plan that will be handed out as well. 1450 Ralph David Abernathy from 2 to 7. The taste tickets are \$10. The vendors will be selling their regular plates as well.
- Bonita said that they are having trouble with Church's Chicken. Not offering water when it is requested on hot days, number of times people can go to the drink machine, etc.

#### <u>Adjournment</u>

Motion to adjourn Darrick, Saifa seconded, chorus of ayes. Meeting adjourned at 8:04pm.

Contact Information

www.westviewatlanta.com

Frequently Called Numbers:

- Zone 4 Police: 404-756-1903
- Pothole Posse: 404-768-4653
- Code Enforcement: 404-330-6190
- Sanitation: 404-330-6333
- Tax Assessor: 404-612-6440
- Watershed Mgmt: 404-658-6500
- Major Vince Moore: <u>vmoore@atlantaga.gov</u>
- Pastor Willie Clyde from Pathways: 404-274-1810