

Westview Community Organization Monthly Meeting Minutes April 3, 2017

The meeting was called to order at 7:06pm by Jacinta Williams

Number of people in attendance: 21

Invocation

Given Chaplain vacancy, there was no Invocation.

Adoption of Agenda:

Motioned to adopt the March 2017 agenda – Eric

Seconded that motion – Capucine*

15 Ayes

0 Nays

0 Abstentions

Motion passes

Approval of Minutes:

Motioned to adopt the February 2017 minutes - Thomas

Seconded that motion – Kendall

12 Ayes

0 Nays

0 Abstentions

Motion passes

Police/Public Safety: Major Griffin – Current stats – Overall Zone 4 20% down. Citywide. Weather change likely to cause an uptick in crime. Strategies are in place. 404 beat 15 crimes – burglary, 5 vehicle/auto larcenies, 3 shoplifting. About 15 crimes in 404. Other sectors experiencing uptick in crime as well. 13 arrests (taken to jail – including a local juvenile. Likely repeat offender). Working w/ Juvenile system but Fulton County won't accept juveniles even though they are repeat offenders. Beat officers are being proactive – doing a lot of "drop-ins". Reminder to kept all things out of plain view; travel in groups as offenders are targeting soft targets. Overall message is to be smart and use situational awareness. Don't advertise (i.e. leaving boxes for new appliances, furniture, etc. outside).

Question – is it safe to walk the trail by yourself? Griffin – unsure to comment either way. Comments from neighbors suggest trails are safe but to use discretion.

Unfinished Business

New Business

Stephanie Rummage (Rum-mage) – City Ombudsman

- Had a conversation regarding speeding – in order to use a radar it requires a straight path. There is some discretion the officer has but sometimes it can be a risky situation getting the officer to stick. Starting 2 weeks from now an officer will be posted at Alverado and Willard. Not to be considered “public information” for sharing...

Orlando – wants to know what are the chances of getting speed humps? Public Works has been contacted – they have to analyze and decide to either follow guidelines or not (following guidelines is advised). There are lots of variables that are analyzed. Once it has been decided the street is suitable for speed humps – then the petition phase begins. Requires 75% owner occupant buy-in.

- Regarding the watershed issue – specific individuals need to contact Stephanie for a better understanding of issue. Suggests calling a plumber to confirm there is no leak and take that information to Public Works/Watershed. Watershed uses Data Loggers (similar to EKG) and you can get a visual of water usage. There is an online process to follow to get the ball rolling.

Basic suggestion - Turn off everything that uses water (turn off at the intake). Open meter – if you see that despite the fact nothing is running, the meter is turning over. If the meter is not running, then you don't have a leak. Suggest videoing if possible.

Care & Conserve – program for senior citizen, low income, etc.

- Regarding shared driveway easement rights – question was not understood

-Concern about fenced alleyway that is overgrown – City abandoned alleys (if an alley is fenced without a petition that is illegal up to \$1000 / day fine. Alley is owned by the connected property. If the alley backs up to your property, you own the alley.

-Regarding sidewalks – if you have a sidewalk in front of your home, you own it. There is a repair program. For \$3.90 / sq ft Public Works will repair. If a city planted tree causes the issue it needs to be reviewed to determine who owns it.

Jennifer Pickler (Architecture) w/ Jarred (neighbor who is buying the home to rent out) – Presenting a special exception on a property being worked on (495 E. Ontario). Designs were displayed.

-House is a quad (since 1930 ish) built in 1920. Requesting a lot of major repairs inside the home and unsightly exterior (things that don't change the exterior). The neighbors living next to the property have not been specifically/officially spoken to regarding the special exceptions.

-Louis motion to support with the condition. Second by bonita and Orlando

15 ayes

1 nays

1 abstentions

Motion passes – WCO will be at the NPU meeting to share our support

Emily White – ETHOS Proposed Charter School in SW

-K-5th grade (free charter school). There are 11,000 students on a waitlist for Charter Schools. ETHOS brings an art program, special education work, band, big literacy focus. Waiting for a location hoping to open in Fall 2013

-Eric asked does a new charter school pull funds from existing charter school? No it doesn't as it would be located outside the boundary of the nearest charter school. It would be a slow growing school starting with K and growing from there. This would be a new school but not a new endeavor – they have erected similar schools in other locations.

-Eric motion to support, second by Ms. Catherine

14 ayes

0 nays

3 abstentions

Motion passes – WCO will extend a letter of support

Ms. Catherine expressed concern about guests speakers leaving the meeting loudly

Treasurer's Report Balance 1,274.97 Paypal 3,081.81

Committee Reports

- Beautification: March 28 – Triangle beds have been cleaned – took 2 hours. Insect spray is needed in addition to the list of supplies requested. Hoping Megan or nearby neighbor) would take over Ontario Park, requires maintenance and cutting (twice a month) in addition to the 3 island beds. Per John we won't be able to get any plant material until the end of the month.
- Business: N/A
- Community Affairs/Special Events: Game night was a total success, the attendees had a great time. April 22nd – Birthday celebration in Community Garden, hoping to plant a tree. April 23rd 2 – 6PM – Atlanta Streets Alive happens and begins in Westview ends in Grant Park. WCO is planning to have a put-put golf for attendees to enjoy.
Eric commented that more neighbors should attend and bring their children. There were only 4 children and the children that attended were not interested due to lack of children attendance.
- Motion to extend meeting 20 minutes – Orlando, Second by Thomas
13 ayes
1 nays
0 abstentions
- Development: April 17th Beltline meeting for RDA complete streets project at Kipp Academy. 2015 infrastructure bond meeting produced 13 million dollar grant. Neighborhood input is NEEDED! 6:30-8PM. Historic Kipp (JC Harris building).



Westview Community Organization

Jacinta Williams, President 404-274-5803
Blake Jimmerson, Vice President 404-484-4364

- Garden: \$2500 grant received – work will begin this Saturday. 10 – 1PM at community garden.
- Membership: Some guests donated to become members. As the weather warms, we will begin the door knocking to solicit new members and inform neighbors what WCO does. Some planned upcoming events include a block party, and membership drives.
- Public Safety: N/A
- Zoning and Code Enforcement: Vacancy:
- Youth: Summer Camp – reaching out for donations. April 22nd – pop up tents in the Denny's parking lot. \$30 tables to be a vendor. Event lasts from 12 – 6PM. See chair for donations. Information will be shared on the Westview FB page. Seeking up to 20 kids, last camp had 35 and hoping to match this year. Budget goal is \$10,000 (expectations are \$170/wk per kid).
- **Community Concerns/Announcements –**
Isaiah w/ Relay Bike Share announcement – pamphlets available. \$15/mo will get you 1hr a day ride. Overall goal is to increase bike usage. Location at Gordon White Park and West End Park. Will be present at Atlanta Streets Alive – upcoming events at Gordon White Park and West End Park.

Request to add stricter time limits on guests so the meetings don't continually run over.

Meeting is adjourned at 8:17PM