



**Westview Community Organization
Monthly Meeting Minutes
August 2, 2010**

The meeting was called to order by Vice President Patrick Berry at 7:05pm.

Invocation – The invocation was presented by Chaplain Raymond Gambrell. A moment of silence was held in honor of Selery Heard's mother.

Approval of the Minutes – Raymond Gambrell motioned to approve the July meeting minutes. John Davis seconded the motion. Vote – Yes: 7, No: 0

OLD BUSINESS

National Night Out – National Night Out will take place on Tuesday, August 3, 2010 at Magnificent Daycare, 1699 Westwood Avenue, from 7:00pm to 9:00pm. Public Safety Chair, Darrick Young, handed out flyers. Residents are encouraged to bring side items, desserts, hot dog buns, and ice. Drinks, hot dogs, condiments, and plates left over from the Centennial Celebration will be used. A Zone 4 police representative is scheduled to stop by. Additionally, neighbors are encouraged to bring school supplies to be donated to children.

BeltLine and Enota Park Update – Maps were handed out from the most recent BeltLine Study Group meeting on July 22. Patrick Berry presented the different plans. A neighbor inquired about lighting plan for the park. Patrick informed that the park will be part of the Parks Department and therefore there are no plans for security patrols. The final plan presentation will be taking place on August 26th at 6:30pm at 1040 Ralph David Abernathy Blvd (West Hunter Baptist Church).

Assistant Treasurer Position – Claudia Hicks has volunteered to fill the empty Assistant Treasurer Position. Ayana Gabriel motioned to approve Claudia Hicks for the Assistant Treasurer position. Raymond Gambrell seconded the motion. Vote – Yes: 9, No: 0

NEW BUSINESS

1556 Stokes Avenue – The owner has donated the property to the community. Ownership has been transferred to UCDC, who will demolish the dilapidated house and then wants to turn the property over to the WCO. UCDC is working with the land trust to eliminate any outstanding property taxes, as well as taxes through 2010. Moving forward the WCO would need to raise \$300-500 to cover annual property taxes. UCDC said they could assist the WCO in raising funds to cover taxes. Tonyel Stewart informed that landscape architects could create a plan for the space pro bono. Residents inquired if utility rights would remain with the property. Tonyel suggested having a Development Committee meeting to look into these questions in more detail. Jonathan Mason expressed interest in participating. Ayana Gabriel moved to defer a vote until the September meeting in order to allow the Development Committee to meet. John Davis seconded the motion. Vote – Yes: 9, No: 0

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Boys & Girls Club – Keon Merriett from the Boys & Girls Club came to remind residents that children ages 6-18 can attend the club for \$25 per year. The Club provides children with an environment for higher learning – education, internet safety, computer knowledge, CRCT prep, proper eating, hygiene, sex & drug & alcohol education, arts and crafts, financial responsibility, and more. 33% of all adults that came through the Club have received a higher education degree. The \$25 fee includes field trips. (Summer camp is separate.) They encourage sponsors through money or going to schools to inquire which children they deem would benefit the most from the Club. Volunteers are welcome – you will

need to go through a background check. Contact Mr. Wilson if you are interested. The Salvation Army Boys & Girls Club is located at 1191 Donnelly Avenue.

Wells' Alteration – Eva Wells introduced herself and informed that she has opened up a new tailoring and alterations business at 1530 Ralph David Abernathy Blvd.

Morehouse Revitalization Task Force – Brandon Farrar (Project Coordinator) has the results from the Community Survey that Scott Smith and Patrick Berry took part in. Paper or digital results are available for interested people.

Additionally a Hero Nomination Form was provided to Patrick Berry. Neighbors are encouraged to nominate middle and high school students that are performing special work in the area. Turn forms in by the fall so results can be published in the first Morehouse RTF newsletter. Forms will be distributed via the neighborhood Yahoo group or contact Patrick at 404-755-1255.

Westview Community Garden – A garden meeting will take place on August 16th. Location TBD.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Special Events – Ayana Gabriel passed out a calendar of events planned over the next 12 months. Events coming up soon: On September 11th from 8:30am to 11:00am the WCO will coordinate with KIPP STRIVE Academy. Raymond Gambrell will speak to 5th graders about the community, followed by a community walk. Please contact Ayana Gabriel at agabriel1908@yahoo.com to volunteer to walk the neighborhood with the students. On October 2nd there will be a neighborhood clean-up. Ayana is looking for volunteers to help plan specific events. Darrick suggested adding a May event to work on the Westview Community Garden.

COMMUNITY CONCERNS/QUESTIONS

Illegal Car Shops – Residents raised concerns about illegal car repairs occurring at 390 Altoona Avenue, 1467 Lucile Avenue, 415 Mathewson Place, 349 Altoona Avenue, and parking additional vehicles at 386 Altoona Avenue.

Dilapidated Houses – Two houses in Westview are slated for demolition: 1616 Derry Avenue and 1616 South Gordon Street.

Vacant Properties – Claudia Hicks suggested pushing programs to have teachers, police, firefighters move into vacant properties. Melva Sampson suggested being proactive and contacting schools. Patrick Berry will inquire with Khaatim S. El (Atlanta Board of Education, District 2).

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.

\$69.00 of dues were collected by Treasurer Tonyel Stewart.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:14pm.

Submitted by Steffi Langer-Berry, Secretary