



**Westview Community Organization
Monthly Meeting Minutes
April 7, 2014**

The meeting was called to order at 7:06pm by Vice-President Octavia Vogel.

Invocation by Jamie Fischer.

Approval of Minutes

Motion to approve: Bruce Williams. Second: Kendall.

12 yay, 0 opposed.

New Business

- Bruce discussed the Olympian Way cleanup on April 12th. From Cascade to Gordon. Also planning on setting up grills along the Olympian Way strip. Starting at 9:00am. Meet in the middle to have refreshments. Rebecca offered trash bags. Bruce asked people to meet at his house (1540 Olympian Circle) at 9:00am.
- Jen Ferris talked about the Little Free Library. Wants WCO to apply for a grant for a mural. "One Region Atlanta". A community initiative foundation in Atlanta. Living Walls is a mural organization that promotes diversity through the arts. They have partnered with One Region to install a \$5000 mural within a region that includes Westview. They will not award it to individuals. Has to be a group with a 501 status or with a tax id. Applicants aren't required to have a non-profit status. There are different application deadlines. The next deadline is May 5th. They would do a site visit. Jen will find out more about it. They are responsible for creating the mural if it is awarded. Goal is to show a sense of community and create an "artistic community mural".

Jamie asked if anyone has any walls in mind for the mural. Emphasized that it would be important to verify it with the owner. Jen has not talked with any mural owners yet. However, she did work with Verizon 5 years ago identifying walls for murals, and it was easy to pitch. Steffi said that they had permission from the owner of Denny's for the last two years, although it didn't happen. Steffi is also curious about who is responsible for creating the mural. Jen says it seems to be a local mural project, but they didn't specify. But it does say they provide the artist.

- Jen also applied for the Love Your Block grant for the Little Free Libraries. She applied for materials to create 10 Little Free Libraries. And her idea was to have the LFL replicate the architecture of the house where the LFL would be placed. Goal would also be to create a WiX site that lists the contents of the libraries. Jen has started getting collections of books and supplies. She has a friend that is a carpenter near the neighborhood (Cascade Heights) that would be building them. She would be getting materials from LifeCycle (wood, tin, etc.). The goal is to encourage reading, as well as knowledge of the architecture of the neighborhood. And also, perhaps, to encourage healthy living through the choice of health-oriented books in the library. She plans on starting with two houses: S. Gordon and Olympian Way. Her hope would be to do the next one at the community garden.
- Bruce is discussing Atlanta Streets Alive. We are registered. We have 4 activities scheduled so far.
 1. A gymnastics company is doing a demo.
 2. Tai chi class
 3. Hula hooping
 4. Fitness

We'll be setup at Gordon White park. Steffi explained what Streets Alive is (pedestrian/health oriented street festival). The Executive Committee decided it would be a good idea for Westview to have a presence. Bruce asked for ideas to call attention to our table, and to advertise the Solstice. Hoping that creative people can help make the table be

memorable. Also, if there is any available swag to hand out that would be good. Bruce said he will find out how much space we have available.

- Octavia discussed Summer Solstice. Date is June 21st. The next meeting is April 14th. Bruce offered to hold the meeting at his house at 1540 Olympian Circle. Bruce will be coordinating all of the volunteers. Octavia requested that people sign up to be volunteers.

Treasurer's Report

We started March \$3607. We got \$621.20 in dues. The odd amount is because PayPal takes a small percentage. Total expenses: Most went to the garden shed. \$1570 went for that. \$96 went towards the newsletter. As of today, we have \$2658.72 in the account.

Committee Reports

BEAUTIFICATION

John reported for Month of Feb/March.

- Chad replaced signs in the triangles at S Gordon and RDA, and Williard and S. Gordon, and sign at Ontario Park.
- 3/11/14: triangles at Willard and S. Gordon weeded
- Planted flowers in triangle at S. Gordon and RDA.
- Grass cut S. Gordon and Willard and also at Ontario Park and Olympian Circle.

Rebecca asked if he has a plan for when he's going out next. John says the committee has mostly disbanded, and there haven't been meetings, because there weren't enough people. He thinks it may start again now that there are 4 people interested. Claudia asked John to call someone a couple of days ahead of time and we can send out an email alert.

Bonita offered to head up an effort to reach out to renters to get them involved as well.

Bruce also said that he has a neighbor that will call a list of telephone numbers to notify people that don't have email.

COMMUNITY AFFAIRS/SPECIAL EVENTS

No report

DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Patrick displayed a street topper. WCO has submitted a grant to cover more of the neighborhood. If we get the grant, they'll be asking people to donate money to cover the remainder. Last time we did about 50, with a total cost of \$1600. This time we plan on getting around 30. Around 29 are currently needed.

GARDEN COMMITTEE

Someone will be there this Saturday. David Cater said that he has 6-8 blueberry bushes available for the garden. Jamie said that Octavia and Abby have a garden plan, so consult with them to figure out where they should go.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Rebecca. Newsletter delivered. People are writing articles for the next newsletter. Currently at 40 members. Goal is 50. The S. Gordon, Rogers, Westwood area won the block party for the most members. We'll be working on planning the party. Asked for volunteers to help deliver the newsletters.

SAFETY COMMITTEE

No report

YOUTH OUTREACH

Jamie reported that some youth are on a trip to Albany with Ayana and the Perdews. There will be a youth committee meeting on Wed the 16th at 7pm at 1606 S. Gordon (the Perdews' house). All are welcome.

ZONING/CODE ENFORCMENT COMMITTEE

Bruce reported. We are tracking 78 items on the neighborhood (on a single sheet). At the next meeting, plan on having a blown up picture of the neighborhood and indicate on there where the issues are. Bruce has reached out to Scott, who said he would lead a discussion about what has happened so far. Bruce created a Google number that people will be able to call with code violations. Sherry said that they have started putting stickers on the houses that have been reported.

Police/Public Safety

Lt. J Ellis. New to Zone 4. Morning watch commander. Been in Zone 4 about 8 months. Started 15 years ago, started in zone 3. Email is best way to contact:

jellis@atlantaga.gov

Three things we're working on:

- Vehicle crimes. Please make sure you clean your cars out. Clean Car Campaign.
- Robberies. If you have people you know out at the bus stops in the morning, make sure they're with a buddy and have a flashlight.
- Juveniles. The juvenile system is changing. Send juveniles through complaint room, a misdemeanor clearing house. Trying to keep the juveniles in when they get them.

Burglaries are down.

Major (Bryant?) is here as well. Citizen advisory meeting will be held soon. It will be announced via email to the NPU's. "Juvenile" typically means around 14 - 22/23 years old. We want to introduce a plan to have a dialogue with the community to have a "fix" plan rather than simply a "stop" plan. Find out why the kids aren't in school. Find out a way to help the kids rather than simply locking them up. That conversation will start at the citizen advisory meeting.

Rebecca brought up the speed of cars in the neighborhood, particularly with kids out playing. They said they are changing the policies slightly.

Claudia brought up the need for bike patrols. Major said they are working on it, but they need more personnel. Lt. Ellis said 4 people from Zone 4 got sent to bike training.

Claudia brought up guys on motorcycles riding down the Beltline. Major said he hoped she would come to the citizen advisory meeting. The problem is that they want to be chased, and also the city can now be sued for a higher limit (\$750,000).

Someone asked about speed bumps. Octavia said we will check with Leslie and report back.

Community Concerns/Questions/Announcements

Gwendolyn Cain from Morehouse (program manager) wanted to introduce a man here named Terrel Brown. He will be supporting us "in the office". Just graduated from GA State.

Jamie closed the meeting with a prayer.

Meeting adjourned at 8:07 PM.