



**Westview Community Organization  
Monthly Meeting Minutes  
November 3, 2014**

11/3/2014

Octavia (Vice-President) opened the meeting at 7:01 PM. Ayana (President) was delayed by traffic.

New Neighbors

Abby Perez: Purchase church at 1450 Ralph David Abernathy. Met with Ayana, met with guys from fire station. Happy to answer questions about the property. Ayana suggested we might want to have a separate meeting later. There is a place across the street that has no HVAC, so it might be cold.

David: To clear up any rumors, you are not tearing down the church and replacing it with apartments?

Abby: No, I don't know where that got started. After my dad died he wanted to setup a foundation for children's education in West End. Started working with groups over here about 8 years ago. Our construction company built the expansion for Kipp. I was at Kipp and looked across the street and saw the church. We bought the property. We closed in July. No intention to tear it down. Our intention is to renovate the property. Kipp is considering putting some of their offices in the renovated church. A local community member was talking about doing yoga there. The sanctuary could host weddings, it could be an event space, etc. We are open to community to input. It is literally a cornerstone of the community.

Derek: Really curious to know if there is a plan (or possibility) for some of the local contractors to get involved in the build out or rehab process.

Abby: I will talk to my contractor again. A stop work order has been placed on it. There is lead and asbestos. The work he is focusing on initially is remediating that.

Ken: Are you trying to make this into a multi-use facility.

Abby: 40,000 square feet. Several points of ingress and egress. Definitely ways to set it up so a couple of different areas could be sectioned off. I think it's going to be more of a creative type use.

David: Any thoughts on converting to lofts?

Abby: Zoning doesn't allow that right now. Goal is to renovate the existing. Originally setup for schools, so really not setup for residential.

Ayana: I did have an opportunity to tour it with her. We would like to create an opportunity for community members to tour the space. It is beautiful.

Abby's contact information:  
[abby@kingreadvisors.com](mailto:abby@kingreadvisors.com)  
404-419-9412

**Main Meeting**

Invocation

Started with a moment of silence since the chaplain is not here.

Approval of Minutes

No discussion. Approved: 19 ayes. 0 nays. 0 abstentions.

## Old Business

### a. Bylaws Update: Business Committee

We discussed the last two meetings creation of a new committee: the business committee. We are appointing Keitra as the first chair of the new business community. Printed out the relevant sections of the by-laws for review.

No discussion about the update to the bylaws. Tamara made a motion to approve the bylaws. Rebecca seconded the motion. 19 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstentions. We have a business committee now.

Ms. Catherine asked who is on the committee. Just Keitra. She also asked if the by-laws can be sent out. Ayana said she would do that.

### b. WCO Awarded Neighborhood Fund Grant

Announced the grant: over \$11,000 grant. Largest grant Westview has received.

## New Business

### a. Gordon Street Presbyterian Church – Abby Perez

More people here, so Ayana asked Abby to give the 2-minute summary. Current scope is a single floor. Hope to expand the scope of work a bit more after that.

### b. Community Resources – Mary Nellum

There are a lot of resources in the community, and people often don't know about them. Mary Nellum stood up. She is trying to gather shoes to send to Africa. She lives next door to the church at 1481 Stokes Avenue. Bring canned goods and shoes to the meeting after next. You can drop off items there as well. She is there most of the time. Definitely there from 9 till 12.

Pat Perdeu spoke. She says that Mary feeds people. She has been doing that since 2000. Soup, sandwiches, etc. This attempt to gather clothing and send it to Africa will be an ongoing effort. She also does Christmas dinner and Thanksgiving dinners.

Rebecca Scott asked if there's something specific that she would like from Costco. What does she typically use?

- Sandwich meat
- Cheese
- Lettuce
- Ranch dressing
- Bread
- Canned soups
- Ketchup
- Rice
- Beans
- Plastic cups
- Carryout containers
- Napkins
- Plastic cutlery

### c. 2015 WCO Elections - [info@westviewatlanta.com](mailto:info@westviewatlanta.com)

Information about the elections are in the bylaws. Ayana printed out some copies of the relevant parts of the bylaws.

## 2015 Elected Positions

President

Vice President  
Secretary  
Assistant Secretary  
Treasurer  
Assistant Treasurer  
Chaplain  
Parliamentarian

Nominations will be accepted until the Friday before the December meeting. There will also be a write-in position.

John: Nominated Ayana for president.  
Abbey: Nominated Octavia for president and vice-president  
Derek: Nominated Octavia for vice-president  
John: Nominated David for secretary  
David: Nominated Claudia Hicks for treasurer  
David: Nominated Jamie Fischer for chaplain  
David: Nominated Josef Fischer for assistant secretary.  
David: Nominated Sherry Bailey for parliamentarian. She declined.  
Catherine: Nominated Pat Perdeu for parliamentarian. She declined.  
Pat Perdeu: Nominated Catherine Arron for parliamentarian. She accepted.  
Kendall: Nominated himself for assistant treasurer.

Elections will occur in the December meeting, and the people seeking the positions will say a few words.

Ms. Catherine asked if there was anyone else who is interested in running for president and was interested in receiving a nomination. No one responded.

Ayana noted that anyone who is interested in seeking positions could also speak up in December.

Tamara asked about the role of the parliamentarian. Ayana read the information about that role from the bylaws.

Ayana noted that it is possible to hold an office and to chair the committee.

Pat asked about the number of meetings. For an officer, you are not supposed to miss 3 consecutive meetings. She continued to read the information about those rules from the by-laws. Ayana noted that the president is responsible for appointing the committee chairs.

Ayana asked people to send nominations to [info@westviewatlanta.com](mailto:info@westviewatlanta.com) or call Octavia or Ayana. The next meeting is December 1st. So please send it by the Friday of Thanksgiving to ensure the ballots can be printed.

d. Grievance Process - [info@westviewatlanta.com](mailto:info@westviewatlanta.com)

Ayana: All of us who work with the neighborhood are volunteers. Not everyone will be happy, so we want to ensure there's a grievance process. We want to make sure there is a mechanism for people to voice their unhappiness. The grievance process will need to be adopted in the bylaws. In the meantime, send your information to the email address above. The grievance will go to the vice-president, who will bring it to the executive committee.

### Treasurer's Report

Claudia is not here. Balances are the same as last month. \$2386.91. No expenditures.

### **Committee Reports**

#### Beautification

John gave his report. See DropBox for the PDF of the report.

#### Community Affairs/ Special Events

Ken announced the events.

- November 8, Kickball 1:00 pm West End Park, Lucile Ave between Lawton and Holderness. There are flyers on the table.
- November 22, 12:00 pm Sweetwater Hike, Meet at Calvary UMC, 1471 RDA. Contact Ken if you want to go; he is going to rent a minivan. No charge for any of these events.
- December 13, 2:00 pm WCO Holiday Dinner, Firestation 17, 1489 Ralph David Abernathy Blvd Westview Community Organization, Inc. • 481 West Ontario Avenue, Atlanta, GA 30310. WCO will provide the turkey. Email [kenscarey@yahoo.com](mailto:kenscarey@yahoo.com) to tell him what you're going to bring. Potluck dinner. He'll make a note of that, and mention what else is needed at the next meeting. If anyone wants to help out with logistics, also contact Ken at his email address.

### Development

Development chairs on vacation. Ayana also provided a brief summary about the fact that the city is going to allow the sale of the old fire station to proceed.

Wear your Westview t-shirt to the Beltline ground breaking next November 12th (see important upcoming dates).

Jay Scott volunteered for the Development committee.

Abby Perez knows the people that bought the old fire station. Part of their plan is to get involved with the community. They really want to open a coffee shop there. They've talked to Octane.

Kiomi: We have a business on MLK. I think it would be great to consider something like an incubation space. Keitra and I don't necessarily have the same backing as Octane, but it would be nice to provide an incubation space for business owners who already have a stake in the community.

Abby said she would be happy to provide their contact information as well, so we can reach out to them and invite them to the next meeting. Also, she says she has a lot of room at the church, once they have power, HVAC, water, etc. There are other possible options there as well.

Ayana suggested that people join the Development committee to help guide that.

Abby said that she would be happy to have people contact her to ask for assistance with understanding documents, etc. (as a broker).

Ayana noted that we are past the time and asked for a motion to extend time 20 minutes. Motion made and seconded, 19 ayes.

### Garden

Abbey Henderson: This Saturday we will be planting a lot of veggies. Just spoke to people at True and Living Well. Getting swiss chard, kale, broccoli and collards. Lots of greens for this winter. Abbey put out a flyer. Her number is on there. 11am till 4pm.

Catherine asked if Abbey could let people know what she needs during the week. If she could provide that information, David could send that out in the minutes.

Abbey also said she would post something near the shed.

Ayana asked about what times would be good for Catherine. She said between 12 and 4.

### Membership

Rebecca: 57 members. There is a special on membership + t-shirt + stickers (\$30). Suggested that people carry business cards.

There is also a book club that we started. Generally meeting third Tuesday of the month. Not December. Posting on the Westview Neighborhood Facebook page. Meeting at the Westview Pizza Cafe.

Derek asked Jen Farris to talk about the Little Free Library. At Ontario and S. Gordon. Designed like a Tudor. Hopes that other people will build theirs to look similar to their houses as well. Little kids love them. Hard to keep books in there. Average child coming through is between 2 and 9. Preference is hardbacks. Dinosaurs, books about nature, etc. are zooming out of the box. Culture, arts, design, engineering. I also added a book blurb blog notebook in the LFL; the book fairy is about to start answering them. She got a dresser drawer from a dresser that was on the side of the road. Started with that and built up. A carpenter friend put the gables on.

### Public Safety

No updates.

### Police / Public Safety

Lt. J Ellis: Right now down in almost every category except burglaries from residences. From 4 to 8 since last year. Juvenile just released 30 juveniles into your neighborhood. So crime is likely to go up. Last month 29 arrests total. Vast majority were part 2 crimes.

Derek: Juvenile piece. Where can we find out age range of the young people?

Anyone under the age of 17.

Derek: Is there somewhere we can go to find out their specific ages?

I doubt it, because of privacy issues.

Most issues are occurring during the day.

### Youth

Pat:

- Ms. Catherine is going to be the new chairperson of the youth committee.
- We have started taking applications for youth for Christmas. Goal is a Christmas gift for every child in Westview. Deadline for applications is November 26th.
- Starting this week at Pathways Church: A GED program. Wed and Thurs from 9 to 11. We already have 9 people signed up.
- Mothers and elders luncheon on November 13th at noon. She has flyers to hand out.

David: Will the list of Christmas gifts be instead of the Angel Tree.

Pat: it will be in addition to the tree.

Barbara Washington: We've done something similar at Cavalry. The church might be able to participate as well and provide additional gifts. I suggest you contact Tracey Mosely from Urban League of Greater Atlanta about expunging records, getting GEDs, paying children for work, etc. They are funded through the United Way. They work with young people from 17 through mid 20's.

Pat: We're trying to compile a list of resources and get them disseminated.

Barbara Washington: They also get federal dollars.

### Zoning and Code Enforcement

Sherry: No updates. We do note that stickers that are being pulled off are being put back on.

Pat: You gave Jomo students from Morehouse, he's going to assign the task to them of identifying every vacant property in the community, and those that need special attention.

Michael Butler is a senior Sociology major at Morehouse. We volunteer at Morehouse. Dustin Jones sr. philosophy major.

### Community Concerns/Questions/Announcements

Barbara Washington: Resource day on Saturday. She brought flyers. 9 till 3. We're doing a community Christmas program this year. Celebration of the greens. If you play an instrument and would like to participate you can do that. December 13th at 6pm.

Additional flyers: Job preparation workshop this Sunday near Westlake/Bankhead area. Resume workshop, job interviews. Matching people with organizations. Specifically looking for people with criminal backgrounds that might prevent them from getting jobs.

Derek: Introducing a couple: Mr. Mac and Ms. Joanne. Strongly considering moving into the neighborhood.

Keitra: Intro to Robotics on 22nd of November at 2:00pm at the Westview Pizza Cafe

### Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 11/3/2014 8:34 PM.

### Important Upcoming Dates

- Every Saturday, 10:00 – 2 pm Garden Workday every Saturday! 1439 S Gordon St SW
- November 8, Kickball 1:00 pm West End Park, Lucile Ave between Lawton and Holderness
- November 12, 10:30am. Allene Avenue between Catherine Street and the Urban Farm. Groundbreaking of Westside
- November 12, 7 – 9 pm NPU-T Meeting, KIPP STRIVE Academy, 1444 Lucile Ave
- November 20, 6:30 pm Westview 3rd Thursdays: Westview Pizza Café, 1550 Ralph David Abernathy Blvd
- November 22, 12:00 pm Sweetwater Hike, Meet at Calvary UMC, 1471 RDA
- November 26, 12:00 pm Thanksgiving Holiday Dinner, Pathways Christian Church, 1517 RDA Blvd
- December 13, 2:00 pm WCO Holiday Dinner, Firestation 17, 1489 Ralph David Abernathy Blvd Westview Community Organization, Inc. • 481 West Ontario Avenue, Atlanta, GA 30310

### Contact Information

[www.westviewatlanta.com](http://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

### Action Items

- Ayana: send out by-laws to the Yahoo mailing list
- Ayana: create ballots to print out for December meeting
- Ayana: send email to Patrick and Steffi about Jay Scott volunteering for the Development committee.
- Abbey: post information about upcoming garden needs. Send them to David when you know them as well so he can forward them on (or add them to minutes, etc.).