

NPU-V Meeting
March 9th, 2020
Mechanicsville
Dunbar Recreation Center
477 Windsor St SW, Atlanta, GA 30312

INVOCATION

Columbus Ward convened the meeting. Deborah Arnold led invocation.

Approval of Agenda

There was a motion and second to adopt the amended agenda: 0-no, 0-abstain.

Neighborhood Reports

Adair Park - The neighborhood is addressing zoning issues.

Capitol Gateway - None

Mechanicsville - A young man was killed on Garibaldi Street in apparent inter-gang violence. Mechanicsville Civic Association is seeking help from AHA, APD, and surrounding neighborhoods for new cameras connected to the APD system.

Peoplestown - PNA: 99 University Ave has not come before the neighborhood yet and will be deferred. The community meeting is this Saturday at the Rick McDevitt Center. There will also be a clean up at Stanton Park at 10AM. PNA will meet 3/18 at the Rick McDevitt Center.

PRC: "Self Care for your Healthcare" fair will be 3/18. A workshop on lowering property taxes will be 3/16 10AM - 12PM at the Rick McDevitt Center and will include Atlanta Volunteer Lawyers. 555 Club meets every Tuesday and Thursday 10AM-2PM.

Pittsburgh - PHU: Safe Living Streets is an initiative started about 1.5 years ago for identifying repeat dumpers. The Big Four Store is no longer safe for the community due to drug sales.

Summerhill - ONS: Last Friday was the Atlanta United block party and was well attended. New businesses are opening on Georgia Ave.

Roll Call

Adair Park - 8

Capitol Gateway - 0

Mechanicsville - 15

Peoplestown - 7

Pittsburgh - 5

Summerhill - 9

Approval of Minutes

Attendance for Adair Park for the February minutes was changed to 4. There was a motion and second to approve the February minutes with the change: 0-no, 1-abstain.

Public Safety

APD Zone 3 - The 725 Garibaldi Street homicide has some leads. Please send footage from Ring cameras to APD. Bass and Garibaldi Streets intersection has a license plate reader. Larcenies from vehicles are an issue. Don't leave cars running with the keys inside.

Fulton Community Prosecutor (Terrell Thompson) - Business cards are available on the back table. Newsletters are provided quarterly and include recent convictions. Project Level Up fights recidivism. Legal Lives is a mock trial competition for 5th graders with courtroom procedures, etiquette, and language. Fulton County District Attorney's office has a 5-6 week program including Court Watch and shadowing prosecutors.

Question: What will the office do to address gun and gang violence?

Answer: Project Level Up targets youth to prevent gang entrenchment. The grant includes wraparound services, counselors, and case managers. The DA office is also in contact with APD zone commanders.

City Departments

Code Enforcement (Ofc. Turner) - From December 2019- February 2020 23 cases were highly hazardous and 80 cases were maintenance related for a total of 103 cases. Contact Ofc. Turner at (404) 617-3032, (404) -546-3844, and koturner@atlantaga.gov.

Tickets were presented to the following properties:

Court dates are set for the following:

220 Delevan St.

154 South Ave - 3/11

1100 McDaniel st.

232 Ralph David Abernathy Blvd - 3/12

1152 Welch St.

725 Humphries St - 3/17

1145 Montreat Ave..

502 Pryor St - 3/24

979 Lionel St.

565 Rockwell St - 3/31

251 Hendrix St.

1015 Sims St.

Code Enforcement SWEET Team (Ofc. James) - The SWEET team has targeted McDaniel St. and Dill Ave.

Question: Which part of McDaniel St.?

Answer: University Ave to the railroad tracks.

Concern: A tree cut at Whitehall and McDaniel Streets is blocking the sidewalk.

Answer: Ofc. James will take a look. Call (404) 273-6234.

Community Affairs for 311 - Atl311 is the non-emergency call center with 60 agents fielding 3,000 calls per day. You can visit the website, mobile app, or use Facebook direct messages. Call in flooding even on weekends.

Question: When you report to 311 and are assigned a number, what do you do if the system marks the issue as resolved but the issue still exists?

Answer: Please call back and escalate.

Question: Does 311 process traffic studies?

Answer: Yes - the request will be forwarded to the Transportation Department.

Watershed Management - MOST Tax helps keep water rates lower. Project funding is accessible via open records. 3/16-3/22 is "fix a leak" week. Toilet tabs and aerators are available. The city can provide billing adjustments for certain issues except toilet and faucet leaks. Rain barrel workshops start in April.

Question: MOST is like a poll tax on poorer communities. What are alternatives i.e. hotel tax?

Answer: MOST also affects visitors who use water services. Open records can show allocations. The breakdown of residents vs. non-residents is not available.

Park Pride - Park Pride works with communities to address growing park needs. Representatives attend all NPU meetings, festivals, and Farmer's Markets. Park Pride will also host 10 workshops which include child care and language services. Upcoming dates are: 4/2 at Grove Park, 4/9 in Thomasville, 4/18 at Adams Park, and 4/23 at St. Luke's Church.

Question: Why are there no locations in NPU-V?

Answer: The city was divided into maintenance quadrants.

Parks and Recreation - Summer Camp registration is open along with Free Play Basketball. Dunbar Center is at capacity.

Elected Officials

Eshé Collins (APS District 6) - APS is monitoring COVID-19 and developing protocols. Out of state travel for employees is suspended. Career Academy is launching in Pittsburgh. Name recommendations to rename the building are due by 3/21 and will be reported 3/30. The current recommendations are: Walter L. Parks, Herman J. Russell, and Dr. Michael Mays.

Question: How will the traffic problem on Windsor St. be addressed? Who can I contact?

Answer: Larry Hasking and his team

Cleta Winslow (Council District 4) - A person was killed on Garibaldi Street after a teenager shot towards a car. She will ask for increased patrols in targeted areas along with more cameras. There will be a voting machine demo 3/21 at West End Mall. Visit 141 Pryor St. to vote early. Clemy Jenkins can help with absentee ballots.

Joyce Shepard's Office (City Council District 12) - Code Enforcement Training Academy has been extended a week and will discuss city departments and procedures.

Park Cannon (GA House District 58) - Georgia's Legislature is in session. Youth 12-18 years old can be pages and are fed, paid, and marked present for school. The Women's Legislative Caucus will meet 11AM-12PM. Wear black and pearls to honor Traci McDaniel on the LGBTQ advisory board. The Diversity and Inclusion Committee hearing is 5 PM and will discuss two bills: Allowing 17 year olds to vote and a natural hair discrimination bill. Apply for your homestead exemption by 4/1

Planner's Report/Voting Matters

581 Metropolitan Parkway/Slim and Huskies - Applicant is present. Applicant presented to Adair Park and was approved. The restaurant will have an on-premise liquor, beer, and wine license with fast casual pizza, salads, and pizza options. 80 community members were hired. There was a motion and second to support the license application: 31-yes, 0-no, 0-abstain.

Press Start - Deferred by applicant.

V-20-17 - Applicant is present. Applicant presented to Mechanicsville Civic Association and was approved. The variance would reduce parking to 0 spaces. The lot is small and would house a coffee shop and two apartments. There is a motion and second to support the variance: 34-yes, 0-no, 0-abstain.

Z-19-121 - Deferred by ZRB. There was a motion and second to defer: 33-yes, 0-no, 2-abstain.

Z-20-18 - Applicant is present. Applicant presented to Mechanicsville Civic Association and was approved. There was a motion and second to approve the rezoning request: 36-yes, 0-no, 1-abstain

CDP-20-004 - There was a motion and second to defer: 22-yes, 0-no, 0-abstain.

CDP-20-008 - The ordinance was jointly planned with the Beltline and meeting were hosted May through October. An open house last month allowed for presentation and feedback. 3/23 will be the public hearing and the last date for changes.

Concern: Adair Park has an issue on the crossing from AP to West End. There is significant MARTA and Pittsburgh neighborhood traffic. The train tracks are frequently blocked for 1 or more days. Higher crossing priority is needed at Shelton Ave.

Answer: Priority 1 is cheapest and can include alternatives and a study for future funding.

There was a motion to approve with the condition the Shelton Ave. crossing be moved to high priority: 35-yes, 0-no, 1-abstain.

Z-19-125 - I-mix has been amended to decrease the required percentage of industrial. Properties less than 1 acre can choose either the lesser of 30% floor area or 0.3 times the lot size.

Concern: The ordinance seems to have specific sites in mind.

Concern: There has not been enough time to the I-mix implementation to justify a change.

There was a motion and second to not support the ordinance: 23-yes, 2-no, 4-abstain.

Z-20-13 - The Adair Park historic preservation regulations were last updated 10 years ago and needed rewriting. There was a motion and second to approve the ordinance: 30-yes, 0-no, 0-abstain.

Z-20-21 - This site is in Oakland City east of Lee st. There are 14 townhomes on ½ acres with only residential despite seeking I-mix zoning. There was a motion and second to deny the zoning request: 30-yes, 0-no, 0-abstain. There was a recommendation to reapply as MRC.

Presentations

Columbia Residential - City View at Rosa Burney will have 69 garden style and 111 tower apartments. The current HUD contract will be preserved. Management signed a commitment letter with the Tenants Association including: 60-day appeal process for denials, a resident services coordinator, allowing the Tenants Association to fundraise, and a 1st floor laundry and craft amenities. There was a motion and second to provide a letter of support: 16-yes, 0-no, 1-abstain.

Announcements

Pittsburgh Yards Farmer's Market is looking for vendors. The fee is \$25 per Saturday. The market hopes to open by Summer.