

November 10, 2014
Morningside-Lenox Park Association
Monthly Board Meeting Agenda
www.mlpa.org

Call to order and welcome:

MLPA Vice President Rae Conlan called the meeting to order.

Approval of October Minutes:

October minutes were not available at the meeting. MLPA motion to defer the approval of the October minutes made by Lillian Caudle; Tad seconds the motion. Motion passed 8-0-0.

Security Committee Report:

Ric Vasquez of Morningside Patrol spoke:

- October: Arrest made at the 1700 block of Wildwood arrest with blowers, etc...may have the person taking landscaping equipment (driving a white Crown Victoria); crime was OK over here, regular property crime issues...4 vehicle break-ins centered near N Highland; 2 burglaries (one on E Morningside – came in at night, seems to be guided); 2 vehicle thefts in October
- November: Incident on Middlesex – a stolen vehicle one night and allegedly the perp returns the next night and robs the owners at gun point with some personal information questioned (infidelity) – odd twist – APD took 14 minutes to arrive due to staffing, watch change at 11:00 (not an excuse, just facts); Pasadena burglary – broken window to grab a computer inside a home
- Citywide task force to connect dots between neighborhoods – vehicles and suspect descriptions – increased patrol, etc. Most, but not all, of our issues in Morningside (Zone 2) involve perps that drive to the scene. Traffic enforcement is very effective here due to that.
- How to deter the nighttime activity – set your alarms, lock your doors, make a lighting assessment of your house – make it not such an easy target, motion lighting is great.

Bob Silvia asked for an email notice regarding MLPA Security Patrol membership.

Bob Silvia made a motion to approve the yearly Security Patrol Contract. No changes to the contract from last year. Tad Christian seconded the motion. Motion passed 8-0-0.

Parks Report

Sally Bayless was unable to attend.

Treasurer's Report

Chuck Tobias unable to attend.

Zoning Report/Variances:

Z-14-055: 1529 Piedmont Ave & 1518 Monroe Drive

Applicant request property to be re-zoned from C-1, I-2 & RLC-C to MRC-1. Clear Creek Center (in the belt line overlay) – which is the center that has RuSans/Harry Norman. They wants to build-out back of the building with retail, etc to face the park (Feldman Law office will be demolished and made a multilevel office/retail building as well) with access to park and green space. 213 parking spaces reduced to spaces; adding bike racks and a car charging station for every 100 spaces.

Tad Christian made a Motion to Approve based on the revised site plans submitted and dated 10-8-14.

Lillian Caudle seconded the motion.

Motion Passed 8-0-0

V-14-223: 1372 Northview Avenue

Applicant (Wendy McGill, her architect Adam Steelman) seeks a variance to reduce the required front yard setback from 35' to 18' and to reduce the NW side yard setback from 7' to 3' for a carport (to fit a modern day car size). House built in 1930 and has been previously renovated. Four other houses on Northview have this same sort carport (porte cochere). Carport will remain the same distance from the street but will be wide – it will go from 14 feet to 25 feet. 9 neighbors out of 10 neighbors have given support.

Comments were made from the right side neighbor, Jay Julian, regarding his house – the proposed new wood beam and columns will be no more than 8 feet from his dining room windows, his dining room view would be altered to view the new carport structure. A sunlight analysis was done by the applicant and architect and the existing house precludes the sunlight, not the current (or proposed) porte cochere. Rae Conlan made a Motion to Approve the variance based on the site plans dated 10-2-14. Kevin Lyman seconded the motion. Motion was denied 3-5. Rae Conlan made a motion to deny, Lillian Caudle seconded the motion. Motion to deny passed 5-3.

V-14-236: 694 Yorkshire Road

Applicant seeks a variance to reduce the required front yard setback from 35' to 31' for a second story addition. They are not expanding the footprint. They need a 4 foot variance because they are encroaching as built. The house will be level with other houses. One tree will come down – not because of house.

Tad Christian made a motion to approve with applicant to present letters of notification to adjacent neighbors. Tom Coggin seconded the motion. Motion Passed 7-0-1.

Z-14-041 1791 Piedmont Road (Oak Knoll)

Tad Christian made a motion to defer, Tom Coggin seconded the motion. Motion to defer passed 8-0-0.

Education Report

Carmen Pope unable to attend.

Membership Committee Report

Rae Conlan spoke – as we discussed this summer, we are moving Membership to a company called MemberClicks. Membership drive to be tentatively in January.

Events Committee Report

Position is open if anyone is interested. Susan has had some interest and is looking into those leads.

Tad mentioned the Celebration of Summer planning is underway. Nothing is changing from last year. We will need to start signing contracts with our regular vendors so need to get our regular spend approved. Tad Christian made a motion to approve Celebration of Summer spend up to \$16,000 using the same or comparable vendors from last year. Rae Conlan seconded the motion. Motion passed 8-0-0.

New Business

Louise voiced her concerns about the intersection of Amsterdam and Monroe. She has witnessed multiple accidents there. Visibility is limited. What, as a neighborhood, do we want to see there? The city has a plan to eventually take Monroe from 4 lanes to 2 lanes. No one is sure of the priority of this. Talk to Alex Wan on long term plan, review short term solution. Morningside and VaHi split the intersection.

An attendee asked about the variance/zoning procedures- they have a neighbor who has a variance coming up.

Adjourn:

MLPA Vice President Rae Conlan adjourned the meeting.