

Morningside-Lenox Park Association (www.mlpa.org)
Monthly Board Meeting Minutes April 14th, 2014

Call to order and welcome

Carmen Pope called the meeting to order.

Approval Annual Meeting Minutes

Carmen Pope reviewed the minutes from the annual meeting. The following changes were requested:

- 1) Under New Board Members: change Lillian Caudle to Traffic and Transportation
- 2) Under Education Report: Change in last sentence regarding Grady facilities audit

Carmen Pope asked to the board to approve the minute with the changes.

Kevin Lyman made a motion to approve the minutes

Lillian Caudle seconded the motion

There was a majority in favor of approving the minutes

Welcome

Carmen Pope welcomed the new board members and gave a quick tutorial on how the board meetings work. We change the agenda order based on needed – for example, we try to put Security first to be cognizant of their time, variances are usually at the end or the beginning depending on what other business the board needs to address. Our goal is to be finished by 8:00pm but please block your calendars until 8:30.

Security Committee Report

Rick Vasquez, Coordinator of Morningside Security Patrol gave the Security report.

Rick recently got a promotion and was reassigned to Zone 2: He is now the Morning watch commander (11pm -7 am). Rick knows the boundaries of MLPA very well and only reports MLPA proper crimes. The entirety of MLPA is in Zone 2, Beat 213 with a few areas in this beat not in MLPA. The achilles heel of the MLPA is property crimes.

Crime Report:

8 car larcenies in Morningside proper 6 of those were near the Family Dog. Car break-ins are a difficult crime to combat.

2 burglaries – Pine Ridge & Berkshire

There is a barking dog on Morningside Drive that is bothering some neighbors– police have been called 11 times. They are working on it – but it is hard to enforce the noise ordinance on a barking dog.

Kevin Lyman asked a question -- have you seen anyone sitting in cars for extended period of times or had any reports about this?

Sgt. Vasquez said residents are well within their right to ask them what they are doing. For instance, you can ask them for their license if they are PI's Get the tag if you can and call 911 if you feel it's suspicious.

Treasurer's Report

Carmen Pope gave the Treasurer's report.

We are currently at \$85.5K in the bank. Our goal is to keep \$85-\$100K if we can – last year this time we had \$18K less.

Events Committee Report

Monumental Ball(MB)

Susan Schittler gave the MB Report:

Monumental Ball is (Need date)

There is one person who has agreed to co-chair – Matilda (need last name). She can do it but we would definitely need to help her with the silent auction and other things.

For a silent auction we would like to give everyone a price point they can bid on. Ideal price point -- \$100 and up.

Kevin Lyman inquired about the phone bidding that was recently at the Morningside auction – he will ask Stephanie Boswell to see if it's an option for the Monumental Ball.

Another idea is to look into increasing the cost of the ticket and providing an open bar.

Celebration of Summer (COS)

Carmen Pope gave the COS report.

COS is May 23 frmm 6-9 pm

Tad has most everything under control. We need to start securing volunteers. Shifts are 45 minutes to an hour – Tad will be sending an email soon regarding volunteers and anything else he needs help with.

Tad and Carter Rude are working on sponsors – Susan may be able to secure a few more – she just needs the sponsorship amounts.

We may be changing the face painters and balloon makers.

Summer Concert Series (SCS)

SCS starts April 25 6-8 pm

Carter Rude will be playing and he is handling the logistics.

Traffic Committee Report

Lillian Caudle gave the Traffic Committee Report.

On March 26, we had a joint meeting with Piedmont Heights regarding the new Mill Creek development at Piedmont and Cheshire Bridge. There were lots of questions about traffic and impact. The current plan calls for two entrances on Piedmont – including Service trucks. There is no Cheshire Bridge ingress/egress planned. The plan

also calls for parallel parking on Piedmont and 10ft sidewalks. We need to make sure the plan includes good trees and light fixtures along the road.

There is another meeting with the PHCA and MLPA boards on April 22, 6-7:30 PM. Lillian cannot attend but will send a list of questions to be answered.

Mill Creek will also host a separate meeting for Windemere residents that have property abutting the development.

We want to make sure we get advance notice about road closures, etc during construction.

Parks and Environmental Affairs Committee Report

Committee Members

Charlotte Gillis

Sally Bayless

Kathy (Need last Name)

Charlotte Gillis gave the Parks and Environmental Affairs report.

- Kathy is going to focus on tree issues
- Sally going to focus on Parks/traffic islands
- Charlotte will focus on the Morningside Nature Preserve

Charlotte wanted to make sure the changes to website were processed. Carmen will touch base with Walker.

Coyotes:

As everyone knows, coyotes are in the neighborhood – sighted near the VaHi border. There was an effort to trap twice which did not have a positive effect. Charlotte is trying to work with DNR and Watershed Management. Watershed doing a study and no one will really take a stance or action until that study is complete.

Parks and green spaces look good now because everything is blooming.

In regards to the newly created island on Sherwood/Cumberland/N. Morningside. We are trying to apply for park pride ownership of this new island.

NPU-F Report

No report

Approval of Disbursements

Charlotte Gillis requested an annual disbursement. There is an annual bill for \$240 from Anthony Domingo who mows the island of Johnson Road.

Carmen said we have already paid \$119 out of paypal account. Charlotte will doublecheck and make sure these are not bills for the same work before we pay the bill.

Education

(Need Name) gave the report.

A new APS superintendent was approved today. We are cautiously optimistic. She has been in big school districts in the past and is an educator by trade. She has a lot to deal with.

May grab Michelle and see if we can meet with Matt Westmoreland (our APS board member) on the basis of MLPA.

Carmen asked when we would hear about extended day.

Most critical education things for the neighborhood are the 1) extended day program and the potential loss of it; and 2) the Inman expansion, which at last report is moving forward.

New Business

No new business

Adjourn

Carmen Pope adjourned the meeting.