

MLPA Board Meeting March 14 2016 Minutes

Sally Bayless called the meeting to order, introduced the new board members and welcomed all who attended.

Minutes of the February meeting were approved. Moved by Alex Munoz and Bob Silvia seconded. Approved 9/0

Alex Wan spoke on several issues 1) Traffic Forum will be held March 29th to address neighborhood issues 2) Security cameras-how to fund 3) Announced that the request for re-zoning requested for the Pulte project at Elizabeth Ann Lane in which 84 town homes are proposed to replace 18 homes was denied by a wide margin at the NPU meeting 4) Memorial Park has had significant sewage and water overflows due to the rain in Buckhead 5) Cheshire Bridge poo tank operating as designed.

Sally thanked Alex for having the police at the annual meeting.

Zoning

V 16 036 1147 Reeder Circle- Applicant seeks a variance from zoning regulations to reduce the required side yard setback from 7 feet to 4 feet and the required rear yard from 15 feet to 4 feet in order to allow for construction of a detached carport. Applicant seeks no other variances at this time. John Ayres reported the Zoning committee approved 12/0/2. Charlie moved to approve request based on site plan dated 2/9/16, and Marti seconded. Motion passed 12/0/0.

V 16 046 816 Wildwood Road-Applicant seeks a variance from zoning regulations to reduce required front yard setback from 50' to 38'3", reduce west side yard setback from 10' to 8'6" and the east side yard setback from 10' to 5'9" for a two-story rear addition to a single family residence. Applicant seeks no other variances at this time. David Hutchins of Cornerstone presented on behalf of the homeowner. Zoning committee approved 13/0. Board **approved** based on site plan dated 2/17/16 with a vote of 12/0.

New Business

Non Budgeted Items

Sally proposed that the MLPA make a donation to Morningside Presbyterian Church to reciprocate for their generosity in allowing us to meet at the church. We have not made a in recent years. Chuck suggested \$1000 but after discussion it was adjusted to \$750 with the option of giving more later in the year. Marti moved that we give \$750 and Susan seconded. Motion passed 12/0.

Sally suggested we need to train other board members on MemberClicks (MLPA membership database) requested that \$400 be made available for that purpose. Lynn Ayers, Bob, Chase, Chuck, Sally, Marti, and Bill volunteered. Charlie moved and John seconded and motion passed 12/0. Sally and Marti will organize the training.

PLANNING FOR 2016

Communications

The Communications Committee is reviewing ideas for increasing communications and providing a more substantive e newsletter. Marti requested that all committee chairs get in the habit of sending anything newsworthy to the Communications Committee for distribution.

There is general agreement that the website needs to be improved or replaced. Marti asked everyone to submit ideas of what they would want to see in the newsletter to send content for updating the website. She would also like to receive information on upcoming events so that our neighborhood calendar may be kept up to date. Send information to communications@mlpa.org

Education

Amanda expressed concern about the traffic and speeding issues affecting Morningside Elementary School (MES) students, particularly at the intersections of East Rock Springs Road and Barclay and East Rock Springs Road and Sussex. There is a need for more crossing guards. Neighborhood volunteers are welcome, but must be trained by the city.

Serving as a polling location during elections has become more difficult for MES as the student population has grown. Traffic coming in and out of the MES driveway for polling is creating a hazardous situation for students who must get to their classes which are held in the trailers. Amanda's goal is to find another polling place that meets the neighborhood's needs but does not pose safety issue for MES students.

Celebration of Summer (CoS) is an important community event for MES families. We agreed that we would like to see this event generate more members and Amanda offered to recruit MES parents to volunteer to help with the event.

Events

Sonny Jones is looking for volunteers for Celebration of Summer (CoS). The Board is investigating the steps that would be needed to comply with the city's permitting process were we to decide to offer alcohol at the CoS this year. He is looking for sponsors for the CoS and for volunteers.

Sonny has many ideas from other neighborhoods that he would like to incorporate into Morningside's schedule. Ideas include a new neighbor cocktail party, restaurant out night, and a wine club which meets at different neighbors' houses.

Security

The Neighborhood Watch Program (NWP) is moving forward nicely and we hope to have recruited a street captain for every street later this year. Bob Silvia is scheduled to meet with Edmund Park to discuss what the Morningside Security Patrol (MSP) offers. We need to determine whether offering MSP services to the residents of Edmund Park (who are now part of the City of Atlanta) would be viable. Alex Munoz volunteered to do a cost benefit analysis. Sally will follow up with him.

Phyllis reported that she picked up 5-6 new street captains at the MLPA annual meeting.

Zoning

John is moving the meeting time to 7:00pm starting in April. Committee will focus on anticipating and publicizing neighborhood zoning issues instead of just ruling on variances. We will also communicate variance and zoning applications to MLPA members in advance of the MLPA Board meeting so that neighbors may attend and voice their support or opposition to any given proposal.