



MORNINGSIDE LENOX PARK ASSOCIATION

Monthly Board Meeting Minutes June 12, 2017

Call to order and welcome:

Charlie Nalbone called the meeting to order.

Board members present: (*strikethrough indicates not present*)

President - Sally Bayless	Neighborhood Watch - Phyllis Wingo
Vice President - Charlie Nalbone	Parks - Julia Payne
Treasurer - Lynn Ayers	Security Patrol - Kevin McGlynn
Secretary - Drew Gandy	Traffic - Sharon Ferguson
Communications - Marti Breen	Zoning - John Ayers
Education - Amanda Strawser	At-large 1 - Chase Horner
Events - Jeff Rolsten	At-Large 2 - Alex Munoz
Membership - Sonny Jones	

Minutes of the May meeting were approved. Motion to approve was made, seconded and passed 11/0/0.

City of Atlanta:

- Alex Wan, City Councilman of District 6, appeared to discuss several neighborhood matters.
- Mr. Wan discussed the recent tax assessment and encouraged neighbors to appeal their tax assessments if they felt that the new assessment was excessively high. Per Mr. Wan, if 5% of parcels in Fulton County appeal their assessments, the digest cannot be certified - which is uncharted territories. It is believed that until the digest is certified, the City of Atlanta and Fulton County cannot collect the tax revenue. Due to the community's reaction to the increase, the deadline to appeal tax assessments was extended to July 10.
- Mr. Wan discussed a proposed increase in the solid waste fees by an estimated 30%. Mr. Wan objects to this increase for 2 reasons: first, he believes there are more efficiencies to be had in the Solid Waste organization, and second, the fees should not be based on lot frontage as it is a poor estimate of trash production.

Zoning Variances:

V-17-122	1106 Amsterdam Ave.	Board Approved 11/0/0 Committee Approved 9/0/1
	<i>Letters in support from neighbors: Yes</i>	<i>Applicant present: Yes</i>

V-17-123	1738 Pine Ridge Dr. N.E.	Board Approved 11/0/0 Committee Approved 8/1/1
	<i>Letters in support from neighbors: Yes - 7 of 8</i>	<i>Applicant present: Yes</i>
V-17-144	1239 North Highland Ave. N.E.	Board Approved 9/1/1 Committee Approved 7/3/1
	<i>Letters in support from neighbors: Yes</i>	<i>Applicant present: Yes</i>
V-17-152	633 Cumberland Rd. N.E.	Board Approved 11/0/0 Committee Approved 9/0/2
	<i>Letters in support from neighbors: Yes</i>	<i>Applicant present: Yes</i>
V-17-154	646 Amsterdam Ave. N.E.	Board Approved 11/0/0 Committee Approved 10/0/1
2 across the street neighbors appeared in opposition, expressing concern about proximity of to-be-built house to street		
	<i>Letters in support from neighbors: No</i>	<i>Applicant present: Yes</i>
	Cowtippers - Liquor License Application	No Action Taken by Board
A neighbor appeared in opposition of Cowtipper's liquor license application due to, among other concerns, excessive noise coming from the restaurant. Cowtipper's appearance at the Board Meeting was not required. This neighbor also expressed similar frustrations with Smithe's Olde Bar and Hob Nob. Despite repeatedly contacting the police on the matter and having a mediation with the owners of the bars and restaurants, the issue persists.		
		<i>Applicant present: No</i>

Treasurer's Report:

- MLPA currently has \$_____ in the bank account, and has raised \$68,874 through membership dues this year. \$7,983 was raised through the Celebration of Summer. See attached financials for further information.

Events:

Celebration of Summer Follow-Up:

- The rain-out of the Celebration of Summer impacted fundraising efforts. There was a discussion on what to do with left-overs and how to make up the fundraising shortfall.

Miscellaneous Matters:

- A neighbor living near the corner of Piedmont and Monroe raised concerns about a homeless person vandalizing Smith Park. This homeless person apparently has had many interactions with the police, including being trespassed from the park. Despite this, according to the neighbor, the homeless person continues to vandalize the park. Mr. Wan stated that he would reach out to his community contact at the police department regarding this matter.
- Jill Kaufman and Gary, managers at Club Platinum, appeared to introduce themselves and connect with the board. The managers stated that Club Platinum is making efforts to be good neighbors.
- Jennifer Ide, a candidate running for the Atlanta's District 6 City Council seat appeared to introduce herself to the Board and neighborhood.
- Drew discussed converting the MLPA's IT systems to Google's solution. There is a possibility that MLPA may be able to obtain free resources, including targeted advertising.
- Drew and Charlie discussed the creation of a 501(c)(3) for the MLPA, either as an affiliate organization or as a restructuring of the existing organization. Drew agreed to spearhead the efforts.
- The Zoning Meeting moved to Tuesday, June 28.

Meeting Adjourned.