



MORNINGSIDE LENOX PARK ASSOCIATION

Monthly Board Meeting Minutes October 9, 2017

Call to order and welcome:

Sally Bayless 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 - Vacant	At-Large 2 - Alex Munoz
Membership - Sonny Jones	

Councilman Wan. Councilman Alex Wan appeared to discuss the state of the City.

- He confirmed that Renew Atlanta will be paying for 3 license plate scanners in the neighborhood with matching funds from the MLPA and, hopefully, the Piedmont Heights neighborhood organization.
- There was a brief discussion on the Atlanta Police Department focusing on quality instead of quantity arrests. Some in the neighborhood have interpreted this to mean the police department is no longer focusing on crime prevention, which Councilman Wan
- Councilman Wan indicated that the City of Atlanta may contribute between \$70,000 and \$100,000 to the MLPA for various projects.
 - A motion for Mrs. Bayless to submit the proposed uses of the funds to Councilman Wan was seconded and passed 9/0/0.
 - See attached exhibit for District 6 carry forward proposed budget.

NPU Elections. Debbie Skopczynski appeared to encourage neighbors to participate and become a board member. The NPU-F is in need of a secretary, education chair and vice-chair. The time commitment generally involves one meeting a month, but will be a bit busier next year once Emory is integrated into the NPU district. Elections are scheduled for November 20.

Parks. John Papas appeared along with Parks Chair Julia Payne to discuss the Friends of Sydney Marcus Park. John discussed the interest in figuring out what the neighborhood wants Sydney Marcus Park to ultimately be. MLPA will partner with the Friends group to reach out to the neighborhood. The Friends group has also received a lot of support from Park Pride. The biggest challenge with Sydney Marcus Park will be replacing the topsoil and reestablishing a

solid foundation after all of the erosion. There will be several fund raising efforts, including selling sponsorship pavers for the patio.

Update on Tree Ordinance. Mrs. Bayless provided an update on the efforts for a new tree ordinance that has teeth to discourage the unnecessary cutting down of trees. There is a petition in support of the ordinance and NPUs and neighborhood associations, along with neighbors, may sign it. The petition may be found at CityInTheForest.org. A motion the MLPA to sign the proposed tree ordinance petition

Master Plan Update. Mr. Nalbone provided an update on the master plan and how to best address the significant traffic problem. The consensus was that if we don't do something to address the growing traffic, particularly due to navigation apps like Waze and Google Maps, then the neighborhood may be overrun with traffic. There is an infrastructure bond that is coming up for renewal in 2019. By having a master plan, the neighborhood will be set up to take advantage of proceeds of that bond as well as the eventual rewrite of the zoning ordinances. The timing of this is tight; hopes are that the City of Atlanta will be in a position to adopt the MLPA's Master Plan by June, 2018. The Board's hope is that we can get funding from the City to actually tackle the most pressing areas in the neighborhood. Alex committed to \$25,000 towards the planning process. Mr. Gandy will reach out to Mary Norwood for additional funds from the City Council. A motion to commence the MLPA neighborhood traffic and master plan was seconded and passed 9/0/0.

Treasurer's Report:

- MLPA currently has \$122,448.84 in the bank account. Security runs approximately \$8,400 per month, per a neighbor's question during the meeting. See attached financials for further information.

Annual MLPA Meeting. Because of recently adopted revised bylaws which puts the MLPA's term on a calendar year, there is a need for another annual MLPA board meeting. The annual meeting will be held on November 20. A motion to approve the nominating committee was seconded and passed 9/0/0.

Membership. Mrs. Breen discussed the transition to Wild Apricot for the website administration. The biggest improvement is the ability to have recurring memberships. A motion to approve the move to the Wild Apricot system and to pay the corresponding bill was seconded and passed 9/0/0.

Miscellaneous Matters:

- *Replating of Parcel on Cumberland.* Mr. Nalbone discussed a meeting that he and Debbie Skopczynski had with Mr. Wan and several other members of the local government. As discussed previously, the parcel with 1 house on 3 lots at Wessyngton and Cumberland Road was replatted without following the requirements of the replating statute. In particular, the new lots do not have the sufficient frontage. Mr. Nalbone conveyed to the Board that the City's message is, essentially, there was no harm as there

were essentially already 3 lots on the parcel and unless someone sues the city, the city will not reevaluate the replatting. The city did note that the 3 lots would have to come through the NPU and the MLPA board for approval of a shared driveway variance, but even if the NPU and MLPA vote down the easement, the BZA will still likely approve it.

New Business.

- Edmund Park's security chair is frustrated with its security patrol and is interested in becoming members of the MLPA security patrol, which would add 20 additional members to aid in funding. The MLPA board is open to bringing on Edmund Park so long as they have a minimum participation to avoid too many free riders enjoying the benefits of the patrol without paying.

Meeting Adjourned.

