



# MORNINGSIDE LENOX PARK ASSOCIATION

Monthly Board Meeting Minutes  
November 11, 2019

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

President - Ben Nemo	Neighborhood Watch - Phyllis Wingo
Vice President - Sharla Borghorst	Parks - Charles Bayless
Treasurer - Lynn Ayers	Security Patrol - <del>Tosh Wolfe</del>
Secretary - Grant Gandy	Traffic - Kim Cobb
Communications - Marti Breen and Micah Coleman	Zoning - John Ayers
Events - [Open]	At-Large 1 - Kevin Tanner
Membership - Sarah Chatel	At-Large 2 - Donald Campbell
	At-Large 3 - Marianne Scharbo-DeHaan

## **Call to Order and Welcome.**

Ben Nemo called the meeting to order.

## **Public Officials.**

### **Jennifer Ide (City Council District 6)**

Councilmember Ide explained that Johnson and Lenox Road would be repaved and part of Piedmont Avenue is scheduled to be repaved. Elements of the Master Plan are beginning to be implemented, including stop signs at Cumberland and Sussex. City councilmember Ide introduced legislation for the office of compliance. The city is spending \$1 million per month to comply with the Department of Justice's investigation of corruption in City Hall. The Atlanta Police Foundation will have an announcement about reduced costs for security cameras.

### **Matt Westmoreland (City Council Post 2 At Large)**

Pay raises, retention and recruiting have helped boost the ranks of police officers. The city is exploring updating the tree ordinance. Councilmembers Westmoreland and Ide support protecting the city's tree canopy.

### **Rep. Becky Evans (House District 83)**

Represents Dekalb County from Lenox Park, Johnson Estates south to Henry County border. Promoting a platform of quality education, green economy, criminal justice reform. Water pipes on Briarcliff Road will be replaced soon.

### **Major Ric Vasquez (Atlanta Police Department Zone 6).**

Vehicle larcenies are down for the year. Morningside Village had a spike in car break-ins and retailers hired off-duty police to patrol the shopping center. Two patrol cars have been added to the evening beat in the neighborhood (3:00pm and after). Morningside Security Patrol works some overnight shifts. Major Vasquez recommended cleaning valuables out cars before parking them (including guests visiting your home). Major Vasquez has seen increased retention from pay increases. The police foundation opened a center for at-risk youth and will open two additional centers. The city's workforce development agency has a new leader. The city is working across departments to address people camping in and around Morningside Nature Preserve.

### **Objectives 2019.**

#### 1) Increase Funding

- a) Software to manage membership database has reached a limit for this tier of membership and needs to be upgraded to handle additional membership. The membership would also like to send out a postcard mailer to highlight benefits of MLPA and solicit all neighbors to join MLPA. A motion to approve paying for the additional tier of software to manage the database was unanimously approved.
- b) Donald Cambell updated the board on donations from filming in the neighborhood. The year-to-date total is close to \$9,000. Neighbors that see filming in the neighborhood should e-mail [film@mlpa.org](mailto:film@mlpa.org) to alert the board of neighborhood film shoots.

#### 2) Reduce Car Break-Ins

#### 3) Master Plan Implementation

The Master Plan Implementation committee has three initiatives this year:

##### 1. Reduction in speed

- a. City of Atlanta has requested a review of city speed limits and reducing speed limits in the city to 25 miles per hour on neighborhood streets. The city will introduce a head of the new Department of Transportation.

- b. City of Atlanta and Atlanta Public Schools are discussing speed cameras to reduce speed in school zones and ticket drivers in excess of a certain speed.
  2. Educate homeowners on sidewalks and sidewalk repairs
    - a. 210 residents responded to the MLPA's sidewalk survey
  3. Longer-term, the implementation committee is exploring Master Plan recommendations on heights of homes, pedestrian refuges, MLPA Way and a roundabout on East Rock Springs Road.
  4. Kim Cobb discussed an initiative by a neighbor on Hillpine to add a four-way stop to slow traffic. A motion was made for MLPA board to support the addition of the stop sign. The motion passed unanimously.
  5. Stop signs at Cumberland and Sussex should be in place by the end of the year.
- 4) Active Friends Groups and Action Plans for Four Recreational Parks
  - a) Noble Park launched Phase II of its renovation and should be finished by Spring 2020. Sidney Marcus Park, Sunken Garden Park and Lenox Wildwood Park are raising money for renovations. Sunken Garden Park held a social to kick off its Friends group. Sunken Garden Park is applying for a Park Pride grant to improve drainage in the park. Sidney Marcus Park is in the middle of its capital campaign
  - b) Several neighbors asked for additional promotion of champion trees and old growth forests in the neighborhood.

**Nominating Committee.**

The nominating committee presented a slate of nominees. A motion was made to approve. The board and members present at the meeting unanimously approved the slate.

<b><u>Position</u></b>	<b><u>Name</u></b>
President	Ben Nemo
Vice President	Donald Campbell
Secretary	Grant Gandy
Treasurer	Lynn Ayers
Security Chair	Tosh Wolfe
Communications Chair	Micah Coleman
Events Chair	Alan Smith
Membership Chair	Sarah Chatel
Neighborhood Watch Chair	Phyllis Wingo
Parks Chair	Charles Bayless & Marla Johnson
Traffic Chair	Kim Cobb
Zoning Chair	Open
Education Chair	Kristen Pollock
At Large 1	Kevin Tanner
At Large 2	Will Hazleton

**Financial Statements.**

The October bank balance was \$100,732.51. A motion to approve October financials was unanimously approved.

**Adjourn Meeting.**