



MORNINGSIDE LENOX PARK ASSOCIATION

Monthly Board Meeting Minutes

March 8, 2021

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

President – Ben Nemo	Social Media – Kristen Pollock
Vice President – Donald Campbell	Webmaster – Grant Davies
Treasurer – Lynn Ayers	Events – Ryan Murphy
Secretary – David Alexander	Zoning – Rebekah Falkler
Membership – Sarah Chatel	Legal – Josh Kirschner
Business Partnerships – Mark Smith	Communications – Marla Johnson
Security – Phyllis Wingo	Traffie – Kim Cobb
Parks – Micah Colman	Marc Tammes – Member at Large

Call to Order and Welcome.

Ben Nemo called the Zoom meeting to order and opened the floor to discussion topics. Subsequent to brief discussions, administrative matters were addressed:

Administrative

- Financials – motion to approve donation to Morningside Presbyterian given resources provided for Board meetings
 - Aye votes: Grant, Sarah, Phyllis, Ben, Ryan, Josh, Kristen, Don, David, Micah, Rebekah, Marla
 - Nay votes: none
 - Donation is approved
- Minutes – motion to approve February meeting minutes
 - Aye votes: unanimous
 - Nay votes: none
 - February minutes are approved

Events

- Morningside Rocks: somewhat limited entries last round but we have doubled the number of users following us on Instagram while also doubling engagement on the MLPA Facebook page, so we are getting lots of attention even if it is not yielding much (yet) in terms of participation in the Rocks program. Plan is to provide to a broader audience for future outreach, which will then in turn create a positive feedback loop with our outreach to area businesses about partnerships and sponsorship opportunities. Next location for Rocks is set to be released the week of 3/8 with clues to be provided mid-week



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- Additional events information can be found at the Events dashboard posted [here](#)
- Ryan also recently met with Concerts in the Park coordinator (Carter) and timeline for concerts has been to pushed September given pandemic restrictions. In the past we have had a mix of concert coordinators and sponsor businesses
- Craft Crawl – Susan Doyle and Suzy Lee gave additional detail on their upcoming Craft Crawl event – inaugural event was in October 2020 with 8-10 total “crafters”, but had 20+ during December event and the next one is scheduled for Sunday, March 14th and already has 40+ participants enrolled, with more to come. For additional information please visit: <https://www.craftcrawlatlanta.com/>

Zoning Variance Requests

- V-21-038 – 1198 McLynn Ave. – variance to install pool
 - Zoning: voted to defer because did not have updated plans, so has not reconvened
 - Motion to Defer:
 - Aye votes: Don, Sarah, David, Lynn, Micah, Ben, Ryan, Kristen, Marla, Phyllis, Rebekah
 - Nay votes: none
- V-21-059 – 1559 Johnson Rd.
 - Zoning: 4-0 to approve
 - Motion to Approve:
 - Aye votes: Ben, Micah, Ryan, Kristen, Marla, Phyllis, Don, Grant, Josh, David
 - Nay votes: none

Security

- APD gave a brief update on increased shooting activity across the city. Short answer is not a lot of explanation other than influx of people due to recent NBA All Star game, but shootings have been up across the city, regardless of zone
- Discussion of noise emanating from night clubs on Cheshire Bridge, particularly Onyx, with a focus on low level bass that can travel long distances given its relative low frequency. Potential to engage club owners about noise mitigation steps that are effective and economical, but no dialog established yet
- Board is also working with other organizations about a homeless outreach strategy, and are meeting with police representatives on March 5th at 1030am ET to survey the situation and discuss potential approaches. All are welcome to join



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- Adjusting pay structure for Neighborhood Patrol: MLPA fell behind market compensation some time back, likely attributable to a decrease in membership. With the installation of the 66+ QR codes that the officers scan every 24 hours, Rick's new reports of activities, and the number of very experienced officers on the patrol, an increase in pay seems very reasonable. Current pay is \$40/hour for all officers, but they are likely being offered \$55 – \$60 for other opportunities, albeit higher risk.
 - Proposal is to increase the starting rate to \$42/hour for the first three years of service, then \$45/hour thereafter. For perspective, last year spent ~\$144K on Neighborhood Patrol – roughly 80% of the MLPA budget goes to paying for this service
 - Motion to approve pay structure increase
 - Aye votes: Ben, Ryan, Micah, Don, Kristen, Marla, Rebekah, David, Phyllis
 - Nay votes: none

Parks

- Micah spoke briefly regarding issues related to parks. Each quarter one “Friend” group will present their park and plans to the Parks Committee.

Membership

- Sarah spoke about issues related to Membership, indicated she has had ongoing discussions with neighboring association boards in terms of strategies they have taken to increase and/or maintain membership. LaVista Park specifically distributes cards to members with the pricing for various membership levels and the contact information for the security patrol on the back – an easy way to keep membership top of mind and also keep important information handy for all members. LaVista Park gets sponsors to pay for the cards (printing, distribution) and then the business partners in the area sign up to provide a discount for goods/services to any cardholder
- Discussion of potential pricing structure for condominium complexes in the area. There are reasonable arguments on both sides in terms of something is better than nothing. No decision on the issue at this time

Adjourn Meeting.