



# MORNINGSIDE LENOX PARK ASSOCIATION

## Monthly Board Meeting Minutes

July 11, 2022

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

President – Ben Nemo	<del>Social Media – Kristen Pollock</del>
Vice President – Donald Campbell	Webmaster – Grant Davies
<del>Secretary – David Alexander</del>	Events – Ryan Murphy
Treasurer – Marc Tammes	Zoning – Rebekah Falkler
<del>Membership – Sarah Chatel*</del>	Legal – Josh Kirschner
<del>Business Partnerships – Mark Smith</del>	Communications – Marla Johnson
Security – Phyllis Wingo	Traffic – Camille Richardson
Parks – Holly Sasnett, <del>Micah Coleman</del>	Member-at-Large – Ashley Milam

\**Sue McHale was present to represent membership.*

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

Ben Nemo called the Zoom meeting to order and opened the floor to discussion topics. No elected officials or neighborhood members were present to offer feedback.

Initial discussions included:

- We will continue to meet virtually given the increasing COVID situation
- Board recruiting 2023: Ben asked all board members present to indicate interest in serving on the board in 2023 and if so in what capacity. The goal is to assess needs by August to enable planning and recruiting for the year ahead
  - Marc Tammes indicated his willingness to serve as Treasurer; Donald indicated he will likely not serve in 2023 but expressed interest in supporting a new 501c3 foundation
- New 501c3 foundation: Given the lack of clear definition for the scope of a new foundation and the lack of volunteers to date to steer it, the board discussed using the next two months to recruit interested parties to define its focus and proceed – and if not, continue to operate in 2023 as we currently do. Ben was going to reach out to Micah to touch base with him on his return and interest in involvement
- Brand/logo project: Ben will convene a meeting the week of July 25 with Sarah, Kristen and Camille to finalize the brief and proceed. As discussed, the intent of this project is establish brand standards for the MLPA based off the current logo and build off of the neighborhood qualities outlined as favorites among neighbors in the master plan study. (No new signs required!)



# MORNINGSIDE LENOX PARK

ASSOCIATION

- New projects to consider fund:
  - Pedestrian walkway @ The Family Dog (no update)
  - Street sign toppers: both Phyllis and Marla had tried to contact the city via its inquiry form about street sign toppers, particularly for the upcoming centennial in 2023. They have received no response and we discussed contacting Lance Orchid to help us find the city contact who can help us explore feasibility and timing
  - Beautification: discussed the opportunity for people to adopt pillars, street corners etc to ensure they are well maintained
  - Sunken Garden Vision Plan: should we go ahead and fund for the friends' group or should we just start asking for things the park needs (handicap access, playground equipment) – particularly in context of the upcoming funding directed towards the park
  - Morningside Centennial: should we go ahead and reserve funds for ways to commemorate?
  - Sidewalk Project: Marti Breen earlier circulated a proposed form for neighbors to seek a \$400 stipend from MLPA to support new/repared sidewalks in front of their residence. Josh Kirschner will provide any legal feedback on the form and we asked the team that has been working on this to contact Lance Orchid to see how long it would take to get a master permit for all such projects, which would reduce a major red tape barrier for neighbors as well. We have \$18,000 allocated to this project so we also discussed ensuring the neighborhood knows there is a limit to create urgency
  - Minutes: Ben reported that he is working with David and Grant to ensure formerly approved minutes will be posted and those pending will be finalized. We will work to recruit someone to help David with minutes for the rest of the year
  
- Zoning
  - There were no zoning cases for review this month
  
- Financials & Membership
  - \$155K in bank account thanks to continued membership growth
  - We still have the potential to fund ~\$80K in projects safely and there was a lot of enthusiasm to do that
  - Question was posed about how many have signed up for condo level memberships (the answer thanks to Sue: 21)
  
- Traffic
  - Camille discussed two items:
    - She and the traffic committee are developing priority projects so we have a



# MORNINGSIDE LENOX PARK

ASSOCIATION

list of those that will receive funding and those that will not (which MLPA could then prioritize)

- The second wave of traffic survey responses are being collected, with 260 responses so far from the 1500 emails it was sent to

## - Security

- Phyllis discussed three items:
  - Eight new security street signs were purchased and produced and are ready to be installed in the locations agreed upon from her proposed list. Given the interest in other postings, the board endorsed buying another eight signs – this will serve both the needs of deterring bad actors at major neighborhood entry points as well as educating the neighborhood broadly of our efforts
  - The repair of the URL on the new MLPA security patrol wrap will require another \$200 in installation cost
  - The LRB upheld the NPU’s recommendation to deny an alcohol license to Club Platinum. The decision now rests with the Mayor and the interim Chief of Police to uphold or veto the LRB’s decision
- We also discussed the welcome of a new commanding lead of Zone 6, Chief Andrea Webster. Phyllis has already been in touch with her related to a neighborhood incident

## - Events

- Ryan updated the board on the following events:
  - Three fall concerts have been scheduled, beginning August 26. Currently they are scheduled in Sidney Marcus park. Ben proposed at least one concert occur in Sunken Garden to continue to draw attention to that park and also allow neighbors closer to that location to participate easily
  - A “new neighbor” event will be held September 8 (to be confirmed) at The Family Dog in concert with Will Zant
  - We will offer Music Midtown tickets allocated to Morningside via raffle at the August 26 concert – depending on attendance we can have an additional drawing for members
  - The “Battle of the Paddle” pickleball tournament is being organized for October 1

## - Communications

- Considering at least two development firms to update our website (Midtown



# MORNINGSIDE LENOX PARK

---

ASSOCIATION

Neighbors Association was mentioned as a great model)

- MARTA is reaching out to communities for engagement on the Clifton corridor rail line plans – Marla pointed out this is something to keep on the radar for all neighbors

## - Parks

- Sidney Marcus will reveal and celebrate its new bench, carved from a poplar log carving currently underway on July 15 from 5-5:30p
- No updates from Noble Park – that friends’ group feels accomplished ☺
- Sunken Garden and Lenox-Wildwood Park were each awarded City of Atlanta Community Impact Grants for new kiosks
- Morningside Nature Preserve now has a friends’ group which will soon have its first meeting – Trees Atlanta and Park Pride both have visits coming up with MNP
- Herbert Taylor Daniel Johnson had its EcoAddendum Park Management Plan submitted to the Parks Department to serve as a blueprint for invasive plant species removal and native species restoration over the coming 20 years

**ADJOURN**