



# NPU-J Meeting Minutes

Regular Body Meeting

04/27/2021 | 7:00 PM | Virtual Zoom Meeting

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**Meeting Called to Order:** 7:03 PM by Elizabeth Thompson (Chair)

**Officers in attendance:** Ashley Sanchez (Vice Chair), Tim Cook (Secretary), Toni Sutton (Assistant Secretary), Virgil Penny (Parliamentarian)

**Quorum Established:** 58 Members Present

March regular meeting minutes approved by unanimous consent

**Motion:** to defer agenda item B-21-87 to the May agenda and approve agenda as modified  
Made by Gerard Latimore, Seconded by Dan Chowman

**Motion carried** by unanimous consent

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## Agenda Items:

Treasurer's Report:

- Previous NPU Funds have been requested from the current holder
- Set up an email address for the Treasurer which will be transferable
- Request submitted to state for name registration "NPU-J Community, Inc." with \$25 fee
- Next step is to file articles of incorporation, once name registration is complete. Will file as a domestic non-profit corporation
- Received \$5k for 2021 NPU Grant

## Voting Matter:

**Motion** out of Zoning Committee to oppose Z-21-27

Chido Baker – Explained that this ordinance change would allow exceptions for preservation of mature trees. Allows the Department of City Planning to approve variances based on recommendation by the city arborist, and that process would no longer go through a zoning review and NPU approval process.

Ben Norman explained that the zoning committee had made its recommendation with limited information on whether an appeal process is still provided.

Leah LaRue provided reference to the code or ordinances which clarified that the issue is referred to NPU for review and comment (but not approval or denial).

**Motion to Oppose carried** by counted vote of 16 For, 1 Against, and 7 Abstentions

**Motion** to nominate Claudia's House for the Community Design Awards

Made by Brandon Pierre-Thomas and Seconded by Ronald Ramsey

This was the only nomination made

**Motion to Approve carried** by counted vote of 15 For, 0 Against, and 5 Abstentions

## Presentations/Announcements:

Atlanta Police Department Zone 1: Jill Word - Zone 1 Inspector ([jword@atlantaga.gov](mailto:jword@atlantaga.gov)) and ([zone1precinct@gmail.com](mailto:zone1precinct@gmail.com)) Cell # 470-462-9035

Clean Car Campaign – prevent theft, keep your cars cleaned out, don't leave them running.

Coffee With a Cop upcoming dates, contact Jill Word if interested:

- Thursday, May 6th, 2021 (10-11:30am) @ 790 Huff Rd.

Officer Zigite – Crime Rates in zone 1

Crime is still going down. Main issue still car break-ins.

Two homicides in last month, however.

Atlanta Fire Rescue: No Representative

Code Enforcement: Officer Parham, Cell: 404-295-6045, [tparham@atlantaga.gov](mailto:tparham@atlantaga.gov)

Court cases are happening. Please text her about any properties.

Request from the community to create an electronic/generated list of all code enforcement actions in the NPU. Communities need to be able to track and follow up on these.

Public Works Solid Waste Education & Enforcement Team (SWEET): Officer Francis  
contact info: 404.330.6236

Please recycle correctly. Waste Crews finding a lot of garbage in recycling bins. Please visit Atlanta's solid waste site for information.

Covid-19 temporary solid waste collection service, recycling and yard waste will be collected on alternating weeks. Unsure of end date.

Department of Customer Service (ATL311): Shantre LittleJohn

New system on the web portal. Can create an account to let you track status of all your service requests and pay your water bill.

Mercedes-Benz Stadium Vaccination site – can schedule appointments and transportation through 311.

Report municipal issues by dialing 311 or using the ATL311 app, visit [atl311.com](http://atl311.com), or

[atl311@atlantaga.gov](mailto:atl311@atlantaga.gov)

Request from Councilmember Brown to see if 311 can provide NPUs/neighborhoods the type of community-wide information that was also requested from Code Enforcement (Officer Parham).

City Solicitor: Kierra Potter, Assistant Solicitor, [Kpotter@atlantaga.gov](mailto:Kpotter@atlantaga.gov), 470-421-2812

If you missed a court date, contact her. Diversion program: if you have a ticket that is screened for diversion, contact them to get it dismissed.

Will provide feedback to the housing court about the concerns brought up here around code enforcement transparency

Department of Parks, Grove Park Rec Center: Cokithia Brown, 470-426-7240 [cahilliard@atlantaga.gov](mailto:cahilliard@atlantaga.gov)

Limited space for on-campus summer camp ages 5-12. Please reach out.

Department of Cultural Affairs: Emily Fisher, [EAfisher@Atlantaga.gov](mailto:EAfisher@Atlantaga.gov)

Working on 3 art projects on/at the new fire station 36. Looking for community members to participate in 3 virtual meetings to review and select art work for installation.

Councilmember Hillis' Office: Alan Holmes, 404-330-6044

Covid Vaccine event at Springfield, May 6<sup>th</sup> 10:30-4:30. 1730 Hollywood Rd NW  
Addressed code enforcement issues, said they are continuing to figure out how to hold developers accountable.

Councilmember Brown's office: Vonda Malbrough, [ymalbrough@atlantaga.gov](mailto:ymalbrough@atlantaga.gov) or 470-829-4456  
District 3 farm at Booker T. Washington HS ribbon ceremony on May 8<sup>th</sup>  
Brown's office started a board "Blight Free Advisory Board (BFAB)" right before the pandemic that was intended to address landlords who were sitting on blighted property. Will make sure Liz has the information on who is represented on the board from NPU-J, and when the meetings are.

Fulton County Commissioner Hall's Office: Anita Harris, Director of Legislative and Community Affairs for Fulton County District 4, 404.312.6222 or [Anita.Harris@fultoncountyga.gov](mailto:Anita.Harris@fultoncountyga.gov)  
County is phasing into reopening – May 1<sup>st</sup> the Libraries will now be open 2 days a week 10am-6pm  
June 1<sup>st</sup> the libraries will be on normal schedule. And July 12<sup>th</sup> will see senior and art facilities open.  
Commissioners will also begin in Person in May, but public comment can still be made electronically.

Office of Senator Horacena Tate: Sherry Williams District 38 Liason, (404) 463-8053, [horacena.tate@senate.ga.gov](mailto:horacena.tate@senate.ga.gov) District Liaison: [sherryb92@gmail.com](mailto:sherryb92@gmail.com)  
Senator was "out of pocket" for the last few years, providing primary care to her mother and dealing with her own medical challenges.  
There will be a fall special congressional session to address districting

Atlanta Public Schools: Cinthia Briscoe Brown, Seat 8 at Large, [cbriscoe\\_brown@atlanta.k12.ga.us](mailto:cbriscoe_brown@atlanta.k12.ga.us); 404-376-6080:

Now opening: Atlanta College and Career Academy (ACCA)

Interdisciplinary and technical skills school for supplementary education to graduate HS with trade certifications or up to 2 years of college credits.

**Motion** to extend the meeting by 15 minutes to 9:15pm  
Made by Ashley Sanchez and Seconded by Timothy Cook

**Motion carried** by unanimous consent

Planner's Report: Chido Baker

Upcoming NPU University courses, visit [www.npuatlanta.org/npuucatalog](http://www.npuatlanta.org/npuucatalog) or call 404.546.0158.

May 20<sup>th</sup> 6-8pm – Zoning Fundamentals, May 29<sup>th</sup> 6-8pm – Parliamentary Procedures

Community Design Awards announcement, stay tuned

City Planning has awarded parklets to 13 restaurants across the city, find out more at [www.atlcitydesign.com/parklets](http://www.atlcitydesign.com/parklets)

Updating the 2021 Comprehensive Development Plan. There will be a draft plan available to public in mid-May. For info on the CDP, visit [www.atlcitydesign.com/2021-CDP](http://www.atlcitydesign.com/2021-CDP)

Virtual Public meeting in early June. Can submit questions/comments to the planner (Chido).

Anticipate this 2021 CDP to be adopted in October.

Policing Alternatives and Diversion (PAD) Initiative: Chyna Quarker, [chyna@atlantapad.org](mailto:chyna@atlantapad.org) / 470-435-9299

Currently taking referrals. Can report Quality of life issues (Homelessness, Mental health, drug abuse) to 311. They send out representatives to meet the person experiencing issues to help, rather than having police deal with those situations.

FAQ about PAD 311 Community Referral - <https://www.atlantapad.org/311-community-referrals>

Washington Post video - [https://www.washingtonpost.com/video/opinions/reimagine-safety-mental-illness-is-not-a-crime-police-should-not-respond-like-it-is/2021/03/11/b8acb4ce-cf0a-4071-abbc-20144be316b2\\_video.html-2](https://www.washingtonpost.com/video/opinions/reimagine-safety-mental-illness-is-not-a-crime-police-should-not-respond-like-it-is/2021/03/11/b8acb4ce-cf0a-4071-abbc-20144be316b2_video.html-2)

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## Committee Updates:

Housing and Public Safety – Rhoda Brawner, [rhodaspence@yahoo.com](mailto:rhodaspence@yahoo.com)

Allowed House Proud to present:

Lisa Flowers Jones – Ex. Director for House Proud,  
[lisa.jones@houseproudatlanta.org](mailto:lisa.jones@houseproudatlanta.org), (404) 437-4246

No-cost repairs for seniors, such as roofing, plumbing, electrical, painting, etc.

Bylaws Committee – Ashley Sanchez, [ashcapitalholdings@gmail.com](mailto:ashcapitalholdings@gmail.com)

Held meeting on April 12th. Will be working through bylaws article by article. Will include the proposed amendments that were not adopted last year in September.

Still seeking representatives from Westlake!

Beautification and Sustainability: Raquel Hill ([hello@raquelhill.com](mailto:hello@raquelhill.com))

Collaborating with Rhoda on cleanups monthly!

Neighborhoods:

Center Hill – Rolanda Powell

Meetings are first Thursday, next is March 4<sup>th</sup> at 6pm!

Working on getting some book boxes in the neighborhood.

Friends of Center Hill Park awarded \$15k legacy grant for trails to activate the 46 acres of land off Hollowell.

Dixie Hills – Derrick Green

Meetings 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday, 6:30PM.

Zoom Training for Seniors May 4<sup>th</sup> 11am-12pm

CPR class May 10<sup>th</sup> 11am-12pm

Grove Park – Brandon Pierre-Thomas

Meetings 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday, 7PM. Link for Zoom on GPNA's website.

Harvel Homes – Nanella Graham

Meetings 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of month.

Penelope Neighbors – Anissa Ferrell

West Lake – Ruth McFall

Starting monthly meetings - 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday at 6pm – See our Facebook and Nextdoor groups!  
Had First Cleanup in April! Will be running another on May 11<sup>th</sup> @ 7PM

### Old Business:

**Motion** to extend the meeting by 5 minutes to 9:20pm  
Made by Timothy Cook and Seconded by Virgil Pennie  
**Motion carried** by unanimous consent

### New Business:

Trees Atlanta – Willette Jackson, willette@treesatlanta.org  
Community Informational Meeting on May 6, 2021 Webinar @6pm  
Trees Atlanta Future Headquarters in Oakland City  
[https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_fvkqMgf\\_RC2xZKWsxP-ypQ](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_fvkqMgf_RC2xZKWsxP-ypQ)

Anissa Ferrel -  
Recommended using a new voting app for the NPU. Additional information sent to the chair.

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**Meeting Adjourned:** 9:19PM