



# NPU-J Meeting Minutes

Regular Body Meeting

08/24/2021 | 7:00 PM | Virtual Zoom Meeting

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**Meeting Called to Order:** 7:00 PM by Elizabeth Thompson (Chair)

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

**Quorum Established:** 42 Members Present

July regular meeting minutes approved by unanimous consent

Agenda approved by unanimous consent

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## Agenda Items:

### Zoning Matters:

Special Event Permit: ELEVATE Westside Park, A Picnic in the Park – Oct. 17, 2021

Picnic event in the park, with some food and family activities, open to the public

**Motion:** to approve

Made by Tim Cook, seconded by Ben Norman (Zoning Committee did not give a recommendation)

**Motion Approved** by counted vote: 11 for, 0 against, 3 abstentions

### Matter for Review/Comment:

Presentation by the department of City Planning on 3 Ordinances

Kendra Taylor - keataylor@AtlantaGa.Gov

Z-21-73 -

An Ordinance to rezone certain properties within one half mile of high-capacity transit stations from to multifamily residential multi-use (MR-MU) and to increase affordability near transit.

Z-21-74 -

An Ordinance to eliminate minimum parking requirements for certain residential zonings, to allow market to set appropriate parking allowance; accessory dwellings (Section 3 below); to promote a diversity of housing options and increase housing affordability

21-O-0455/CDP-21-43 -

An ordinance to create more flexible Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs). Allows higher ADU SqFt allowance, additional units on R-5, and other measures.

Questions:

What datapoints did Planning use to come to the conclusion that removing parking minimums would reduce housing costs? How does this help current residents?

Response: Directed to the ordinance factsheet or Atlanta City Design: Housing document for sources. Parking area can cost as much as \$20k per space to create these areas. Best practices across the country have found that reducing the regulatory requirement reduced cost. Many residents do not own cars, yet still have to pay for the burden of minimum parking spaces.

Is there a limit on the number of ADUs in a geographical area?

Response: Not currently

Can you get a variance on ADU specifications, such as height or square footage?

Response: Would need to follow up

How do detached ADUs impact Single Family historic neighborhoods?

Response: We see this as being beneficial by increasing housing options within these areas.

### Presentations/Announcements:

Atlanta Police Department Zone 1: Major Collier, [kcollier@atlantaga.gov](mailto:kcollier@atlantaga.gov), 404-275-9387

- Some evidence from recent crime scenes, please reach out to zone 1 if you have any information

Q: Has Zone 1 received any additional resources/officers now that the Westside park is open?

Yes, a ?PATH officer ? is also working in the area for additional security

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

Five properties moving into In-Rem. Email or text Officer Parham if you have any inquiries about specific properties.

Atlanta Fire Rescue – Captain John Rhodes, Station 38, (404) 546-4438, 2911 DLH Pkwy NW

Running the car-seat program again: can call to schedule having a carseat installed in your car.

Atlanta Watershed – Kim Davis

Care and Conserve program – payment assistance program available

For any water or sewer appeals, you can check status on 311.com

Public Works Solid Waste Education & Enforcement Team (SWEET): Officer Knight

[oknight@atlantaga.gov](mailto:oknight@atlantaga.gov), 470.270.5636

Back on schedule of collecting yard trimmings every other week.

Schedule large items for bulk pickup through 311

ATL311 – Shontre Littlejohn

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

Policing Alternatives (PAD) issues are reported through 311 to deal with non-emergency situations such as mental health issues, homelessness, poverty etc.

Councilmember Brown's office: Vonda Malbrough, [ymalbrough@atlantaga.gov](mailto:ymalbrough@atlantaga.gov) or 470-829-4456

Council going back into recess for the fall, but councilmember brown's office is still active.

Councilmember Dickens office: Chelsea Maynor @atlantaga.gov

No updates this month, but want to make known that Dicken's is at-large, and you can reach out to their office for any assistance or inquiries you might have.

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)  
Absentee ballot applications are open for November election. Also hiring poll workers.

Councilmember Hillis' Office: Alan Holmes, 404-330-6044, [dhillis@atlantaga.gov](mailto:dhillis@atlantaga.gov)

Westside Park Security: Path force patrolling, 20 cameras.

Already receiving some complaints about lighting, overgrowth and maps in the park.

Project on Repair/Replacement of existing sidewalks on DLH. Also potentially new sidewalks on Baker Rd. And North Ave. Using new TSPLOST funds.

Fire station #22 is still under construction, some delays.

Question: What is the status of the solid waste fees for commercial properties?

Alan didn't know, said he'd send an email.

Planner's Report: Lenise Lyon (filling in for Chido)

Draft for the 2021 Comprehensive Development Plan is available online and at Libraries

Upcoming NPU University courses, Elections integrity Sept 9<sup>th</sup> 6pm

visit [www.npuatlanta.org/npuucatalog](http://www.npuatlanta.org/npuucatalog) or call 404.546.0158.

Urban Enterprise Zone – Entity provides property tax abatement in target areas for jobs, affordable housing, etc. The state general assembly passed the legislation to allow the program to work. Atlanta Dept. City Planning is also preparing city legislation to green light the program. For info contact [UEZ@atlantaga.gov](mailto:UEZ@atlantaga.gov)

## Presentations:

Upper Westside Improvement District – Upper Westside Master Plan

Includes 6 neighborhoods: Berkeley Park, Blandtown, Channing Valley, Howell station, Marideth St Artery, Underwood Hills. The master plan boundaries are Collier Heights to North, Hollowell to the south, Northside Dr to the East, Marietta Blvd to the West. This does not include NPUJ, but we border the area, and will be included for approval vote.

There was an 18 Month engagement and development period. Improvements focus on Transportation, Parks and Greenspace, Community and Economic Development and Arts and Culture.

## Other Committee Updates:

Finance/Treasurer Report – Marybeth Edgecomb [npujtreasurer@gmail.com](mailto:npujtreasurer@gmail.com)

Last step before opening a bank account is a bylaws amendment. This will be presented as part of the greater bylaws revision, which will be voted on in September.

NPU Grant Project – Senior home signs, have some ideas, will be working on a count of how many seniors in the NPU need to be served, so that an order can be placed. Will be reaching out to Neighborhoods.

Communications – Carrie Williams, [npujcomms@gmail.com](mailto:npujcomms@gmail.com)

APAB meeting had 2 large presentations:

Georgia Power presented on their distribution upgrade program (after public outcry over lack of information, and work crews on private property). They now have a communications system for letting residents know what work is happening, when, by whom. For information about the GA Power Grid Investment Program, call: 888-404-1056 (Shannon is the Team Leader); email G2GPgrid@southernco.com; website is www.georgiapower.com/grid.

City Planner – Nick Hotzel on CDP, about the process of the CDP, and how it's been different this year.

Beautification & Sustainability – Miranda Blais, Raquel Hill, 571-446-7653 | [Hello@raquelhill.com](mailto>Hello@raquelhill.com)

**NPU-Wide Cleanup on Aug. 28<sup>th</sup>!!!!**

Free Food! All supplies needed! Please come!

**Bylaws Committee** – Virgil Pennie presented Bylaws proposed amendments for voting in Sept. Process: We solicited recommended bylaws changes from the body at the beginning of the year. We then divided our ~8 member committee into smaller by-laws section groups. Bylaws committee then reviewed the work of the small groups and composed the proposed amendments draft. These bylaws have been presented to the executive board, as well as during 2 open bylaws review sessions.

Proceeded with a full presentation of proposed bylaws amendments which **will be voted on by the body in SEPTEMBER**. Please send any questions/comments/concerned to [ashcapitalholdings@gmail.com](mailto:ashcapitalholdings@gmail.com) This presentation will be emailed out to the membership, posted on the Facebook page, dropped in the chat, hand delivered, and written in the sky with smoke trails.

Neighborhoods:

Center Hill – Rolanda Powell

Meetings are first Thursday at 6PM

Dixie Hills – Derrick Green

Meetings 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday, 6:30-8PM. Hybrid virtual/in person meetings.

Penelope Neighbors – Anita Ferrell

Grove Park – Brandon Pierre-Thomas

Meetings 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday, 7PM Link for Zoom on GPNA's website: [Groveparkatlanta.com](http://Groveparkatlanta.com)

West lake - Ruth Ubaldo

Meetings 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday @ 6pm

Monthly cleanups

**Old Business:**

None

**New Business:**

None

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**Meeting Adjourned: 9:02PM**