



NPU-J Meeting Minutes

Regular Body Meeting

10/26/2021 | 7:00 PM | Virtual Zoom Meeting

Meeting Called to Order: 7:08 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: 43 Members Present

September regular meeting minutes approved by unanimous consent

Motion: to approve agenda as amended

Made by Marybeth Edgecomb, Seconded by Rhoda Brawner

Motion carried by unanimous consent

Agenda Items:

Zoning Matters:

Z-21-216– Applicant seeks a variance from the zoning regulation to reduce setbacks

Motion: to support the recommendation of the affected neighborhood (Dixie Hills)

Made by Gerard Latimore, Seconded by Ben Norman

Motion Approved by unanimous consent

Z-20-84 (Amended) – Applicant seeks to rezone the 5 acre property from the R-4A zoning designation to the PD-H.

Motion: to support the recommendation of the affected neighborhood (Grove Park)

Made by Gerard Latimore, Seconded by Ben Norman

Discussion: This project has previously been approved by the NPU, but has been updated since our last vote of support. The development was reduced from 46 to 43 units, but the number of Atlanta Land Trust affordable units is staying at 10.

Motion Carried by unanimous consent

Z-21-103 – Applicant seeks to rezone the property from R-4 to R-4A

Motion: to support the recommendation of the affected neighborhood (Grove Park)

Made by Gerard Latimore, Seconded by Ben Norman

Motion carried: by unanimous consent

Z-21-103 – An ordinance to amend the 1982 Atlanta Zoning Ordinance, as amended, by creating a definition of a “Short-Term Rental” and to allow a short-term rental as a use in certain zoning districts;

Discussion: Current ordinance allows Short-Term Rental in some zoning designations, the proposed legislation (which already passed) sets up a registration requirement and rules around hosting Short-Term Rentals. *This zoning amendment* is simply a definition change to the Zoning Code which would be necessary to relate to those rules.

Motion: to support the text amendment

Made by Gerard Latimore, Seconded by Ben Norman

Discussion on the motion:

Concern over these rules in restricting homeowner's ability to rent their property, but also point made that this doesn't change the rules, it's just a perfunctory definition change to align with rules.

Motion carried by counted vote 14 for, 4 against, 6 abstentions

Z-21-74 (Amended)- Ben Kamber

This vote tonight is on only the text amendment 21-O-0456, which covers amendment of MR-MU zoning designation, removal of parking minimums, and expanding Auxilliary Dwelling Unit allowances. It does not address the re-zoning of properties around MARTA Stations. This goes to the Zoning Review Board on Nov. 4th

Much of the presentation is redundant to what was presented at the last couple of NPU meetings. These changes are meant to derestrict the construction of more affordable housing. Not a silver bullet, but in addition to housing bonds, and rezoning that the city is also working on. [wamended fact sheet](#).

Motion: to support Z-21-74

Made by Tim Cook, Seconded by Ben Norman

Motion carried by counted vote 10 for, 5 against, 4 abstentions

Presentations/Announcements:

Atlanta Police Department Zone 1: Major Collier, kcollier@atlantaga.gov, 404-275-9387
fmzygaj@atlantaga.gov

-Complaint about activity around Pine Acres, including drug dealing, fighting and guns.

-Reports of multiple incidents of folks trying car doors, and scoping the neighborhood

- Interested in starting a neighborhood watch – Talk to the Crime prevention inspector – Specializes in forming neighborhood watches- contact Jill Word jword@AtlantaGa.Gov

Atlanta Fire Rescue: Ray Hampton, rhampton@atlantaga.gov 404-546-4438

Still wearing masks on house calls, and limiting some non-emergency services.

Can contact Fire for smoke alarm installation

“Closed door policy” – recommended to keep bedroom doors closed at night to slow spread of fire if one occurs. Can save lives of the residents in a home.

Code Enforcement: Officer Parham, Cell: 404-295-6045, tparham@atlantaga.gov

Some specific properties currently in process, officer Parham to follow up.

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

oknight@atlantaga.gov, 470.270.5636

Schedule large items for bulk pickup through 311

ATL311 – Timothy Cannon tlcannon@atlantaga.gov

Report municipal issues by dialing 311 or using ATL311 app, visit atl311.com, 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 Hillis' Office: Alan Holmes, 404-330-6044, drhillis@atlantaga.gov

Worked with GA works on a 14 hour cleanup last Saturday. They will continue to work on street cleanups, and are taking requests for needed cleanup sites.

City Solicitor: Kierra Potter, kpotter@atlantaga.gov; 470-421-2812

No updates, but can take any questions

Atlanta Department of Parks and Recreation – Tara Buckner – Urban Planner for Parks and Rec

Activate ATL: Recreation and Parks for All! Comprehensive Master Plan

Taking Public Comments through November 19th, and hoping for City Council approval on Dec. 6th

Email: Activate-atl@Atlantaga.gov Website: Activate-Atl.com

Atlanta Watershed – Kim Davis

Care and Conserve program is still available

Please take our customer service survey!

Starting Annual Contract for Stormwater Upgrade and Repairs Services includes NPU:A-Z. for more info DWM Capital Improvement Projects visit <http://www.atlantawatershed.org/cip/>

Atlanta Land Trust: Karen Babino

No announcement, but posted last home owner class of the year. Register: www.atlantalandtrust.org

Office of Senator Horacena Tate: horacena.tate@senate.ga.gov District Liaison:

sherryb92@gmail.com

State legislator districts will be redrawn. Special state legislative session in November.

Atlanta Public Schools - Aretta Baldon, District 2, aretta.baldon@atlanta.k12.ga.us (770) 744-1751

Atlanta Public Schools division of academics just finished series of parent meetings about the universal academic and mental health screeners. <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCnMFDyc-G4a6KBpVLrDXOaQ>

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Two ballot initiatives this voting season: Extension of 1) a 1 cent sales tax to fund school improvement and 2) the homestead exemption

Next Board Meeting November 8th

Planner's Report: Keyetta Holmes filling in for Cheedo

Comment period closed on Draft 2021 Comprehensive Development Plan

Upcoming NPU University courses: visit www.npuatlanta.org/npuucatalog or call 404.546.0158.

Beginning the engagement process for the multi-year zoning ordinance rewrite, ATL Zoning 2.0 on November 2, 2021. The project will start with a series of virtual meetings, or "Idea Labs", which will provide opportunities for the public to learn more about zoning concepts that could potentially shape the new Zoning Ordinance. To learn more and register, please visit <http://atlzoning.com/idealabs>

Presentations:

AdHoc Citizens for a stronger Tree Ordinance -

Have created a citizen's draft in opposition to the Office of City Planning's Draft. Requesting a letter of support from the NPU for the citizen's draft Tree Ordinance. There are a number of concerns with the City's version, including lack of public appeals process, potential misuse of tree recompense funds, and lack of adequate protections for high value trees.

Presentation

TREE PROTECTION ORDINANCE COMPARISON

Q: Are home owners allowed to cut some trees? What are priority trees?

Yes homeowners are allowed to cut up to 28 DBH of non-priority trees. Priority trees are based on both species and size, a high value species may be "priority" at a smaller diameter.

Motion: to extend the meeting 20 minutes

Made by Tim Cook, Seconded by Ashley Sanchez

Motion carried by unanimous consent

Motion: to provide the letter of support for the Citizen's draft (once presenter emails it to the chair)

Made by Tim Cook, Seconded by Rolanda Powell

Motion carried by counted vote 14 for, 2 against, 4 abstentions

Motion: to extend the meeting 15 minutes

Made by Ashley Sanchez, Seconded by Tim Cook

Motion carried by unanimous consent

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Made by Ashley Sanchez, Seconded by Tim Cook

Motion carried by unanimous consent

Motion: to call a Special Call Meeting to hold our 2021 elections on Nov. 23rd

Made by Virgil Penny , Seconded by Tim Cook

Discussion: This was a recommendation from the executive team, since this was such a busy meeting, we'd like to have a dedicated meeting for elections. There will be a meeting for interested candidates the first week of November. If Torrie (Elections committee) can get all the candidates identified well in advance, then the list of candidates (profile/bio) will be shared prior to the Special Call Meeting for elections. There will be no "slate" of recommended candidates from the elections committee.

Motion carried by counted vote 14 for, 0 against, 4 abstentions

Motion: to extend the meeting 10 minutes

Made by Ashley Sanchez, Seconded by Tim Cook

Motion carried by unanimous consent

Other Committee Updates:

Finance/Treasurer Report: Marybeth Edgecomb npujtreasurer@gmail.com (presented by Tim Cook)

Senior House number sign Project (NPU Grant)-

Opening a checking account at Citizens Trust Bank next week!

Will be ordering house number yard signs for seniors also this month.

Recommendation to reach out to the churches in the area to help get seniors in neighborhood.

Neighborhoods:

Center Hill – Rolanda Powell

Meetings are first Thursday at 6PM

Dixie Hills – Derrick Green

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

Penelope Neighbors – Anita Ferrell

Hybrid Meetings, October 19th @ 6:30pm

Grove Park – Brandon Pierre-Thomas

Meetings 1st Tuesday, 7PM Link for Zoom on GPNA's website: Groveparkatlanta.com

West lake - Ruth Ubaldo

Meetings 3rd Monday @ 6pm

Monthly cleanups

Old Business:

None

New Business:

None

Meeting Adjourned: 9:54 PM by Elizabeth Thompson