

# **February 2020**

## **NPU J Minutes**

Meeting was called to order by the Chair Keona Jones Green 7:00pm

Minutes-N/A

Agenda-N/A

Chair (Keona Jones Green) sharing/explaining how to use the NPU J complaint card. Neighbors or residents have the ability to voice their complaint regarding zoning, code enforcement, fire and public safety, blight issues and watershed via a complaint card.

Chair (Keona Jones Green) NPU J introduced the student ambassador, a student at Kipp Collegiate High School (Treytone Rucker). NPU J is implementing the student ambassador program to educate, engage and empower students in NPU J. We are aiming to get students plugged early to the NPU process early on.

Chair (Keona Jones Green) Sharing our voting apparatus and how we would use it. We used paint sticks, **red**-nay, **green**-yes, vertical way abstaining. Explained the entire voting processes and procedures as to how we would vote. Asked the community if there were any questions. The community did not express a need for questions at that time. Chair asked, was anyone confused?

Chair (Keona Jones Green) requested a motion to accept the video minutes as printed 29 yes/0 no/2 abstention motion carried. The motion was requested, 2nd and carried.

Chair (Keona Jones Green) requested a motion to add time limits to different sections of the agenda 29 yes/0 no/2 abstentions. The motion was requested, 2nd and carried.

Chair (Keona Jones Green) requested a motion to amend the agenda adding (2) organizations to the **a.** Turner High School Alumni Association **b.** The American Red Cross 32yes/0no/0abstentions. The motion was requested, 2nd and carried.

Chair(Keona Jones Green) requested a motion to accept the amended agenda as printed. 31yes/0no/2abstentions. The motion was requested, 2nd and carried.

## **City Representatives:**

**APD-Major Collier Zone 1**- Dixie Hills and Grove Park had been experiencing and uptick in burglaries. It was due to a certain suspect Kevin Johnson. He was arrested in 2017, and has

been released. Major Collier requested that NPU post his mugshot on FB. This guy is stealing TV's and he is suspected to be homeless.

**Question:** Is APD connected to the ring app, and the Major Collier stated that they are currently working on it. He has brought it up previously to his team.

**Solid Waste /Public Works Education Enforcement Team- Officer Givens:** They monitor garbage, recycling, yard trimmings, bulk pick up, illegal dumping, signs, and anything impeding and obstructing the ride of way. If the community has any concerns they can contact him. Phone-404-904-4953 [Email-mgivens@atlantaga.gov](mailto:mgivens@atlantaga.gov).

**Questions:** Givens was requested to step outside and answer questions.

**Keep Atlanta Beautiful Commission:** Ameche- They will be doing a clean sweep of the community making sure that people are recycling properly. Don't become alarmed if individuals are checking your recycle bin. [www.atlantaga/recycling](http://www.atlantaga/recycling) will give you ideas and something in writing as to what we can/can't recycle.

**Code Enforcement:** Officer Parham- 404-294-6045 [tparham@atlantaga.gov](mailto:tparham@atlantaga.gov)- She tags vehicles that are not properly registered, i.e. tag or insurance. You can not leave junk, dilapidated vehicles on your property. The vehicles need to be operable. The in-rem calendar for the month of February 2020 consisted of NPU J properties. Verbena Street Apt are on the in-rem list in Dixie Hills. Parham invited the NPU J membership to the court case. When the community speaks it is strong. City Hall Committee Room #2. Court cases are very heavy up to April. Tuesday/Wednesday. 150 Garnett Street Atlanta, GA 30314. The community is aware and they want to see change.

**Department of Watershed:** Denise Stewart - Spoke about annual contract for restoring storm water drains. There will be testing done to assess storm water lines in various neighborhoods to ensure that things are working properly. Inspecting and assessments will be done. Crews will clean the storm water infrastructures. The water supply program (The TBM Tunnel and the Quarry Yard) has been restored. They are close to being complete and you will not hear any other blasting. Construction at the quarry yards are on track. Once it is complete it will be a 2.5 billion gallon reservoir. Be aware of a vote ( MOST) Municipal Option Sales Tax- This allows the city to keep clean water without raising taxes 1 percent tax is already being collected. Northgawater.org will give you tax rebates \$100 on new toilets. (404) 546-1410 [Denstewart@atlantaga.gov](mailto:Denstewart@atlantaga.gov).

**ATL 311:** Barbara Dougherty-Community Affairs Coordinator- She is explaining 311, they have 60 agents 3000 calls a day. [Www.atl311.com/](http://www.atl311.com/) They have a social media presence. Include your address and the nature of the issues when making your reports. Dial 311 if you are inside the city.

## **Elected Officials:**

Dr. Dan Sims for Aretta Baldin- Associate Superintendent of High Schools for single gender students. Aretta Baldin was not able to make it tonight. He is so encouraged by the level of commitment at our NPU. He was extremely impressed. Born and raised in Atlanta. He has been in the city for 25 years. Principal- They have interacted with the community, the leadership staff and students of Douglass. They will select 6 individuals to interview. March 11, 2020 will select (6) to interview. March 18, 2020 "The Go Team " will interview (6) panelist. March 30, 2020 Maria Carstophone and the board will vet the selected individual. APS board will make a final decision. They are trying to ensure that the selected individual will have a high level of commitment to the community, staff and students.

**Question:** Is this the 1st time APS decided to utilize this or selection process. Answer: APS has used this selection process for 2-3 years.

**Question:** How long was the previous principal at Frederick Douglass High School. Dr. Sims responded for four years. What is the average tenure for previous principals? Dr. Sims responded, there have been 9 principals since 2001. It is extremely important for the community, staff and students to be involved in the selection process. Why is there so much turnover? Dr. Sims responded to fit and professional choices.

**Councilman Antonio Brown:** Perin Bostic-Brown wants to provide speed bumps to Woodlawn Ave., Calloway Drive,. Penelope Drive. Anderson Park Clean Up, Brown's office purchases yard signs for the NPU and Penelope Neighbors. Perin announced Mayor Bottoms on a moratorium to slow down the rapid development in NPU J. It has been extended for 180 days. Perin asked members of Grove Park to please attend the meeting at Paradise Baptist Church for further discussion on the moratorium.

**Councilman Dustin Hillis:** Alan Holmes-Issued Copies of Amendments to the moratorium concerning rapid development. 40 streets were identified in district 9 for litter problems. District 9 partnered with Americorp for a community clean up. Littering and Dumping: Center Hill, Grove Park, Cary Park, Almond Park and Collier Heights. Alan Holmes #404-546-4972. **Question:** Howell Station and Knight Park were not included in the moratorium. **Question:** Does this moratorium require CC approval, the council still has to vote on the legislation. 180 day extension has to be approved.

**Brandon Thomas:** Demonte Jones took a plea vs that state of GA. He had 2 pending cases. Burglary and intent to sell heroin. This person was sentenced to 60 years. He has to serve 12 years, one felony conviction. DA Paul Howard opened a prosecution office in Zone 1. Ribbon cutting March 26, 2020. Community oriented, free haircuts, food, etc senior programs too. He spoke on Domestic Abuse also.

**Planners Report:** Lanice Lyons listed on the agenda, we have to vote tonight on whether we want to apply for NPU grant funds. The NPU is made aware that we are applying for the funds. Trying to ensure transparency for the NPU. The Urban Development Award, the community has the opportunity to nominate a project, place, program or person making Atlanta a better place to live. The award was explained to contact Doug Young office of Design Department City Planning deadlines are in March 2020.

**Zoning Matters:** Ben Norman Zoning Chair- 3 items **V-2013** AV Hollowell Senior Development. The Zoning Chair requested a motion to defer voting for the Hollowell Senior Development to next month's meeting, the applicant presented before the zoning committee, however they have not presented it to the Center Hill neighborhood association. 30 yes/0nos/3abstention the motion carried.

**Z25/Z26 1576** Donald Lee Hollowell Parkway- The Grove Park Theatre (Text Amendment CDP Plan) This group met with GPNA and Zoning and it passed unanimously. T. Watkins from The Grove Park Foundation (Director of Economic Development). The Architect Tom Little attended to assist with the presentation. Grove Park Theatre is a historic site that has served the Grove Park Community since the early 1900's. The GPF acquired the building in 2017 and they have been working with other agencies outside of Atlanta to learn the Theatre concept. They are wanting to do a performing arts center. They are asking for the following: they are requesting a change from MRC 1 to MRC 2. They need 2 stories to add additional square footage. MRC 1 limits how much of the site can be utilized. MRC 2 allows them to develop more of the inside. They need additional size for the use of their tenants i.e. art programs.

**Question:** Ms. Sandra Reid- This will be performing arts theatre not a movie theatre.

**Question:** Man- They would like to add additional square footage to accommodate the tenants. They met with individuals in New York, Houston and Macon Ga to make sure that this will fit in the community.

**Question:** Lady- What type of parking will be allowed. GPF is working with the school system (APS) on a partnership agreement to use 250 parking spaces located in their lot across the street. They were encouraged by the city not to invent anymore parking spaces. They will introduce a valet service to transport people. Zoning MRC1 to MRC2/ CDP 20-6 ordinance to amends CDP land use elements to redesignate property. 1576 Donald Lee Hollowell Parkway, Atlanta, GA. 29yes/0nos/4abstentions motion carries. Motion was made, 2nd and carried.

**Dept of Planning Vote Requirement-** Keona Jones Green-City planning would like to ensure that all residents are aware of the NPU Grant Process. They are also made aware of the NPU participating in the Grant Process. Requested a motion for NPU J to participate in the 2020 Grant Process. Motion was granted and 2nd. 30yes/0nos/2abstentions motion carries.

**Neighborhood Assistance Corporation of America** - Timothy Amour- Tanisha Toome-NAACA- Ms. Tanisha came to explain the NAACA process and how residents could get

engaged. She also stated this was democracy at its best. NAACA is interested in getting the community involved and taking issues back to the City Council. NAACA has millions of members. They are minorities with low to moderate incomes. NAACA works with these individuals to assure home buying ability. They help to assist communities.

**Questions:** Will you be in any churches or schools to meet. Yes NAACA has already started reaching out to churches and the community to spread the word. Her CEO dreamed of assisting families in the community that he lived in, she promised that we would see more of them. They protested and wanted to make it work. 501c4 (They support candidates) They like to know who is and is not doing their JOB in City Council. They have a program called home save, Ms. Dixel will direct us to the right person.

**Comment:** Someone in the audience purchased a home through NAACA and they are thrilled. Ms. Dixel bought her home last year and she is very excited. [Tenecia.dixel@NAACA.com](mailto:Tenecia.dixel@NAACA.com) 678-334-5019. Any issues please let her know.

**Henry McNeil Turner High School:** Turner High representative (Ms. Cassandra) - The school was built in 1953-1990 ( Kipp Atlanta Collegiate) is in their building. They are going to have a picnic on May 16, 2020 application submitted to the Mayor's office. They have been doing this for 8 years. They will clean up the park when they leave and have APD as security.

**Bylaws- Ken Days-Committee Chair.** There are some amendments that need to be made. The bylaws are a fluid document and they should change based on the needs of the body. Within the past there have been changes and alliteration. Ken Days JD, is encouraging members to sign up. We want to make sure that changes are agreed upon by the committee, and not accept feedback from one/two individuals. He wants to make sure that the language is presentable and consistent as to what we need. You can obtain a copy of our bylaws at [www.npujatlanta.com](http://www.npujatlanta.com). 404-247-3178.

**Health/Wellness-Uzma Khan Committee Chair-**National African American Male Walk will be free of charge and held on March 21, 2020. Morehouse School of Medicine. They are offering other free screenings and focus is on African American men. Sickle Cell Foundation is having their event on April 11, 2020 run/walk and screening. Holistic Health Expo is April 25, 2020. Update on Breast Cancer Sen. Donella James is assisting the dense breast tissue screenings. She is also interested in writing legislation, it has not reached the floor but it is on her radar. Senator Watson passed the 1st legislation Marge's Law in Savannah. Breast Health Tissue. Atlanta Black Chamber of Commerce along with GPCC would like to host some free screenings in NPU J this year 2020. Uzma is trying to locate a venue at this time. The Pink Coat Coalition will attend NPU J in April 2020. 678-779-3912.

**Community Health Fair** 5K- NPU J, Antonio Brown, Kipp Collegiate- Health Screening, Food Trucks. March 28, 2020 9am-12pm. Flyers located on the back table.

**Committee Sign up**- Please stay and sign up for our NPU committees

**Meeting Adjourned 8:11pm**