



GENERAL BODY MEETING MINUTES

West End Neighborhood Development

Tuesday, May 7, 2019, 7:00pm

West Hunter Street Baptist Church, 1040 Ralph David Abernathy Blvd.



Officers present:

Tony McNeal, *President*

John Mitchell, *1st Vice President*

Kimberly Carlisle, *2nd Vice President*

Sherria Saafir, *Treasurer*

Carolyn Sims, *Secretary*

Sonja Roberts, *Recording Secretary*

Kim Scott, *Past President*



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CALL TO ORDER

7:06 PM

Introduction: Tony McNeal, President

Adoption of Agenda – Motion by Mike Sims, 2nd Emily Herman

Vote: 22 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions

The motion was approved by the General Body.

Motion carried.

Adoption of the April 2019 General Body Meeting Minutes – Motion by Mike Sims, 2nd Emily Herman

Vote: 23 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions

Motion carried.

GUEST PRESENTATIONS

- **Major Charles Griffin-APD Zone 4**
- Crime in general saw about 23 crimes

7:05 – 8:05

- 2 robberies
- 14 larcenies from auto
- Most crime are break-ins; biggest problems are the West End Mall area by Oak St., gas stations as well
- Kroger shooting was two women who knew each other. It was a personal dispute. One suspect has been arrested. One has warrant out for arrest.
- The Beltline robbery suspects were arrested. One 8 year old and one 11 year old are in juvenile detention. APD is working with the family for services to assist.
- Reminder of clean car campaign.
- *Community comments:*
 - *Concern over selling water at the highway off ramps. Have called 911 per recommendation, but nothing seems to be happening. Safety issue, as well as trash resulting from panhandling/selling water. (Water/product will be confiscated, taken home, and the parent charged – Will work with Zone 1 Commander, since the off ramp is in Zone 1)*
 - *Concern over semi-trucks parking along Oak St. illegally.*
 - *Is there a strategy for dealing with the individuals staying under the I-20 underpass? (it is GDOT property) APD can partner with G-DOT to assist with the issue.*
 - *On weekends in evenings, drag racing is happening. Dangerous speeding that is a safety issue on Oglethorpe. Lawton Street as well. Peebles St as well (in front of school property), Langhorn and RDA too. Comment about speed bumps and how to go about getting them.*
 - *Concern over parking too close to RDA on Peebles St. It causes visibility problems.*
 - *Noticeable increase in gun shots at night. (Shotspotter is a camera as well as a sound device to specifically pick up gun shots in an area. When gun shots go off, shotspotter can detect and a camera comes on within seconds of the shooting and the “call” immediately gets routed to the officer on duty to dispatch to the area. This is the only community in Zone 4 that has shotspotter)*
 - *There’s a lot of “activity” on RDA near Culberson. It’s clear drug dealing during the day. Please increase patrolling/attention.*
- **Ben Hautt, Ben Reeves-Stream Realty & Jessica Hill-Manning & Martin LLP-Rezoning Application Z-19-23.**
 - Next phase of Lee + White, application to change the zoning to I-Mix
 - Essentially, this will keep the existing buildings as they are. Change to zoning to allow residential within the existing footprint.
 - Addition of a 5 story apartment/residential with parking garage. Townhomes as well.
 - Buildings over 50 years old will have to stay there (per the proposed rezoning)
 - Townhomes will front White Street.
 - There will be 500 parking spaces added for the apartment complex (about 1 space per bedroom)
 - Concern over parking spaces and adequate traffic measures.
 - Sidewalks will be added/redone along White St. for walkability.
 - Adding more food options. (Hop City will soon offer fast-casual food options; Best End will open as full service restaurant; Yoga Studio will soon open; as well as office space)

- Affordable housing units available at 80% AMI for rentals. (15% of units)
- Meeting with Beltline – plan to run through the site to add a pedestrian cut through to connect Beltline to Lawton St.
- Proposed site plan (with residential plan) would be “locked” as the plan within I-Mix. For potential future buyers, if they decided not to implement the plan, they would have to come back for a variance and permission through city/NPU/neighborhood.
- As of yesterday, there’s a new ordinance restricting data centers near the Beltline.
- Concern over percentage of affordable housing – can there be more?
- Scheduled for NPU-T meeting tomorrow.

PRESIDENT’S REPORT

Tony McNeal, President

YouWork (Ayanna Clarke): Program with students from Washington cluster (as well as KIPP STRIVE) into local internships with West End/Westview businesses. Now working with 8 businesses, and will be extending the program into the summer. These are paid internships, benefitting the students. There is space for 4-5 new interns. If you know young people in the Washington cluster, please let Ayanna or Tony know.

Placemaker’s Grant: (No new updates) The Placemaker’s Committee recently met with Stream Realty (owners/developers of Lee + White) and City representatives to discuss the planned mural project at the intersection of Joseph E. Lowery and White. Stream/Lee + White have said they don’t have any conflicting plans for the intersection (curb cuts, etc) and will support whatever the neighborhood/committee wants to do. We are waiting on some information from the City on survey and financial planning and will begin reaching out to artists in the next few months(ish). There are plans for another community meeting for community feedback and input. Waiting on public works feedback.

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

Sherria Saafir

April 2019 Financial Statement:

Beginning balance \$ 35,519.52

Ending balance \$35,750.14

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Public Relations & Marketing: We have volunteers! Be on the lookout for social media posts and updates.

Preservation & Urban Design (Kathy Woodcock): Multiple cases have been reviewed. If you are going to do any work to the exterior of your home, please check with the Urban Design Committee. Next meeting is next week at MNG 6:30

Multiple properties with multiple current Stop Work orders on them. Currently listed for sale. Please, if you know people looking at these properties, let them know that there are compliance issues to be aware of.

1161 Lucile
421 Atwood
1272 Lucile

Zoning, Land Use & Code Enforcement (Walter Slaton):

List of links to resource/information documents was provided. The proposed new zoning is intentionally trying to preserve the industrial

Recommendation to support **Application Z-19-23**
35 in favor – 1 opposed – 4 abstentions

Please come attend the NPU-T tomorrow night.

Beautification & Environmental Health (Handy Johnson): Met on April 26 to plan for next year's plans. Every Saturday after the WEND meeting, meet at the South parking lot at the MARTA station at 9am to help pick up litter – focused effort for different areas in the neighborhood. Starting this Saturday, May 11th.

Please follow the WEND Beautification Facebook page for updates.

Planning evening pickups for May 21st and June 18th. Meet at Monday Night area by tetherball spot. Cleanup, then Monday Night offers free beer for volunteers. Lee + White has been a great partner to the Beautification efforts.

Bigger clean up scheduled before Tour of Homes.

Education (Heather Sharp): Education committee has met and are compiling a list of educational services that may benefit neighborhood kids.

Looking for feedback and participation from everyone in the community...not just people with school age kids.

Making contacts with West End area schools to develop relationships.

If you have children's clothing/coats in preparation for the Yard Sale, if you would like to donate them to the committee, they will hold them and donate during the WEND Coat Drive.

Guest Speaker for the Ed Committee today: to talk about the West End are school

Davida Reed-Huntley – 5 schools in the WEND Cluster. Please consider joining the PTA for the cluster schools. You do not need to be a parent to serve on the PTA. A \$10 membership fee allows you the ability to impact change in the neighborhood schools.

Go Team gets to grade principals and approved school budgets. Please consider serving on the Go Team. It is a great way to participate and influence the success of the area schools in your neighborhood.

wendedcommittee@gmail.com

Public Safety: This committee currently needs a Chair. If you are interested in serving, please contact WEND.

Finance Committee: This committee currently needs a Chair. If you are interested in serving, please contact WEND.

Membership & Community Relations (Carlton Walker): Total of 96 paid members for 2019. Please encourage neighbors to join WEND and get involved. Please remember – Initial your name when you sign in. Don't just mark an "X" to sign in. You must have attended 2 out of the last 4 meetings in order to vote.

Events: This committee currently needs a Chair.

Community Spring yard sale. Scheduled for May 11th. 18 homes participating in the sale. Please come out to shop and meet your neighbors. To participate as a yard sale home, please email wendinc@gmail.com

June – Porch Party on June 8th – more info to follow

Tour of Homes! June 22nd 5-10. If you are interested in being on the tour (your house be featured) please contact Tony or wendinc@gmail.com

NEW BUSINESS, WRAP-UP, AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:

WEND Foundation is currently looking for board members for the WEND Foundation. If you are interested, please send your resume to wendinc@gmail.com

ADJOURNED AT: 8:50 PM