



GENERAL BODY MEETING MINUTES

West End Neighborhood Development

Tuesday, February 4th, 2020, 7:00 PM

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



2020 Officers:

Marquise "Tony" McNeal, *President* – president@atlantawestend.com

John Mitchell, *1st Vice President* – firstvp@atlantawestend.com

Kimberly Carlisle, *2nd Vice President* – secondvp@atlantawestend.com

Sherria Saafir, *Treasurer* – treasurer@atlantawestend.com

Emily Herman, *Secretary* – secretary@atlantawestend.com

Terry Ross, *Parliamentarian* – t-ross01@hotmail.com

Jules Connolly, *Recording Secretary* – recordingsecretary@atlantawestend.com

Kim Scott, *Past President* – kimscottmanagement@gmail.com



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[AtlantaWestEnd](https://www.facebook.com/AtlantaWestEnd)



[AtlantaWestEnd](https://www.instagram.com/AtlantaWestEnd)

INTRODUCTION (Tony McNeal, President)

7:03 PM

- Call to Order
- Welcome and adoption of agenda
 - o *Motion to adopt February 2020 Agenda – Marvin Nesbitt moved, Alan Babilinski 2nd, 14 in favor – 0 opposed – 0 abstentions. Motion Carries.*
- Approval of January 2020 General Body Minutes
 - o *Marvin Nesbitt moved, Alan Babilinski 2nd, 16 in favor – 0 opposed – 0 abstentions. Motion carries.*

GUEST PRESENTATIONS

7:05-7:20 PM

- [Watani TSI - 2020 Malcolm X Festival](#)
 - 31st annual Malcolm X Festival, May 16 & 17, 12-8 PM, rain or shine. Festival will be jointly hosted by the Malcolm X Grassroots Organization/Community Aid & Development Corp. Hosted at West End Park, community-based event. Family friendly. Free of charge. Event will feature singers, poets, vendors, food. The vendor fees pay for the audio, custodial and other necessities.
 - Visit Malcolmxfestival.com for more information.
- [City of Atlanta Alcoholic Beverage License Application \(Change of Ownership\) of 785 Investment, LLC d/b/a West End Stop N Shop – 785 Lee Street SW, Atlanta, GA 30310](#)
 - *Applicant did not attend meeting.*
- Natalie Hall - Fulton County Commissioner
 - The Commissioner's Office is working on a comprehensive plan to address homelessness. There has been a rise in homelessness across several demographics in recent years. Most important to the commissioner is for Fulton County and City of Atlanta to partner to address and combat homelessness, including an increase in homelessness among GSU and Georgia Tech students. It was mentioned that often times homeless individuals are resistant to moving and coming in from outside. The homeless population is transient. The Commissioner's Office is increasing their data tracking and working on bolstering their homeless strategy. The goal is not to "clear out" homeless encampments, but rather connect those individuals with nonprofit resources.
 - Neighbors have requested we upload the commissioner's plan and resources to Wend Website.
 - Board of Assessors – Assign fair market values to each home. Robert Comer is the person West End residents should address questions to about appraisal values. Assessments will come out in late May or early June. Residents are encouraged to appeal their tax assessment notice if they have any concerns about the appraisal value.

RECOGNITION OF PUBLIC OFFICIALS

7:20 – 7:30 PM

- Daud A. Sheikh, Lieutenant, Atlanta City Police Department, Email: Dsheikh@atlantaga.gov, Office: (404) 756-1903, Cell: (404) 617-8099
 - There have been a few recent shootings in the West End under investigation. There was a recent drive by shooting that is still being investigated. The barbershop homicide is still being investigated.
 - Neighbors inquired about heightened activity at the corner of Beecher and Lee street.
 - People are leaving their cars running and they are being stolen.
 - Residents are concerned about the corner of Lucile and Atwood, frequent speeding and accidents. Two accidents this weekend alone. Request for police presence.

- Introduced Major Tyus, new Atlanta Police Major, Zone 4 Precinct. Email address: cntyus@atlantaga.gov, phone number: 404-354-6818.
- Neighbors are concerned about homeless individuals starting fires in parks to keep warm.
- Demetrius Myatt, Councilwoman Cleta Winslow's Office, jdmyatt@atlantaga.gov.
 - Asks that residents report construction that is taking place without a permit so that stop work orders can be issued. Feel free to email him with questions about ongoing construction/development projects in the neighborhood.
 - Residents expressed concerns about the increased presence of homeless neighbors living in tents around the community. Neighbors are also concerned about tent community in the vacant lot across from Ace hardware. Neighbors can contact the Office of Behavioral Health to provide help.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

7:30 – 7:50 PM

- Placemaker's Grant
 - Great updates! Last year, WEND received a \$50,000 grant to create murals on the corners of White and Lowery and White and Hopkins. Murals will be approximately 70 by 40 ft. City will use high quality materials to ensure they are road safe and durable.
 - [Elaine Stephenson](#) – Her design will be located right across from the Lee & White Complex. She is a Graphic Designer at CARE and Atlanta Native, passionate about typography and lettering.
 - Option 1: Derived from the Blocks of Culture Sign. Describes community.
 - Option 2: Focuses on the West End Name.
 - Option 3: Combines options 1 and 2, highlights West End name and descriptors of the community.
 - [Craig Singleton](#) – C. Flux Sing, Painter, illustrator, graphic designer and muralist. Worked hard to include important historical narrative of the Wet End.
 - Option 1: Depicts abstract colors across the blocks of culture
 - Option 2: A more literal depiction of the "blocks" of culture
 - Option 3: Wove colors from the Blocks of Culture sign together in an abstract way – circle in center represents the womb from which greatness was born in the West End.
 - Community Feedback: Include 1835 on designs. Make noun/adjective consistent on Elaine's designs. Questions about whether words will be legible from street.

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

7:50-7:55 PM

- Income \$5,265.16
- Expenses \$1,177.05
- Began with \$31,318.18

- Ended with \$35,406.29

COMMITTEE REPORTS

7:55-8:20 PM

- Public Relations & Marketing
- Preservation & Urban Design
 - 6 stop work orders this month. Relatively slow during the winter. Meeting tomorrow night at Hop City at 6:30 PM.
- Zoning, Land Use & Code Enforcement
 - Malcolm X Festival
 - Motion from committee is to support the Malcolm X Festival application.
 - *Vote: 25 in support - 0 opposed - 0 abstentions. Motion carries.*
 - Stop and Shop Owner was supposed to attend tonight's meeting, deferred their presentation to the March meeting. In the interim, neighbors are welcome to email the zoning committee with concerns or questions about their application.
- Economic Development – no report
- Beautification & Environmental Health – no report
- Education
 - Education committee delivered supplies that were fundraised for the schools, including uniforms and clear backpacks, science kits, etc. Traditional school supplies were delivered to Jones Elementary School. Wend Education Committee has its own Facebook page with a lot of updates. New School Board Member is hosting a meeting on Feb 10th, 6 PM at West End Library, to discuss plans for our cluster. There is a rezoning issue that will impact KIPP/Washington/Therrell to be discussed.
 - Next Education Committee will be Feb 13th at 7 PM at Bogg Social.
 - Brown Middle School is hosting a Career Day on February 6th and still needs volunteers.
- Public Safety – no report
- Finance – no report
- Membership Concerns and Community Relations – no report
- Events
 - First Porch Party of the Year! March 14th, 1277 Sales Street

NEW BUSINESS, WRAP-UP, AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

8:20-8:30 PM

- Whitney – Beltline LCI, 3 Concepts have been designed for the Beltline Westside Trail Access Point at South Gordon and Ralph David Abernathy. Neighbors should submit feedback to the LCI plan.
- We welcome people to volunteer with NPU-T and make their voices heard in community matters.
- Plywood People – A nonprofit organization that leads a community of startups doing good. They exist to support nonprofit leaders and social entrepreneurs. Opening a co-working space called Plywood Place on March 2nd. There's also meeting space and a stadium seating. Open house party, February 29th at 7:30 PM. Monthly and daily

memberships are available. Wend members will receive special discounts.
Plywoodpeople.com/place or email Ale, Ale@plywoodpeople.com.

- West End Merchants Coalition – February 27th at 7:30 AM, 1107 Ralph David Abernathy. Neighborhood CPA will give updates on changing income tax law. Ryan Gravel and Donray Von will also be there to give an update on the West End Mall.
- Placemaker's Design Selections: Elaine Stephenson, Design #2. C.Flux Sing, Design #1.

ADJOURN

8:30 PM