

NPU-T Meeting Minutes
Thursday, July 10, 2008

The General meeting was called to order at 7:12 pm EST by Vice-Chairman Oni Holley

1) Invocation

The invocation was presented by NPU-T Chaplain Dr. Gwendolyn Porter

2) Approval of Agenda –

A motion was made by Jerry ‘Tacuma’ Brown to accept the agenda as published. This was seconded by Melanie Wofford.

Vote: Yes- 13; No - 0; Abstain-0 → Motion Carries

3) Approval of Minutes – June

a) Copies of the June Minutes were distributed for approval.

A motion was made by Melanie Wofford to approve the minutes as corrected published. This was seconded by Jerry ‘Tacuma’ Brown .

Vote: Yes- 15 ; No- 0; Abstain- 1 → Motion Carries

4) Police, Fire, and Community Prosecutor’s Updates (5 minutes per report)

a) **Police** – no representative present

b) **Fire** – Lt. Junior from Station #7 spoke.

(1) He cautioned about potential fire hazards caused by vacant buildings.

(2) Stations #18 & #13 are currently under construction and will be new fire stations in the city.

(a) Jerry ‘Tacuma’ Brown spoke about the recent meeting that members of NPU-T had with the new fire chief.

ii) Firefighter Fannin from Station #17 also spoke. He indicated that they’re still waiting word on the upcoming budget cuts and highlighted that smoke detectors and child seats are still available at no charge to the community.

c) **Community Prosecutor** – Ms. Blackett-Jones (Zone 4) spoke. 404.699.5294

(1) Ms. Blackett-Jones spoke about Defendant Jacorey Johnson’s trial from June.

(a) The defendant was convicted and was sentenced to 30 days and banned from Oakland Drive.

(b) Ms. Blackett-Jones had asked the Zone 4 command staff for the top 10 felons known to be in the community and the top offender is Jacorey Johnson.

(2) Ms. Blackett-Jones also highlighted how the court process works.

(a) 80% of the cases go through the non-complex system. Thefts, burglaries, shoplifting, auto theft and similar crimes are of this nature. This system is on a 90 day cycle wherein the case goes from arrest to trial within a 90 day period.

5) Presentations

a) **CollegeTown @ West End HEZ Application – Jason McLin**

The Discussion: Mr. McLin spoke about the upcoming phase of the development and highlighted that they are seeking a tax abatement to help offset the cost of the construction. The impacted neighborhood association has not yet made a recommendation. The Zoning and Land Use Committee has made a recommendation to approve the application.

The Action: A motion was made by Mark Washington to defer pending a recommendation by the impacted association. This was seconded by Vonda Henry.

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Vote: Yes- 11 ; No-10; Abstain-2 → Motion Carries

- b) **Metropolitan Atlanta Community Development Corporation – Kim Cameron**
 - i) **The applicant was not present.**

- c) **Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) applications (requires NPU vote):**
 - i) **NPU-T HouseProud program of the Atlanta Community Tool Bank**

The Discussion: Jonathan Kidwell spoke about the program and asked that NPU-T support their application for CDBG funding which would allow them to continue to service the senior citizens of NPU-T.

The Action: A motion was made by Jerry 'Tacuma' Brown to support the CDBG application. This was seconded by Mark Malaguerra.

Vote: Yes- 21; No-0; Abstain- 1 → Motion Carries

- ii) **Rebuilding Atlanta Together**

The Discussion: Jan Jordon, the executive director of Rebuilding Atlanta Together spoke about her program. This program can provide up to \$45,000 in repair assistance for seniors in the NPU-T area. This is a national non-profit organization. This organization was formerly known as "Christmas in April."

The Action: A motion was made by Jerry 'Tacuma' Brown to support the CDBG application. This was seconded by Ted Warren.

Vote: Yes- 22 ; No-0; Abstain- 0 → Motion Carries

6) **Neighborhood Association Reports**

- a) CollegeTown Community Association (CTCA)
 - i) The representative departed the meeting prior to presenting.
- b) Beecher-Donnelly Community Association (BDCA)
 - i) Chen Chang spoke. The first meeting is scheduled for July 15th at the Girls & Boys Club on Donnelly.

7) **Committee Reports**

- a) Economic Development / Consumer Affairs – Robert Thompson
 - i) Transportation Subcommittee – Marc Washington –
(1) Marc spoke. His report is attached.
- b) Executive Committee – Kwabena Nkromo
 - i) Chairman Nkromo spoke and introduced the goat that has been acquired to help keep the kudzu down at the urban farm project.
- c) Public Safety Committee – Graham Jackson
 - i) Graham Jackson advised that there will be several surveys coming from the Public Safety Committee to help gather information on public safety issues and concerns of the communities.
 - ii) Crime Task Force Subcommittee – Kwabena Nkromo
(1) Chairman Nkromo spoke about the future of the task force.

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- d) Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Affairs – Evelyn Washington
 - i) Evelyn spoke. Her report is attached.
 - ii) Parks Subcommittee – Yomara Velez
 - iii) Beltline Subcommittee – Danielle Carney
- e) Public Relations Officer – Nia Knowles
 - i) Chairman Nkromo spoke about the initiatives around revitalizing civic life in the NPU-T community.

8) Atlanta Planning Advisory Board Report

- a) 2008 APAB Awards Banquet Honoree for NPU-T – Sister De'Borah Williams
 - i) Chairman Nkromo spoke about the APAB nominee for NPU-T...Sister Williams. Chairman presented Sister Williams the APAB award for her civic leadership.

9) Community Planner Report – Edmund McAfee

- a) Not present.
- b) Chairman Nkromo spoke about the difference between the Community Planner and the City Planner roles.

10) Zoning

Zoning Review Board August 7 or 14, 2008 6:00 P.M.

Z-08-43 593 Culberson

Applicant, Janice M. White, seeks to rezone from R-4A (Single-family Residential) to R-LC (Residential Limited Commercial).

The Discussion: The application was received by the NPU-T Community Planner on July 10, 2008. The applicant also was not present.

The Action: A motion was made by Jerry 'Tacuma' Brown to defer this item until the August NPU-T meeting. This was seconded by John Davis

Vote: Yes- 26 ; No-0; Abstain- 0- ➔ Motion Carries

11) License Review Board

Applicant	Type of Business	Name of Business	Location Address	Request
Michael Irby	Restaurant	Fat Philly's Wings & Things	886 M L King Jr. Dr.	

The Discussion: At the June NPU-T executive meeting, the body voted to give the Executive Committee authority to vote on behalf of the NPU-T body in this matter. At the July NPU-T Executive Committee meeting, a vote was taken by the Executive Committee to approve the application and the vote was Yes: 9; No: 0; Abstain: 0. The motion carried.

The Action:

Executive Committee Vote: Yes- 9; No-2; Abstain- 0 ➔ Motion Carried

12) Chairperson's Report –

- a) Chairman Nkromo apologized for being late to the NPU meeting.

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- b) Chairman Nkromo also spoke about the growth in community organizations, highlighting specifically CollegeTown.
- c) Chairman Nkromo thanked City Council Member Mitchell for his assistance with the recent community clean-up.
- d) John Davis mentioned the proposed recent time change. Chairman Nkromo publicly advised that the meeting times will remain at 7:30-9pm for the remainder of the current calendar year.

13) Announcements

- a) Danielle Carney spoke about the Beltline Quarterly Briefing that was held earlier in the day. She highlighted that the next community meeting will be on at 6:30pm on July 24th at a location to be determined.
- b) First time attendees to the NPU-T meeting were recognized.
- c) Several community business owners were present at the meeting and introduced themselves.

14) Adjournment – The meeting adjourned at 9:00pm.

Donations in the amount of \$ were collected.

xx individuals were recorded on the NPU-T sign-in sheets.

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FROM: Marc Washington, Transportation Subcommittee Chair
NPU-T ED/CA Committee
TO: Robert Thompson, ED/CA Committee Chair
RE: May Report
DATE: 18 June 2008

Official members: Marc Washington, Robert Thompson

NARRATIVE

The Transportation Subcommittee has identified one immediate focus area related to transportation:

1. NPU-T's official, and continued engagement with the Connect Atlanta process

Our short-term goals include:

- Participation in the MARTA [M.O.V.E.] study
- Participation in the June series of Connect Atlanta public meetings
- Review and revision of the Connect Atlanta draft transportation plan [in August]
- Participation in the August/September series of Connect Atlanta public meetings
- Review and revision, if necessary, of the final Connect Atlanta transportation plan [available in September]

Our mid-range or long-term goals have not yet been identified:

ACTIVITIES

- Announced June 18 Subcommittee meeting using June 15 NPU-T weekly update
- Received communication from Sr. Community Outreach Planner Louis Grisoglio, requesting to attend the July Committee meeting - to announce MARTA MOVE to NPU-T in August
- Advertized Connect Atlanta Plan June series of meetings
- Updated Connect Atlanta Plan suggestions with community input
- Considering event with food and prizes to increase community participation.

MEETINGS

A **Transportation Subcommittee Meeting** was held at The Grounds Coffee House on June 18 at 7:00 PM. Meeting attendance goals were not met. Short-term goals were well received by attendees. No members were recruited. The next subcommittee meeting will be held on July 16, 2008. The June/July **Connect Atlanta Plan Transportation Meetings** are in progress (see flyer attached). The Transportation subcommittee would like to organize community involvement to accomplish the following:

- To understand and give input on Connect Atlanta Plan project ideas and evaluation criteria
- To advocate NPU-T Connect Atlanta Plan suggestions and the NPU-T agenda
- To recruit members for the NPU-T ED/CA Transportation subcommittee

End of Report

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FROM: Scott C. Smith – Code Enforcement Committee Chair
TO: Kwabena Nkromo – NPU-T Chair
RE: July Report
DATE: 10 July 2008

Official members: Scott Smith

Abstract

The code enforcement committee is dedicated to ensuring that repeat code violators are entered into the Housing Code Compliance process so that they can be brought into compliance within a reasonable period of time.

This list has been prepared by the Westview Community. We have not yet received a top 10 list by the other NPU-T communities.

ACTIVITIES

- Met with Code Compliance Officer Richardson to discuss several problem properties.
- Collected letters of support from members of the Westview Community for the problem at 511 E. Ontario.
- Attended court on July 10, 2008 for property located at 511 E. Ontario Ave, SW. The defendant was not present at court and a bench warrant was issued.
- Compliance Officer Richardson will advise of the rescheduled court date for 511 E. Ontario.

Critical Success Factors

Officer Richardson is going on maternity leave at the end of July. The other officer that has been assigned to NPU-T has been non-responsive. Prior to going on maternity leave, Officer Richardson will schedule a meeting with her replacement so that the top concerns continue to move forward.

End of Report

Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs Committee Report
Chairperson, Evelyn Washington, evelyn@nputatlanta.org
July 10, 2008

Date of Last Meeting: Wednesday, June 25, 2008; 6:30-8:00pm

Date of Next Meeting: Wednesday, July 30, 2008; 6:30-8:00pm

Location: TBA, *Refreshment will be served!*

Parks Subcommittee – Yomara Velez, yomaravelez@yahoo.com

The Parks Subcommittee seeks to support existing 'Friends' groups and to work with Park Pride and the City of Atlanta to create new groups that will support the Parks within NPU-T.

- Friends of West End Park application has been submitted to Park Pride. Please contact Yomara if you are interested in supporting and improving West End Park.

Recreation Subcommittee – no chair

The Recreation Subcommittee seeks to promote the existing recreational opportunities and to create new ones, especially those that target the youth and senior populations within NPU-T.

- Prayer Walks are being planned by Nia Knowles (niaknowsrealty@yahoo.com). This is a wonderful opportunity to address the spiritual, physical and social needs of our seniors. Please contact Nia for more information.
- 5K BeltLine/Cultural Run is being planned by Ryan Harry (harry374@hotmail.com). This partnership will allow us to highlight the BeltLine Trail as well as nearby Cultural Assets. Please contact Ryan for more information.

Cultural Affairs Subcommittee – Evelyn Washington, evelyn@nputatlanta.org

The Cultural Affairs Subcommittee seeks to promote and encourage the existing, vibrant culture within NPU-T.

- NPU-T will partner with Malcolm X Grassroots Movement to encourage the celebration of Black August in our neighborhoods. Please join us as we build on the success of our partnership with MXGM during Malcolm X Week last May.

BeltLine Subcommittee – Danielle Carney, daniellecarney@yahoo.com

The BeltLine Subcommittee seeks to educate residents of NPU-T about the BeltLine and engage them in the planning process.

- Next Study Group meeting on is July 24th at Atlanta Metropolitan College, Academic Bldg Room 201 @ 6:30p, but the location might change. **PLEASE PUT THIS ON YOUR CALENDAR!**
- Transit Density meeting held in May at Trees Atlanta that explained how Density and Zoning are determined. It was very informative and aided in the discussion of what type of housing and businesses we want along the Beltline.
- Meeting attended related to the Trail on White St., where we discussed its safety, use, and what defines "success". This led to a list of suggestions, policies, and ideas that we (NPU-T, ABI, BLP) will hopefully be implementing to insure the continued success of the Trail. The Trail will have an official grand opening in Sept/Oct.

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- June Study Group meeting was a picnic held on June 26th at Perkersen Park. There they again presented the Draft Master Plan for Subsection 2. It looked pretty good, but there were a few areas of concerns. Mainly connectivity b/t the rail line and the different hubs (ex. murphy crossing). We also discussed the zoning requirements that they are going to put before the NPU land use committees and the CoA. The turnout was MUCH better than it has been in the recent past.
- Discussion around Affordable Housing on July 9th. This is a large and fascinating, but complicated topic. A lot of background information was given on the current state of Atlanta's housing market, the current methods of disseminating affordable housing, and possible policy issues.
- It seems that the planning on our section will start in Fall 2008. This of course is tentative, but I will let you know as soon as I hear something concrete.

We really need more support and active members on the committee. In order for NPU T to benefit from the process, we are going to have to become a part of it.

Urban Agriculture Subcommittees previously housed in the Education, ED/CA and PRCA Committees have been combined into a freestanding Urban Agriculture Committee.

-END OF REPORT-