



**General and Board Meeting  
Monday, March 12, 2018; 7:00 PM  
Grace Lutheran Church  
1155 N. Highland Avenue**

**Agenda**

**VHCA Directors: David Brandenberger, Chase Johnson, Jenifer Keenan, Simon Lee, Barry Loudis, Steve Messner, Troy Murray, Stefanie Roberts, Kay Stephenson, George Zirkel.** Highlighted board members were not present with prior notice.

Adoption of agenda

Atlanta Police Department  
Major Klotzer and Captain Collier

Update on License Plate Readers: LPR are high speed cameras that allow moving objects to be captured and can capture reflective license plates. Many private garages have cameras. Plates are converted to data that can be searched against stolen plates and known lists. Has been helpful in finding missing persons and stolen cars. Do not use the technology to track citizens. Has a post investigative value.

Question: Cost of \$8,000 - \$10,000 is a concern. Is there data on the efficacy? It doesn't seem like our neighborhood has a problem with stolen cars. APD RESPONSE: There are a lot of stolen cars – most crimes are committed with stolen cars rather on foot. Many of the robberies involve stolen cars. Most of the data on efficacy is anecdotal. Cameras are also helpful to keep people out of jail. Shooting in East Atlanta – witnesses were certain that person was involved and camera showed that person's car was not at the scene.

Question: Cameras are good at adding evidence. Are there better tools to prevent crime in this neighborhood? APD RESPONSE: Best tool is the clean car campaign. Cameras are good for pedestrian centric areas like Virginia and North Highland. Can't point to another tool that is more effective in reducing crime other than good neighborhood watch.

Question: Did crime go down with LPR? APD RESPONSE: Cameras help but can't say that crime has gone down. We have 100s of apprehensions per year due to cameras. Best efficacy is LPRs and Cameras working together.

Comment: This neighborhood paid for cameras a few years ago. Police Foundation at that time suggested cameras over LPRs. Now LPRs seem favored. APD RESPONSE: Cameras are post investigative. LPRs are pro-active – will provide an alert when a stolen vehicle is spotted.

Question: Where is the LPR data kept? APD RESPONSE: Data is housed at the Video Integration System, which is owned by City of Atlanta. Data is on its own internal network. Data is kept for 180 days. Auto deletes after 180 days.



Question: Who decides where the cameras go? APD RESPONSE: Private money determines where cameras are placed. APD prefers major corridors. APD will make recommendations for camera locations.

Question: These cameras are already being deployed in the city. Why do we need private funds to fund additional cameras? APD RESPONSE: Don't know of any LPRs currently designated for this neighborhood.

#### Atlanta United Event

Call between VHCA, APD and MOSE. North Highland was not supposed to be closed pedestrians. Some pedestrians said they were turned away but others said they were able to access the closed part of the street. MAJOR KLOTZER said that he will personally investigate issues with similar events in the future.

#### Elected Public Officials & Municipal Representatives

##### Jennifer Ide's Director of Constituent Services, Kent Strickland

BeltLine is about to finalize community engagement process.

Jennifer met with Renew Atlanta – they are hoping to have a recommendation on Monroe Complete Streets soon.

Removal of Benches on North Highland: VHCA was not involved and Jennifer Ide's office was unaware of the removal of bench. Public Works is pointing to Police who are pointing to business owners. Public Works did not follow a process for removing the benches. Need to follow proper process for removal of city property on public land.

Working on setting up meeting on Fire Station 19.

QUESTION: Would Jennifer Ide's office be interested in scheduling a forum on homelessness? Kent indicated that he will discuss such a forum with Jennifer Ide and it will involve all neighborhoods in District 6.

COMMENT: More voices need to be heard in the community and advocate for the good of the neighborhood.

#### Old Business

- Status of VHCL bylaws update and election of directors/officers - David will provide update at April Meeting
- Update on Fire Station #19 renovation (i.e. when will work begin/finish, status of \$140K spending)
- Status of policy statement on board approval of expenditures - David will provide update at April meeting

#### Planning Committee



- Variances

- **V-18-40: 920 Adair Avenue NE**

Applicant Mark Arnold on behalf of Owners Meghan and Christopher Dean Pat desire to 1) reduce the front yard setback to 22.5 feet from 35 feet for the construction of a 2nd floor addition.

Construction is entirely within the existing floor plan. There are no anticipated tree impacts No apparent stormwater concerns and FAR and lot coverage are within current zoning limits. Appropriate neighbors have been notified of the application by applicant.

The Planning Committee, after site visit and discussion with the applicant, support this application.

- **V-18-18: 905 Virginia Circle NE**

Applicants and Owners Pat and Tony Noto desire to 1) reduce the front yard setback to 21.5 feet from 35 feet and 2) reduce the western side yard setback from 7 feet to 3.8 feet for the construction of a 2nd floor addition.

Construction is entirely within the existing floor plan. There is one tree impact (limb removal) but applicants have committed to working with neighbor on whose property the tree is rooted. No apparent stormwater concerns and FAR and lot coverage are within current zoning limits. Appropriate neighbors have been notified of the application by applicant.

The Planning Committee, after site visit and discussion with the applicant, support this application.

- **V-18-33: 780 Ponce de Leon Terrace NE**

Applicant Chris Hollman on behalf of Owners Natalie and Chris Kenny desire to 1) reduce the western side yard setback to 3 feet from 7 feet for the construction of an addition (bike/stroller shed).

Construction is limited to the area at the front of the house. There is one tree in the area but applicant has committed to hand digging support piers and no tree impacts are anticipated. No apparent stormwater concerns and FAR and lot coverage are within current zoning limits.

The Planning Committee, after site visit and discussion with the applicant, support this application.

- **V-18-49: 752 Elkmont Drive NE**

Applicant Garrett Daniel on behalf of Owners Elizabeth and Sandeep Murthy desire to 1) reduce the north side yard setback to 5 feet from 7 feet, 2) reduce the south side yard setback to 3 feet from 7 feet and 3) reduce the rear yard setback to 3 feet from 15 feet for the construction of a detached carriage house and a 2nd story addition.

Construction of carriage house involves demolition of an existing structure and 2nd story addition is within the existing footprint of the home. Existing lot coverage is currently at 56.5% and applicant has committed to removing lot coverage in other areas of the property to



keep lot coverage consistent after construction. Applicant has also made effort to address stormwater concerns expressed by the Planning Committee. Tree impacts include removal of 6 trees in the construction zone. Planned FAR is within current zoning limits. Appropriate neighbors have been notified of the application.

The Planning Committee, after site visit and discussion with the applicant, support this application.

- 10th and Monroe Update - Jenifer & Barry

**Sidewalk and Transportation Committee** - Troy

**Budget Committee/Treasurer's Report** - George

- District 6 funds
  - \$15,000 for John Howell Park
  - \$2,500 for Master Plan Update
  - \$55,000 for Other Projects

**Communication Committee**

- Status of resource for updating website (minutes and financials), etc.

**Fundraising Committee/Other Events**

- VHCA Meet & Greet - Stefanie
- Morningside Mile - George, Steve, Kay, Stefanie

This year the Virginia-Highland Civic Association (VHCA) and Morningside Lenox Park Association (MLPA) are teaming up to raise funds to improve the N. Highland commercial corridor – the original Intown destination. This event will be held on Sunday afternoon, March 25th.

- Summerfest - Jenifer
- Lantern Parade - George, Steve, Kay
- Tour of Homes - Chase

**Safety Committee**- Kay and Troy

**New Business**

- Discussion of License Plate Reader Cameras
- Appointment of director to replace Emma Tinsley



VIRGINIA-HIGHLAND

CIVIC ASSOCIATION

**Section 3.6 Vacancies.** In the event of the death, disability, removal, or resignation of a Director (including removal due to a Director's relocation from the Neighborhood), a vacancy shall be declared by the Board. For all vacancies, the Board shall first appoint the Alternate Director to fill such vacancy. All subsequent vacancies shall be filled by appointment of the President and confirmed by a majority vote of the Board. The Board may also hold an election for such position(s) at a Special Board Meeting. Each Director appointed pursuant to the terms of this Section shall serve the unexpired portion of the term of his/her predecessor.

**Announcements/Calendar:** (All meetings are public)

- NPU-F Monthly Meeting at Hillside: March 19, 2018
- VHCA Planning Committee at **Ponce de Leon Branch Library**: April 4, 2018 7 pm
- VHCA General and Board Meeting at Grace Lutheran: April 9, 2018 7 pm

**Adjourn**