



General Board Meeting - Agenda February 13, 2023 - 7:00-9:00 PM

Grace Lutheran Church
1155 N Highland Avenue NE
Atlanta, GA 30306

Zoom Meeting
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83583670169>
Meeting ID: 835 8367 0169
+13092053325,,83583670169# US

VHCA Directors: Johnson Bazzel, Melissa Clark (not attending), Kim Gnatt, Amy Harward, Lisl Kuegeman (Zoom) Huber, Jess Liddick, Jim Long, Leah Matthews, Alex Saucedo, Karen-Jane Wright, Mike Lewis

Neighbors In attendance: Stephanie, Katie V,

Approval of Minutes from prior month's Board meeting - Leah Matthews - approved

Review Current Agenda - Leah - approved

Guests & Elected Officials

- **Atlanta Police Department - Sgt Johnson** joined over Zoom. She is the brand new Zone 6 Evening Watch Supervisor.
 - She reported our neighborhood crime stats - 1/13 - 2/13.9 thefts from motor vehicles, 6 damage to property, no crimes against people
 - Promoted Connect Atlanta - New public safety program to bridge the gap between police and citizens. It enables citizens to participate with a new public safety program. Can register your camera system in the Level 1 program. Refer to notes in Town Hall on 1/30 for more details.
 - Level 2 - incorporate it into businesses
 - New public safety program to bridge the gap between police and citizens
 - Reminder: Summertime - don't leave vehicles running, don't leave items in vehicles to avoid theft
- **Elected Public Officials & Municipal Representatives -**
 - City Councilman District 6 - **Alex Wan - not present**
 - State District 57 Representative - **Stacey Evans**; Kennedie McClung, Chief of Staff - attendance over Zoom. Will provide us details to their weekly newsletter.
 - US House 5th District - **Nikema Williams**

Planning Committee - Variance applications

- 1072 Monroe Variance - Vote/recommendation on variance V-22-196 (1072 Monroe) - **Jack**
 - Applicant seeks to reduce impervious surface from 71% to 65%. Recommendation from the Planning Committee is to recommend a denial of the variance.
 - Neighbor David Taylor-Klaus joining via Zoom - has experienced water drainage issues due to this property - 9 to 0 to not support the variance request. Recommend denial.

Old Business



- Town Hall recap - **Kim**
 - Google Form feedback - do more frequently. Possibly 4x per year. 24 responses to the survey. Lots of positive feedback.
 - Get count from Ida on # of members joined since meeting.
 - Liked discussions about Parks, Schools, Safety, Zoning updates
 - Liked physically seeing the board
 - Want to learn more about how to support small businesses, specifically the St. Charles and Highland node
 - Would like more communication in advance. Can start later like 7pm.
- Homeless Shelter Card Update - - **Kim** - need to work through one more round of edits to include input from APD. Consider handing out to businesses. And consider starting with a small section of the community as a test run
- Friends of VAHI Proposed Structure - **Leah** - provided a quick update with details forthcoming
- Ponce on Ponce Project Update - **Amy** - shared full document recommendation to review via email. Prior to March vote, will host a 3/1 Zoom meeting.
 - Discussion around Trees. Current representation in drawings does not reflect what future state might be. Portman will be meeting the Tree recompense for the site.
 - Stephanie Coffin - Joined meeting to emphasize the importance of creating a green visual edging that continues from Briarcliff.
 - Greg Levine, local tree expert has met with Portman's landscape architect. Will continue the conversation with him
 - Heads up re: March meeting vote. Will get a vote in NPU, Planning and Board meetings

New Business

- 50th Anniversary Soiree - **Leah**
- Annual Association Meeting - **Kim**

Refer to Bylaws: Section 2.1 Annual Association Meeting. The annual meeting of the Members of the Association ("Annual Association Meeting") shall be held in September of each year for the purposes of the President and Treasurer reporting on the activities and financial condition of the Association. This meeting will include the Board Elections.

 - ❖ Proposed dates for this meeting - Tuesday 9/5 (allows for new board to be in place by 10/1), 9/11 (will replace monthly board meeting), Monday 9/18 - decision made to do a physical meeting (as the 2nd Town Hall of the year) at end of August. Announce elections and dates in the meeting. Conduct elections through time period required in bylaws. Kim to look at and make recommendation for dates and format to share with group.
 - ❖ Organizational Board Meeting to be held 15 days after including all new board members - sked for late September/early October

Officer & Committee Updates

- Budget - Jess / Leah incl Review Treasurer's Report - Jess provided full report with details below.
- Transportation & Safety - Johnson & Amy - no updates. Meeting with Alex W in morning re: transportation initiatives
- Communications - KJ - next 2 issues of VOICE this week and 3/1



- Education - Melissa & Lisl - PreK lottery info will be shared in VOICE this week.
- Fundraising/Event - Leah - 50th anniversary Friday 4/28. Permit submitted this week. Ticket sales will start this week.
- Summerfest - Alex - Quick update on SF progression - committee kicked off work. Friday night will be same structure as last year. Ticketing for Friday will be Gen Admin, not VIP. Now accepting artist market applications. Saturday for artists 11am-7pm. Need to do website updates soon. Early planning stages of Tour of Homes - Oct 2023. Home previews in process.
- Parks - Jim Long -
 - Met with Peter Frawley on John Howell renovations plans. Meeting again on 3/3. Working on setting a budget. Hope to have soon.
 - North Highland Park - making progress on a more viable place to hang around. Police intervention has been active and helpful. Trash cleanup has been challenging and a lot. Submitting as a volunteer project in Midtown High to recruit high school volunteers.
 - Orme - Mark Arnold resurrected Friends of Orme. This Saturday, Mark hosting an invasive species cleanup.
- Planning - Amy & Alex - ABG- we still don't have an update. Waiting to hear.
- Grants - Lisl - got checks cut to Schools by end of year including VH elementary.

Announcements

-Fire Station housewarming list has been hugely successful. They have received 4 recliner chairs, utensils, cookware, coffee machine and toaster oven

Calendar (All meetings are public)

- VHCA Board meets the 2nd Monday of every month
- VHCA Planning Committee meets the Wednesday prior to the VHCA board meeting
- 2023 Meeting Calendar [2023 Meeting Calendar.xlsx](#)



**Treasurer's Monthly Report
February 2023**

The transition of VHCA's two Wells Fargo bank accounts (checking and savings) was completed in January from Barry Loudis and the late David Brandenberger to Jess Liddick and Leah Matthews.

As Feb 9, VHCA has \$20,113 cash in checking with three checks outstanding (\$1,250 downpayment on the band for March concert series, plus \$2,400 for Park maintenance at NHP and JHP by New Leaf Landscape). Recent expenses have included insurance for the town hall, review of 1099s by our accountant Melissa Kriest, the annual Quickbooks fee, Canvas Planning's invoice for representing the neighborhood with Ponce & Ponce and the Atlanta Botanical Garden proposals, Park maintenance for John Howell Park and North Highland Park, and two deposits for the Concert Series in March: A1 rentals and PleaseRock LLC. Frawley and Associates scope for concept is now complete and moving to design phase, with their final concept plan invoice paid by VHCL's John Howell Park funds.

Alex Wan's office has been asked for their help in transferring the Georgia Power accounts on John Howell and on the Triangle - both City of Atlanta parks - to the City instead of VHCA. Each park costs VHCA about \$1,000 a year. Since January 2020, VHCA has covered \$6,075.53 in electric costs for those two City parks: Triangle was \$3,030.64 and John Howell Park \$3,044.89.

2023 approved budget is on the vahi.org website.

2022 Budget vs Actuals through end of 2022 is also on the website. This file includes actuals since 2014 per each income and expense category. It has been shared with the board as Excel for reference. Separate versions have been made for the Summerfest and Tour of Homes subcommittees to use so they have legacy income and expense information as a guide.

Budget versus actuals is updated monthly after the reconciliation and will be shared.

Budget Committee will explore a high yield savings account, as our current savings is earning significantly less than market rate.