



General Board Meeting - Agenda March 13, 2023 - 7:00-8:00 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 (not pre), Melissa Clark, Kim Gnatt, Amy Harward, Lisl Kuegemam Huber, Jess Liddick, Jim Long, Leah Matthews, Alex Saucedo, Karen-Jane Wright, Mike Lewis

Neighbors In attendance: Debbie S, Jack White, Portman team - Mike & Jessica, Aaron Fortner, Darcy Simasek, Adam Toal

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

Review Current Agenda - Leah - approved

Guests & Elected Officials

Atlanta Police Department - Matthew Stenson attended via zoom - Zone 6 Evening Watch

Supervisor - assigned to Zone 6 as of November 2022. Matthew Stenson

On Zone 6 team, with Sergeant Johnson & Lt Butler. Since last mtg, 30 crimes in the area. Most Auto Theft. Big problem in VAHI. Also plaguing the city.

Elected Public Officials & Municipal Representatives -

- City Councilman District 6 - **Alex Wan** - not present
- State District 57 Representative - **Stacey Evans**; Kennedie McClung, Chief of Staff - not present
- US House 5th District - **Nikema Williams** - not present
- **New Fulton County Commissioner for our district 4** - Natalie Hall - Anita Harris joined via Zoom - she represents Commissioner Hall's office. She was appreciative of joining our meeting and stated Jonathon Harrison will be attending our meetings - he is the Engagement Manager. 70 neighborhood associations in their district. Anita Harris, Chief of Staff to Fulton County Commissioner Natalie Hall contact info: AnitaM.Harris@fultoncountyga.gov, 404.312.6222
- Please let us know how we can support Summer Fest, we can engage Fulton County departments to set up tables of information, we can also engage our library and its mobile unit as well as our Cooperative Extension's mobile unit which can provide fresh produce to the attendees for free.

Officer & Committee Updates

- Budget - Jess / Leah
 - Review Treasurer's Report - A lot of progress since last meeting. Jess produced YOY Treasurer's report. All bank access has been transferred over to the new treasurer.



Reserve cash transferred from savings to checking to pay for costs being incurred for Summerfest and YTD programming.

- Transportation & Safety - Johnson & Amy - update in old business
- Communications - KJ - VOICE going out this week featuring Tom Murphy and Lilac Wine. Starting prep for Summerfest communications.
 - Figure out how to use IKE (the Monolith) sign at the corner - Kim to look into.
- Education - Melissa & Lisl
 - Report from Education Committee on the Midtown Cluster rezoning and community meeting - VHCA committee held a community meeting last week (30 in attendance) to understand concerns and determine what role VHCA could play in the process of the APS rezoning that was put on the table in the last 90-120 days. APS removed VAHI from the options on the table proposed for the re-clustering of Midtown. Hopeful that SPARK will not be included in future options. Need to stay close to what APS is proposing and share that directly with our community. We need to give a voice to the neighborhood to represent our recommendations.
- Fundraising/Event - Leah
 - Concert Series - ticket sales are slower than expected. Will be donating tables to schools to auction off. Sold 20 tables. 120 people. Need to sell 25 more tables.
 - Easter Egg hunt - Sunday, 4/8 at 1pm. Free event - North Highland Park
 - 50th anniversary party - Saturday 4/28 at 6:30. Sold 25% of tickets. Wasted Potential Brass Band has been booked. Securing a photographer. Trying to secure a Trolley to get folks home safely.
 - VAHI Tour of Homes - 4 confirmed houses
- Summerfest - Alex
 - Made an offer to feature band / headliner
 - 2 bands have agreed to join the Friday night event
 - Haywood Methodist church offered to host their coffee truck on Friday night
 - Artist market - 80+ artists have already submitted their application
 - Proceeding with 2 bands/bars on Virginia.
 - 5k race on Saturday morning. Goal is 1000K people.
 - Looking into a DJ.
 - 3/20 is next meeting
- Parks - Jim Long
 - Committee had a productive meeting recently. Received input from consultant to be able to summarize pricing in the upcoming weeks.
- Planning - Amy & Alex
 - No updates yet from Atlanta Botanical Garden. Committee is awaiting their reply.
- Grants- Lisl - no update

Old Business

- Transportation



- VHE Transportation Assessment- highest number of younger children will be attending this school. Conducted an audit of signage, school zoning signage, cross walks, lanes, traffic, etc. Met with Councilman Wan - talked e about bike lanes on Virginia, a pedestrian scramble at North Highland and Virginia, traffic tables at Park & Virginia - had a very positive meeting - provided candid feedback. Low hanging fruit before school opens - incl stop signs, repainting crosswalks (7), traffic tables, ATL 25 mph standards (currently 30/35MPH), pilot program for pedestrian scramble for Virginia & Highland, add School Zone signs, 2 new 4-way stops at Highland View and Ponce Terrace, Drewry, a couple new 3-way stops and a few speed tables. Not meant to be an exclusive list but a starting point to put a plan into action before the Fall.
- Board vote to support advancing Phase I - Board approved unanimously to proceed with recommendation for Alex's office to push forward on plans and legislation

New Business

- Planning - Board vote on Portman Holdings' Ponce and Ponce Mixed-Use Rezoning Application and West & East Site Plans
 - Board in support of detailed recommendation made by Planning committee - all board members approved. Motion to support.
 - Traffic study needs to be completed for Barnett. Reco is to conduct the traffic study this Fall once VirginiaHighland elementary school opens. Needs to be part of future Master Plan.

Announcements

Calendar (All meetings are public)

- 2023 Meeting Calendar
https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1CVn8ZKN9eMTGaMALX1Vgkx_8gyjZFn_gcjgPdUOWLY/edit#gid=0