



General Board Meeting - Agenda & Notes September 9, 2024 - 7:00-8:30 PM

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

Zoom Meeting
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89794061574>

VHCA Directors: Johnson Bazzel, Melissa Clark, Kim Gnatt, Amy Harward (absent with notice), Karri Hobson-Pape, Lisl Huber, Jess Liddick (absent with notice), Leah Matthews, Scott Nickels, Alex Saucedo, Karen-Jane Wright

Neighbors In attendance: Kay Stephenson, Debbie Scopczynski, Stefanie Coffen

Approval of [NOTES](#) from prior month's Board meeting - **Leah** - approved

Review Current Agenda - **Leah** - approved

Guests & Elected Officials

Atlanta Police Department Zone 6 Update - **Lieutenant Carroll**

1. Thefts are down
2. Cristy went to court, 30-day jail, 60-day ban on VA-HI Corridor

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
- District 4 Fulton County Commissioner - **Natalie Hall**; Anita Harris - Chief of Staff - not present

Planning Committee Variances - **Alex**

- No variances this month **wow**.
- **Billboard Legislation: Z-24-59 - "Outfront Media"**
 - Removal of 2 billboards, conversion of 3 to digital
 - Not in VaHi, but NPU asked if we could still give a rec.
 - Lindridge/Martin Manor & Piedmont Heights
 - Digital Billboards on Piedmont and Cheshire Bridge
 - Motion to recommend denial. 8 approved recommendation to deny. 1 abstained.
 - Questions asked:
 - What benefit does the initiative have to the City of Atlanta?
 - We would like to understand how our community can benefit from the initiative.
 - We are concerned about the impact to traffic and added flashiness on Monroe?

Officer & Committee Updates



- Summerfest - Alex - no updates
- Budget - Jess / Leah
 - Budget v Actual updated over the weekend with last Summerfest details, ToH sponsorship from Molly Gaines. File to be distributed and posted on vahi.org.
 - Communications budget is going to be seeing an uptick from a backlog of webmaster work since February now hitting the books.
 - The Treasurer's Report for 2024 was sent out along with the President's letter.
 - [Link here to a version with comments.](#)
 - Treasurer recommends the new board reviews all recurring vendors and re-approve for each board year.
 - Treasurer recommends that a person from each committee be copied on invoices for review/correction/approval before the Treasurer pays.
- Communications - KJ - no updates
- Education & Grants - Melissa & Lisl
 - Well attended session with APS Superintendent 2 weeks ago. Good discussion with neighbors.
 - With Grants issued to date in 2024, VHCA's total amount donated to the community since 2004 is now up to \$412,617.
 - Consider communicating to neighbors about the VHE banners on the fence on Virginia Avenue. Neighbors have asked.
- Fundraising/Events - Leah & Karri
 - Events
 - No concert in November due to last losing money
 - Va-Hi-Lloween - Event currently on calendar scheduled for 10/26.
 - 2024 details - DJ, Bouncy House, Pinata, Parade, Art & Craft zones
 - Recommendation by current board: combine the event with VHD Candy Crawl on 10/23 in lieu of a separate event on 10/26. New committee to determine details of what's included/not. At minimum, work to schedule a parade from Murphy's to Barnett
 - Ida to remove the 10/26 calendar
 - Umbrellas SWAG for Friends higher levels - 50 to be distributed to neighbors this month
 - Friends of JHP
 - Through VHCL - 501c3 - Set up Friends of John Howell Park
 - Survey currently to garner input & involvement
 - Strong progress with grants submitted (Park Pride, exploring GA Dept of Natural Resources' -- The Georgia Outdoor Stewardship Program for 2025 grant cycle)
 - Targeting Giving Tuesday for launch of fundraising campaign
- Historic Preservation - Karri



- Todd Memorial - 6th Generation original Atlanta settlers in attendance (descendents of Todds, Cheshire and Liddell Families)
- Exploring walking tours with Atlanta Preservation Society
- 10/6 11am-2pm FD #19 100th Anniversary - 11-1 Fun, 1pm Speakers; T-shirts for station - net\$0, 4 permanent markers internally. Los Angeles street will be blocked for the event.
- Parks - Scott
 - NHP
 - Pecan tree trimming
 - NE Corner design/update
 - TA planting day Nov/Dec
 - TA donating 5 Magnolias (30')
 - Need to order plants; total \$1.5k; need 2 exec sign-off
 - NHP Park manager
 - Discussing new trespassing signage
 - JHP
 - Clean up Day this Saturday 9/14
 - Park Bench Revitalization Project
 - Orme
 - Park Pride grant submitted; plan approved by arborist; waiting on COA
 - Clean Up Day next Saturday 9/21
 - TA Planting Day - Fri, 11/8; replacing 54 of 88 trees planted in Feb
- Planning - Alex
- Tour of Homes - Lisl & Kim
 - 91 tickets sold - \$2275. Ahead of 2023.
 - Sponsorships are doing good.
 - Still looking for 3 House Captains. Please share with friends
- Transportation & Safety - Johnson & Amy
 - Continuing to work with Alex Wan's office & ADOT on Monroe Complete Streets. Still awaiting follow-ups from the last public meeting

Old Business

- none

New Business

- none

Announcements

[Social Media Request Form](#)

Calendar (All meetings are public)

- [2024 Calendar](#)

Adjourned at 8:24 pm