



General Virginia-Highland Civic Association Board Meeting

Meeting Minutes

August 10, 2026 - 7:00 - 9:00 PM

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

Zoom Meeting

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

VHCA Directors: Miguel Barrios (online), Melissa Clark (Vice President), Kevin Cronin (not present), Kady DeWees, Rob Glancy (Co-Treasurer), Jennifer Hardwick (not present), Amy Harward, Karri Hobson-Pape (Secretary), Alex B Jones (online), Mary Frances Jones (Co-Treasurer), Tim Langan (President)

Community Members In Attendance:

Approximately 7 in person and 5 online.

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:11 pm by Tim Langon, VHCA President 2025-2026. A Quorum was established. All board members in attendance except Alex B Jones.

Langan read the following prologue to begin the meeting:

Welcome, everyone, to the Virginia-Highland Civic Association meeting. As we gather here, we'd like to first express our gratitude to each of you for joining. This association has proudly served our neighborhood for over 50 years, powered entirely by dedicated volunteers who give their time and energy to help shape a stronger, more vibrant community. Together, we work on initiatives that support our parks, guide thoughtful planning, and bring neighbors together in meaningful ways.

We know that Virginia-Highland is home to a diverse group of voices, and with that comes a wide range of perspectives. While we may not always agree, we hope that everyone feels comfortable to share their thoughts in a way that is both respectful and neighborly. Disagreement is ok. Disrespect will not be tolerated. Let's continue to build on our legacy by focusing on what connects us and working together for the future of our community. Thank you for being here and for being part of this ongoing work.

Approval of Agenda

Motion #1:

(Cronin/DeWees) Motion to approve the agenda.

Motion Passed 9 in favor/ 0 opposed



Kady DeWees	<i>Approved</i>	Melissa Clark	
Tim Langon	<i>Approved</i>	Kevin Cronin	<i>Approved</i>
Karri Hobson-Pape	<i>Approved</i>	Amy Harward	<i>Approved</i>
Mary Frances Jones	<i>Approved</i>	Jennifer Hardwick	<i>Approved</i>
Rob Glancey	<i>Approved</i>	Alex Bevel Jones	<i>Approved</i>
Miguel Barrios			

Brief Neighbor Updates

- None

Consent Agenda

Motion #2:

(Cronin/Glancy) Motion to approve the consent agenda, including April 2026 minutes and financials

- Approval of Minutes
 - Minutes - Prior July 2026 Board Meeting
- Approval of Prior Month Financial Reports, June 2026
- Variance - V-26-080 1185 Lanier Blvd - Unanimous planning committee vote
 - Cronin commented that property was approved at 55% and now 53.5%

Motion Passed 10 in favor/ 0 opposed

Kady DeWees	<i>Approved</i>	Melissa Clark	
Tim Langon	<i>Approved</i>	Kevin Cronin	<i>Approved</i>
Karri Hobson-Pape	<i>Approved</i>	Amy Harward	<i>Approved</i>
Mary Frances Jones	<i>Approved</i>	Jennifer Hardwick	<i>Approved</i>
Rob Glancey	<i>Approved</i>	Alex Bevel Jones	<i>Approved</i>
Miguel Barrios			

Guests and Elected Officials

- Guests and Elected Officials
 - Atlanta Police Department - Lt Jensen - replaced Lt Carroll, extensive experience.
degenson@atlantaga.gov



- Burglaries down about 30%; with school back in session it may go up. Numbers are looking good across the board.
- Fusus - cameras - a lot in the area
- Langan brought up sexual deviant on south side of Virginia-Highland; Lt Jensen will look into it. Case number was in NPU-F minutes.
- City Councilperson District 6 - Alex Wan - Not present.
- City Councilperson District 2 - Kelsea Bond - 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 - Mo Ivory (Anita Harris - Chief of Staff) - Elected Chair of Fulton County Commissioner, no current replacement. - Not present.

Officer & Committee Updates

- Officer and Committee Updates
 - Executive Committee (Tim Langan)
 - Community Impact Report
 - Review & Add Information & Plan to distribute via Communications
 - General Meeting - September 1, 2026 - Agenda for Discussion (Tim Langan)
 - 6:00pm Tables for Key Initiatives - Discuss
 - 6:30pm SPARK & VHE Choruses (Melissa Clark)
 - 7:00pm Meeting
 - Welcome & Thank You to All Volunteers
 - VHCA Election
 - Updates from City Council leaders
 - Update re Commercial Developments
 - Atkins Park & North Highland - Third & Urban
 - Ponce de Leon - Selig Development
 - Amsterdam & N Highland / Pielands & Paolos (+ Morningside Village) - 26th Street Partners
 - Virginia-Highland District
 - VHCA Volunteer Awards
 - Summerfest Update & Results from June 2026
 - Tour of Homes Plans & Results from Dec 2025
 - Safety / Transportation Updates
 - Trees Atlanta Presentation
 - Update Friends of John Howell Park
 - Orme Park Update
 - North Highland Park Update
 - History Committee Update
 - Questions & Input
 - Updates re Calendar of Events for 2025-2026 (see appendix)
 - Finance Committee / Treasurer Update (Mary Frances Jones)
 - June 2026 Financial Reporting



- Expenses and Revenue on track. In July brought in Summerfest & TOH revenue.
 - Summerfest - Premier brings in sponsorship and pays expenses from that.
 - TOH - \$18K in sponsorships + \$15K not noted.
 - Caught up on insurance premiums.
 - Need for Accounting Firm RFP for 2027+
- Planning Committee (Kevin Cronin, Kady DeWees, Tim Langan)
 - Selig Development on Ponce de Leon - Final Plan presented at NPU July 15th
- Safety & Transportation (Amy Harward, Jennifer Hardwick)
 - Tactical Urbanism Bike Lane Update (Amy Harward)
 - Still asking for guidance from ATLDOT on what they need for us to determine if it is successful or not. In order to make it permanent, it would be legislative action. ATLDOT would give us results and bring to VHCA to determine if we move forward to continue the pilot for another year or move to permanency stages. .
 - Current lane in pilot; no plans to go further up Virginia Avenue.
 - 6th Annual “Bike to DT Howard” class results - very successful!
 - Update re: Pedestrian Scramble (Amy Harward)
 - Sent [THIS LETTER](#) to Councilmembers Wan and Bond and the Atlanta Department of City Planning in support of pedestrian scrambles at Park/Ponce Place & Virginia and North Highland and Virginia.
 - Have not gotten meaningful response from them and if we want anything of significance then we need our own traffic study.
- History Committee (Karri Hobson-Pape)
 - Regular meetings planned for community members focused on specific history topics; held at Atkins Park Restaurant, 6:30 Dinner / 7:00 Talk
 - Aug 13, 2026, Webb Construction & Nora G. Webb, Kady DeWees
 - Atkins Park offered to
 - Sept 10, 2026, Atkins Park Neighborhood & North Highland Park, Paul Burks
 - Nov 12, 2026, The VAHI Architecture, Pam Bullock, Mark & Julie Arnold
 - Jan 14, 2027, Workshop: How to Learn About Your House History
 - Mar 11, 2027, Topic TBA
- Parks Committee (Miguel Barrios)
 - Schedule for Upcoming Park Work Days
 - John Howell Park - Maintenance / Upcoming Work Days - Miguel will share via email (Miguel Barrios)
 - North Highland Park - Maintenance / Upcoming Work Days - Miguel will share via email (Stephanie Coffin)
 - Orme Park - Maintenance / Upcoming Work Days - Miguel will share via email (Miguel Barrios)
 - Update from Friends of John Howell Park (Mary Frances Jones)



- Raised \$266K from community, total of \$666K; Big grant for \$300K in the works with Cox - will hear about that in October 2026.
- Will update the sign for progress.
- City approved the plan; met a few times a year; will meet with City before construction begins. Have been great to work with, have given a bit of feedback on the plan but not substantial.
- Update on North Highland Park Strategy
 - Rob Glancey put up 2 new small signs; adjusted the house from 6am - 9pm.
 - Revised Large Signage Needed - NPU-F Funding received - Miguel sent around a draft for this sign; collaboration between Eagle Scout group. (Rob Glancy)
 - Fence in Alley to reduce foot traffic - Estimate \$2800 with one quote, additional quotes for \$1700. Still finding out from APNA about splitting the cost. Cronin encouraged getting an easement on this. (Rob Glancy)
 - Findings Document from North Highland Park Subcommittee - (Kevin Cronin, Tim Langan)
 - Karri Hobson-Pape walked through the updated Findings document and paused throughout to get any input.
 - Stephanie Coffin shared her perspective that there is a large income difference in the southern and northern part of VAHI and the park can help bring people in. We need to pull more people into VHCA. We used to have a paper newsletter and it was delivered. We used to have new residence packages.
 - Mary Frances Jones shared the “Friends of Park” model and how it could be applied to North Highland Park.
 - Gina Gondron (APNA) shared that APNA is actively discussing creating a Friends of North Highland Park if the VHCA chooses to move forward with this.
 - Vanessa Burk asked about if other parks have volunteers
 - Paul Burk shared many reasons to keep the park, but these were highlighted:
 - VHRC - have never met, should be a part of the process.
 - Mark Nevitt has studied the deed for the park and feels that it needs to stay as green space but Paul does not trust this. City administrations may change and feel different.
 - Ironical that city property may be given back to the city.
 - Austin Landers shared concerns about a decision now, given the development of Third & Urban. Would like to hold on decision because it could be a future fundraising mechanism and to create a more fun and vibrant corner of VAHI.

Motion #3:

For the sole purpose of protecting the North Highland Park property as public green space for the community in perpetuity, the Virginia-Highland Civic Association (through its subsidiary of record, the Virginia-Highland Residents Coalition) transfer ownership of North Highland Park to the City of Atlanta Department of Parks and Recreation, subject to the following conditions:



1. The transfer shall be made by warranty deed, and the City must continue to recognize and preserve the existing deed restrictions that require the property to remain green space, permanently.
2. The property shall be used and maintained by the City as public park green space. Should the City at any time seek to remove the property from its parks portfolio, or to use it for any purpose other than public green space, ownership shall revert to the Virginia-Highland Civic Association, which shall hold and protect the property as green space.
3. This authorization is contingent on the Association's legal counsel confirming that the deed and transfer documents secure the permanent green-space restriction and the reversion to the Association described above, and on approval by the full membership of the Virginia-Highland Civic Association.

Upon satisfaction of these conditions, and a supportive membership vote, the Board authorizes its officers to take the steps necessary to complete the transfer.

Motion Passed 4 in favor/ 7 opposed

Kady DeWees	<i>Reject</i>	Melissa Clark	<i>Reject</i>
Tim Langon	<i>Approved</i>	Kevin Cronin	<i>Approved</i>
Karri Hobson-Pape	<i>Approved</i>	Amy Harward	<i>Reject</i>
Mary Frances Jones	<i>Reject</i>	Jennifer Hardwick	<i>Approved</i>
Rob Glancey	<i>Reject</i>	Alex Bevel Jones	<i>Reject</i>
Miguel Barrios	<i>Reject</i>		

- Fundraising
 - Tour of Homes 2026 Update (Melissa Clark, Amy Harward)
 - December 12–13 marks our 32nd Tour!
 - Home selections & volunteers needed - Call to Action
 - Sponsorship progress vs. goal - \$31K committed / \$58K goal
 - VHD Winterfest Plans & Partnership
 - Tiny Doors proposal [HERE](#)

Motion #4:

(Cronin/Harward) Motion to Invest \$4,750 in two tiny doors per proposal below

Motion Passed 10 in favor/ 0 opposed

Kady DeWees	<i>Approved</i>	Melissa Clark	<i>Approved</i>
Tim Langon	<i>Approved</i>	Kevin Cronin	<i>Approved</i>



Kady DeWees	<i>Approved</i>	Melissa Clark	<i>Approved</i>
Karri Hobson-Pape	<i>Approved</i>	Amy Harward	<i>Approved</i>
Mary Frances Jones	<i>Approved</i>	Jennifer Hardwick	<i>Approved</i>
Rob Glancey	<i>Approved</i>	Alex Bevel Jones	<i>Approved</i>
Miguel Barrios	<i>Approved</i>		

- Summerfest 2026 Update (Rob Glancy)
 - Survey Results
 - Summerfest 2027 - June 5 & 6, 2027, Chair: Rob Glancy; Call for Subcommittee Chairs
- Films in VAHI (Mary Frances Jones)
- VHCA Merchandise - new vendor needed (Mary Frances Jones)
- Communications Committee (Amy Harward)
- Elections Committee (Kevin Cronin)
 - Recruit potential board members to run for 2026-2027 year.
 - Deadline to Declare August 31st, 2026
 - Deadline to register to vote August 31st, 2026
 - Candidate Published September 1, 2026
 - Voting Opens September 10, 2026
 - Voting Closes September 18th, 2026
 - Election Results Announced September 21st, 2026
- Old Business
- New Business
 - Present “New Neighbor” Initiative & Anticipated Budget (Kady DeWees)

Motion #5:

(Cronin/Glancy) Motion to approve \$1500 to support “New neighbor” initiative.

Motion Passed 11 in favor/ 0 opposed

Kady DeWees	<i>Approved</i>	Melissa Clark	<i>Approved</i>
Tim Langon	<i>Approved</i>	Kevin Cronin	<i>Approved</i>
Karri Hobson-Pape	<i>Approved</i>	Amy Harward	<i>Approved</i>



Kady DeWees	<i>Approved</i>	Melissa Clark	<i>Approved</i>
Mary Frances Jones	<i>Approved</i>	Jennifer Hardwick	<i>Approved</i>
Rob Glancey	<i>Approved</i>	Alex Bevel Jones	<i>Approved</i>
Miguel Barrios	<i>Approved</i>		

- Adjournment at 9:56pm

Respectfully submitted by:
Karri Hobson-Pape