Virginia-Highland Civic Association Committee Organization Work Session Meeting Minutes
Monday, November 2, 2026 - 8:00 AM
YWCA Greater Atlanta
957 N. Highland Avenue NE, Atlanta, GA 30306

VHCA Directors: Miguel Barrios, Kady Dewees (President), David Glustrom, Hannah Harrison (Secretary), Amy Harward, Tim Langan (Vice President), Kyle Mehl, Jaron Ness, Heena Patel, Adam Struletz - all present. Ben McKenzie (Treasurer) was not in attendance.

Note: this was a closed work session. No motions were proposed and no formal votes were taken; items below are proposed or prepared for formal action at the November 9 board meeting, which will be open to the public.

Call to Order

The work session was called to order by Kady Dewees, VHCA President 2026-2027 at 8:07 am. The session focused on retrospective thoughts from transitioning the board, proposed committee leadership, bank account access governance, Summerfest finances, master planning kickoff, and preparation for the November 9 board meeting.

Committee Chairs: The following proposed committee chair slate was developed in the session and will be presented for a vote at the November 9 meeting. The goal of having discussion ahead of the November 9th meeting was to streamline discussion and make the most use of productive time during the public meeting in regards to both Kelsea Bond and Aaron Fortner in attendance - the board anticipated large audience participation around ATLDOT funds and the bike lane.

- **Budget and Finance:** Kady Dewees and Ben McKenzie (required)
- **Contracts and Insurance:** Tim Langan
- **Planning and Land Use:** Adam Struletz
- **Parks:** Miguel Barrios
- **Communications:** Amy Harward
- **Fundraising:** Heena Patel
- **Education and Grants:** Heena Patel
- **History and Preservation:** Kady DeWees
- **Transportation:** David Glustrom

- **New Residents:** Jaron Ness
- **Tour of Homes:** Amy Harward (remains with 1 month until event, will reconsider for 2027)
- **Master Plan:** Kyle Mehl
- **VHD Master Plan Representative:** Kady Dewees
- **Elections:** deferred to later in 2027
- **Summerfest:** Tim Langan

Co-Chair suggestions based on discussion listed below - *no vote is needed*. It is anticipated that there is a possibility of a co-chair stepping up to primary chair in 2028:

- **Planning and Land Use:** Kyle Mehl
- **Parks:** Jaron Ness
- **Communications:** Hannah Harrison
- **Fundraising:** N/A
- **Education and Grants:** N/A
- **History and Preservation:** Karri Hobson-Pape
- **Transportation:** Jaron Ness
- **New Residents:** N/A
- **Tour of Homes:** Heena Patel
- **Master Plan:** David Glustrom (if project continues into 2028)
- **Summerfest:** the Board is open to Rob remaining on committee as co-chair or as volunteer with Tim
- **VHSP Liaison:** David Cutts

Master Planning (Kyle Mehl): Two complementary but separate plans are in progress: VHCA is leading the neighborhood master plan (character, land use, streets, parks), and the Virginia Highland District is leading the North Highland Corridor plan (streetscape, commercial reinvestment, placemaking). Joint community forums and coordinated communications are planned.

Board representatives named: Kyle Mehl and David Glustrom. Aaron Fortner (Canvas Planning) confirmed that multiple board members may serve, with no board majority on the steering committee.

Approximately nine community members are needed for the VHCA steering committee, to be recruited from the existing interest list via emails. Stakeholder selection will be discussed further; board is debating whether or not to vote on stakeholder nominations.

Summerfest: Rob Glancy was not voted in as chair for 2027 - the June 15 motion covered dates only (June 5-6, 2027) and passed 10-0. Tim Langan will be named on the ballot as the board-member chair for votes. A non-board member as primary chair was opposed based on prior experience when a non-Board member chaired Summerfest a few years ago; advantages of also direct line to Treasurer for expenses and checks kept within Board. Tim is already an authorized user on the Wells Fargo account, which would keep payments efficient with no middle man needed. Tim will speak with Rob re: Summerfest transition and ability to stay on committee as co-chair or volunteer. Karen Jones and Betty Baughman were flagged as strong committee members.

2026 net income is approximately $58,347, pending three bookkeeper entries from Melissa, the accountant. A payable of $21,086.98 to Premier remains outstanding as of September 30; the board needs to confirm whether it is still owed and whether it falls inside or outside the net income figure. The board has not yet seen a copy of the Premier contract. Board to obtain a copy of the Premier contract for review.

Bank Accounts: Rob Glancy is to be removed from the Wells Fargo account, with the removal on the November 9 agenda as a formal vote following tense visit to the bank and previous discussions for Rob to remove himself. Rob will be informed via Tim and Ben. Active officers (Treasurer, President, VP only) will remain on the account going forward.

Safety & Transportation (David Glustrom): Preparation for the November 9 public board meeting — bike lane discussion:

Guests: Kelsea Bond and Aaron Fortner will attend. The proposal under discussion is for ATL DOT to conduct a study and proposal on the full Virginia Avenue bike lane segment, from the existing pilot through to North Highland. The board may accept or reject ATLDOT's proposal after review if the motion passes.

Kelsea Bond will reassure attendees in person that a study is not a commitment. A key community concern is that once the city is engaged, the neighborhood loses control; any bike lane extension toward North Highland may be handled separately through the master planning process.

Discussion leads: David Glustrom (Transportation Chair) and Amy Harward; other board members should not chime in unless requested to keep discussion on track. A motion will be drafted to approve requesting the study and proposal, predicated on the board's right to reject it after review.

Public comment format pending last month's meeting: one minute per person, one comment only per agenda item, no follow-up; the board will not debate ("thank you, noted, next"). Future consideration and strategy: questions are to be submitted 24-48 hours in advance where possible via the Voice, social media links and vahi.org. This will also include sharing the agenda in advance of meetings with a disclaimer noting that agenda topics are still subject to change up until the meeting commences. Any other channels to communicate? Facebook?

Aaron Fortner will be on the agenda for the Master Plan update only and will not speak to the bike lane. The meeting will be posted on Instagram in advance to signal transparency and invite attendance.

Action Items & Next Steps

1. Board: Vote on the proposed committee leadership slate at the November 9 meeting.

2. Ben McKenzie: Put Rob Glancy's removal from the bank account on the November 9 agenda (formal vote).

3. Tim Langan: notify Rob of Summerfest title change ahead of November 9 meeting with opportunity to still remain on committee

4. Ben McKenzie: Obtain a copy of the Premier contract and confirm the outstanding invoice ($21,086.98): whether it is still owed and whether it is inside or outside the $58,347 net figure.

5. Hannah Harrison: Post the November 9 meeting agenda on Instagram and in the Voice, highlighting Kelsea Bond and Aaron Fortner as guests.

6. David: Draft the motion for the ATL DOT bike lane study vote (background, with the right to reject after review) and circulate it to the board via email for familiarity before November 9.

8. Board: Reach out to Dave Cutts for the Public Safety Patrol liaison role.

9. Board: Recruit approximately nine community members for the VHCA master plan steering committee from the interest list, avoiding a board-majority composition.

Leah Mathews, Kevin Cronin, David Glustrom, Tim Langan, Drew Genteman, Johnson Bazzel, Mark Arnold, Paul Supanawich, Gray Harward

10. Kady: Email both Aaron and Kelsea to request their agenda topics/description for their portion of the agenda. Relay how much time they will have to speak (10 minutes).

Adjournment

Work session adjourned 9:21 am. Next meeting: VHCA board meeting, Monday, November 9, 2026 (public).

Respectfully submitted by:

Hannah Harrison (Secretary)