



ADAIR PARK TODAY

COMMUNITY MEETING HELD AT

STEWART AVE METHODIST CHURCH, LILIAN & METROPOLITAN

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, February 1, 2011

7:00 pm

Next Meeting – March 1st @ 7pm

§ **Call to Order**

§ **Welcome & Introductions**

35 attendees; 8 new attendees – Congratulations to Catherine and Brookline for having the most attendees.

• **Introduction of Guest Speaker – Derrick Duckworth**

• **State Representative Kathy Ashe – House District 56**

- Georgia General Assembly website – www.1.legis.ga.gov
- Kathy was hired to do a job and she needs input from the people. Newsletter arrives online most Sunday afternoons. How do we handle the problems with Hope Scholarships? Please allow her to serve you.
- Two pieces of legislation in the works
 - Coming home from prison. The ways in which our community is able to welcome them back. Georgia terminates their rights so that when they come back they do not have access to food stamps, healthcare, right to vote, etc. We need to figure out how to give certain convicted felons the right to vote. Getting a job is difficult. From the Georgia Justice Center a record can only be expunged when there is an error. If you've not been convicted of a crime and only arrested it stays on their record. People have done their time and should be able to have a job.
 - Vacant Properties - Code enforcement needs to know when there is a vacant property and who owns the property. Task force with Margaret Kaiser. We need to have vacant properties registered...yards to be fixed, windows not boarded. This bill has gotten some attention. Richmond County has the same problem so does Cobb and DeKalb. In the Hopper is house bill 110 which requires vacant property registration. An important line in the bill, "when the owner lives outside the state the owner shall provide a name and address of a person who lives within the state that can handle requests." This bill allows for fines when the owner does not comply. A hearing about this bill will take place before the judiciary committee and will be placed on the website so everyone can know about this bill. The bill may be called and done before anyone gets there but Kathy will do her best to get us word. Kathy's name is not on this bill and is driving from the back seat. Teague commented, "I sincerely hope this is something that passes."
- Kathy Ashe will make a personal request to Kasim Reed to come to one of our meetings.
- Kathy is open to having students 12 or older to come to the Capital. Kathy Ashe asked the community members, "How do we feel about the situation with the Atlanta Public School?" Chenee' Joseph is very disappointed in the school system and we continue to put a band aid on the situation. Becky O'Mara states that we need to clean house and start over with non politicians, concerned citizens and parents. APS has done a disservice to the children. Tim O'Mara states that the kids are pushed through the



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System, masking the real problem. Kids have never been taught and can't do the work. Communities have been abused and ignored. Kathy Ashe - The cheating scandal has not yet been resolved. Consequences have to happen. Keeping accreditation is extremely important for the students. The Board must do everything they can to keep the accreditation for the APS. What are the alternatives? Several school systems are looking for a new superintendant. Should the school systems be managed on a more local level, similar to that of a Charter school system? What's the future of public education in Atlanta. Kathy Ashe is willing to respond to neighbors that want to talk about this situation.

§ Community Officials' Reports

- **Atlanta Police Department: Sgt. Gentile**

- § Zone 3 Crime Suppression Team

- § Reviewed December's crime report. January's report is out but was not printed for the meeting.

- § There were 6 burglaries in December. Crime was up before Christmas. Auto theft on Elbert. 50% of the arrests were made over in Adair Park while only 10% of the crime was reported in Adair Park. Response from Derrick Duckworth is that arrests may be higher in numbers because of our text tree. A lot of communities are catching on to this.

- § Lt. Peek was transferred last week

- § Red Dog is not going anywhere

- § The officer's should dust the houses for fingerprints. If you find that they are not doing this and are giving excuses such as "already touched and it's raining," demand that the officer fingerprints or ask for their supervisor's name. The officer's know this is a part of their job.

§ APT Officers' Reports

- President – Derrick Duckworth

- § Appreciates the support of the church and would like for us to have an Adair Park Day at the church. Promote on Facebook like we do our other social activities.

- § It is possible that Mayor Kasim Reed will be at our March meeting so we will meet at the Salvation Army Kroc Center.

- Vice President – Chenee' Joseph

- § On the social calendar is our first cleanup on March 19th. We will work Pearce to Catherine. Denise Taylor has volunteered to help organize. We are seeking additional



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volunteers. In keeping within the green spirit we will have a St Patty's day party.

Another event will be coming up in May. Stay posted on FB. Look at your newsletter.

- Treasurer - Melanie Higgins
 - Balance of \$1,664.04
 - 19 paid members as of Feb 1st, 2011
- Correspondence - Jay Melton
 - Newsletters went out. Thanks to everyone that helped distribute.
 - We had a great meet and greet at Brad's last month. Angela and Burt will host the next "progressive" meet and greet on Saturday, February 19th. More info to come.
 - Website should be up at the next meeting.
 - There are 47 people on the text tree.
 - Thanks to Justin there are 60 people on the Facebook Social Club Page. Thanks to Melanie for rounding up a fun kickball game on Sunday.

Ø The January meeting minutes were submitted into the permanent record. Proposed by Miquela Redwood, Secretary and second by Derrick Duckworth.

● **Old Business – Sarah Liebold**

- The motion was made to allow seniors who are 65 and older and 5 years residents to be free members. This is an effort to drive membership. Attend two meetings first and then become eligible to vote on their 3rd meeting. There was much discussion regarding this. Shawna said she would sponsor a person. Jeanie is asking, "is it a hardship for people?" Arlene thought we should clarify the terms. What's the issue? Should there be some cost attached? No fee vs. \$1 or \$2. Maybe we should talk to the seniors. The goal of the board was to increase membership. The senior idea was just one way. Since there were many different ideas we thought we would discuss some more. We will table this for next month.
- Meeting location - We are full even on a rainy night. Proposal is to move the meeting to the Kroc center. Restrooms, more space. Free. Motion to change location on a trial basis. 15 in favor. None not in favor. Motion passed.

● **Comments, Announcements, etc.**

- Pastor of the Stewart Avenue Methodist Church is inviting the community to come to service on February 13th. February is Love Month and he will preach on the love of God, family friends and community. There will be a meal afterwards. Service starts at 11am. No need to RSVP, just come the church will have plenty of food.



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- Mr. Thomas - Congratulations on the new leadership. Kudos to last year's leadership team. Neighbors in Pittsburgh had a cleanup on Monday the 17th of January - 40 people were present. 2 story convenience building is now a drug building. Doug has set-up another cleanup for mid March. Provide dates to him so he can get others involved in our cleanups.
 - Combining the tire round-up with the clean-ups.
 - Michelle - Flyers for cat missing after the fire on Saturday. Steve is the cat's name. Take a good look at the flyer. We are very optimistic that we will find him.
 - The survey is not closed. Would possibly like to form a committee around the survey. Arlene would like for us to analyze the data and find out what the city has available around the results of the survey. We will discuss the survey at the next Executive meeting.
- Alex P. - CITGO and Hakeem - Lawyer for Alex
- Alex asked for assistance from Hakeem regarding this CITGO location. He has promised to take the steps needed. Selling beer and liquor is a resource to do even more for public safety.
 - Licenses are renewable annually as an administrative process. An application and payment of \$5000 is required for renewal. If there are enough violations it will go to the board for review. Prior to the renewal of his application he will have to appear before the board and we would have a chance to make a recommendation. One violation is grounds for non-renewal.
 - He has security cameras on the inside and outside of the store. Lawyer thinks he is committed and knows him pretty well. He would need to appear before NPU as well. Wants to sell cigars in addition to beer and alcohol.
 - We recommended that he is not allowed to sell cigars and that he comes before the community prior to the renewal of the license. Alex does not have a problem having it reviewed annually.
 - Shawna doesn't think it's necessary for the community.
 - Teague - we can provide input to NPU.
 - NPU also denied the application. Has the recommendation been changed with NPU
 - 24 hours. Lights are up. Resident did not know it was in operation. Was poorly lit tonight.
 - It is now a gas station for about 2 months.
 - We will discuss as a community.
- Ø Teague - motion to adopt the letter of conditional support with the striking through of the cigar and to add that he goes before the board annually for his liquor license.
- 9 approved, 4 opposed and 4 abstain
 - Alex owns 17 other gas stations in the area including part ownership of the Chevron on Metropolitan and University.
 - If we support then it goes before NPU-V. Legally he cannot be denied.



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Adjournment 8:20 pm

Reminders for the neighborhood:

- **Code Enforcement**- meets last Thursday, monthly, 10AM
- **NPU-V** meets second Monday, monthly. 7 PM
- **Urban Design** meets second & fourth Wednesdays, monthly
- **Adair Park Today** – 1st Tuesday of each month

Adair Park Website

www.adairpark.com

Adair Park Today Officer's	Email Address
President, Derrick Duckworth	president@adairpark.com
Vice President, Chenee' Joseph	vicepresident@adairpark.com
Treasurer, Melanie Higgins	treasurer@adairpark.com
Recording Secretary, Miquela Redwood	secretary@adairpark.com
Communications, Jay Melton	communications@adairpark.com
Parliamentarian, Sarah Liebold	parliamentarian@adairpark.com

YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD RESOURCES

APD Zone 3 Precinct	404-624-0624 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Major Mitchell • Lt. Peek – 404-230-6104 (office) 404-831-0824 (cell) tpeek@atlantaga.gov
Fulton County District Attorney's Office	Claire Farley, Zone 3 Community Prosecutor 404-624-8026 aletha.farley@fultoncountyga.gov
Code Enforcement	Kevin Bean, Dir. Dept Planning & Comm. Dev. Bureau Code Enf. 404-330-6190
Dept. of Watershed	55 Trinity Ave SW # 5400, Atlanta - (404) 330-6081
Dumping	9-1-1
Norfolk Southern RR	Earnest Leon Jackson, 404-529-1251
NPU-V	Travie Leslie rublenn9@yahoo.com 404-758-8525
Univ. Ave. Redevelopment project	Darren Hall 404-222-3660.