

Meeting Minutes

Monday, August 17, 2015

6:30 pm

Antioch East Baptist Church

Meeting called by:

Omar Zaki

Scribe

Tonya Toland

Agenda

New Member Recognition

- At least 7 new members were in attendance

Community Efforts

- David Hebert regarding tree planting in Edgewood
 - 75 trees were planted last year along Arkwright & Woodbine; only 4 residents from the neighborhood participated.
 - This year's tree planting event is scheduled for [December 12, 2015](#) along Moreland Avenue.
 - We are in need of the neighbor's participation; let's have some fun while we improve the aesthetics and environment of the Edgewood community.
 - We are looking for participation this year
- Greg Giuffrida from Atlanta Downtown regarding the Neighborhood Fund
 - Leveraging the "Imagine Memorial Study" and tying all the existing plans together
 - The Imagine Memorial study and comment links on Councilmember Archibong's page: <http://citycouncil.atlantaga.gov/Members/archibong/ImagineMemorialReviewandCommentWebpage.htm>
 - The Atlanta Regional Commission's LCI program page: <http://www.atlantaregional.com/land-use/livable-centers-initiative>
 - Ongoing interest in the results of the study and several committees initiated by Councilmember Natalyn Archibong; the Beltline is also driving some of the continued interest along Memorial Drive

- Funds have been raised by a variety of stakeholders, such as businesses in the area, developers, non-profit organizations, etc. The funding has resulted in a “full-time” staffed position by Mr. Giuffrida, who will serve as the point person for the Memorial Drive corridor projects.
- Erica Nimmons, Site Coordinator for Communities/Schools @ King Middle School
 - Reaching out to share the schools initiatives for student improvement, such as closing the achievement gap, student attendance, and behavior for the students that are residents of the neighborhood
 - The schools challenge is “lack of parental involvement”
- Derek Pinson regarding the Edgewood Community Learning Garden
 - The NEW Manager for the gardens (Monica’s replacement)
 - Seeking neighborhood involvement and volunteers
 - He reported some recent vandalism of the gardens
- Travis Peterman regarding Edgewood “Indiegogo Campaign” Update
 - The campaign has reached **67%** of its goal
 - URL: <http://igg.me/at/edgewood-swag>
- Tonya Toland regarding a Edgewood Courts Apartments (ECA) Meeting Report
 - HJ Russell Mgmt Team attendees were:
 - Ronda Dobbs, Regional Mgr: RShannon@hjrussell.com; [404-330-0957](tel:404-330-0957)
 - John Spillers, Security Consultant: thespillersgroup@bellsouth.net; [678-283-4561](tel:678-283-4561)
 - HJ Russell has recently invested security and safety measures at Edgewood Court Apartments (ECA) including state of the art cameras covering 90% of the property and super bright lighting.
 - Residents and neighbors of Edgewood Courts agree there has been a noticeable decrease in crime during the past few months, but there is still plenty of work be done.
 - Individuals can be and are evicted for their crimes committed, as well as and the crimes committed by their children/ grandchildren/and guests that live with them.
 - The revolving door to the juvenile justice system is a frustration for ALL, including APD. Repeat juvenile offenders are often apprehended and let out of jail immediately with no further consequences.
 - Ms. Dobbs & Mr. Spillers have provided their contact information to report any issues/concerns regarding the residents of Edgewood Courts. There is an ongoing partnership between APD & the HJ Russell Mgmt team to work together for safety of the Edgewood Community as a whole.

Old Business

City Government Reports

- Valencia Hudson, Public Safety Liaison

- Several neighbors reported some issues to Valencia for resolution

- **APD Zone 6, Lt. Carter (Evening Watch Commander from 2pm to 11pm)**

- Overall over crime is down
 - Property @ 1572 Hardee Street (Edgewood Cts) several known perpetrators, who are sometimes seen in and around Edgewood Courts, are currently behind bars.
 - Auto theft continues to be problematic. However, APD continue to stress the importance of the "Clean Car Campaign". Numerous weapons continued to be found by criminals during car break-ins (several crimes have been committed with stolen guns).

- **Edgewood Shining Stars**

- On summer break

New Business

- **Zoning** - nothing presented at this meeting

Announcements

- **Kelola Williams Passing** – Passing of Edgewood mother, Kelola Williams, was noted.
- **"Love your Block" Grant** - discussion/ideas regarding Edgewood's participation in completing the block grant. The mini-grant offers up to "\$1,000 for the neighborhood."
 - Garry Long – indicated these are small dollars funded by the City of Atlanta; administered by the Community Foundation via the Neighborhood Fund where Mr. Long serves as the Chairperson.
 - *The deadline is October 15, 2015*

Next Meeting

Monday, September 21, 2015 @ 6:30pm

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned @ 8:10pm