

**Organized Neighbors of Summerhill (ONS)  
Monthly Meeting Minutes  
January 04, 2018**

**Call to Order**

John Colabelli, president, called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. Attendees introduced themselves.

**Quality of Life/Public Safety/Code Compliance**

Lt. Jay "Ski" Sokoski presented a report on behalf of Lt. Finch. He did not have crime stats available due to his late notice of attendance; however, he is the overnight lieutenant and relayed his observations regarding car entries and items taken from lawns. One neighbor questioned the prevalence of gunshots or fireworks. Sokoski stated it may be either. Colabelli relayed an incident on 12/16/17 in which a filming crew was set up on Terry Street without a permit. A Fulton County sheriff deputy was providing security and refused to provide a permit and instructed residents to "back off". Lt. Sokoski explained the permitting process and advised if the incident occurred, call 911 but warned some officers may not know the permitting process. Colabelli said the crew blocked access to the street and was paying some neighbors to use their driveways. Another neighbor inquired about the gathering of people in Phoenix II smoking pot, blocking the street and preventing neighbors from using the park with children due to safety concerns. Sokoski advised he would let the crime suppression unit know about the activity. Members also discussed school age children roaming the streets and being disruptive. Carla Smith advised she had video and was strategizing talking to the principal of King and sharing video. She also relayed the story of a girl who was threatening with a hammer. Sokoski advised calling 911 when groups of disruptive youth were spotted. Another neighbor relayed a story in which a shot was fired at the Summerhill Variety Store at Martin and Crumley Streets. Sokoski said he had heard of the incident and would follow-up to check if a report was filed. Colabelli suggested sending an email to the public safety chair (publicsafety@onsummerhill.org) when such an event was observed.

A representative from Commissioner Marvin Arrington's office solicited feedback and stated she would follow-up on the identity of the deputy sheriff who was blocking access to Terry Street.

Councilperson Carla Smith expressed her appreciation and delight at being present since the recent election. She explained the concept of the Turner Field Trust Fund describing it as a \$5-million-dollar fund to spark and fund community improvement projects and potentially be the catalyst for creating other initiatives like a community improvement district. She identified some of the members of the group such as Mary Gay and identified Summerhill resident John Helton as the chair of the group. Travis Parks of Peoplestown will be Vice-Chair. Grant Park and Pittsburg neighborhoods will have one representative since they are on the periphery. She stated she would be available to meet with the group if desired but also said her presence was not necessary. She encouraged the group to meet soon. Helton questioned if members have been notified and if an official list exists. Smith said she would gather and send. Smith encouraged residents to check on their neighbors during the cold and announced early closures planned for the week.

**Old Business**

The group approved the prior meeting minutes by majority vote with no opposition or abstention.

**New Business**

Two variance requests were presented (handout):

V17-344

Iesha White presented the variance rationale and Colabelli explained the fact that current zoning rules are in conflict. The 759 Martin Street zoning variance request was approved with 13 in favor, 3 against and 1 abstention.

V17-329

Benjamin Mcloughlin presented the variance request. Colabelli conveyed that Jon Mickle was in full support of this request. The 112 Ormond Street parking variance request was approved with 14 in favor and 2 abstentions.

**Program: Speaker/Event/Presentation**

Bryan Adams, vice-president, reported on the Phoenix II Park Pride Grant which ONS was awarded for a \$20,000 park improvement from various sources. He announced the December park clean-up event was a success.

John Helton, secretary, reported that the neighborhood profile, which may be used as a case statement for multiple uses including pursuing additional funding opportunities, is underway. He also explained that the yard sign and door hanger communication pieces have been completed and will be distributed next month to advertise meetings.

Wanda Rasheed presented the treasurer's report with an update on the SMP grant expenditures and Richard Laupus explained his Storyteller's Project opening at Georgia State University.

Public safety report was deferred.

**Announcements/Events and Updates**

Colabelli announced the winners of the house sign design contest. 17 designs were submitted and 1 grand prize and 4 runner ups were selected (handout). He explained the designs would be used as feedback for three professional designs which the neighborhood would vote on again as a final design.

Colabelli announced that 2018 goals as well as 2017 review would be discussed at the February meeting. He solicited ideas and Mary Gay suggested a community directory/database that contained resident information and skills/business.

Jason announced the open application cycle for the Resident Leaders for Equity program through the Partnership for Southern Equity with support from the Annie E. Casey foundation. Deadline for residents to apply for the program is January 31<sup>st</sup>.

Colabelli directed attendees to the announcements section of the agenda.

**Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:28 p.m.