

**Organized Neighbors of Summerhill (ONS)  
Monthly Meeting Minutes  
September 5, 2017**

**Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by John Colabelli at 7:06p.m. with a welcome and acknowledgement of the organization's Code of Conduct.

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

Sergeant Ralph Woolfolk with the Atlanta Police Department (APD) provided a summary of the prior month's criminal activity and indicated violent crime was down 22.3% year over year. He referenced an armed assault that occurred at 106 Ormond Street; he stated the individual had been identified and arrest was pending.

**Hot Topics**

- Rich Kenah, executive director of Atlanta Track Club (ATC), announced an upcoming \$300K resurfacing of Cheney Stadium Track. This effort is consistent with their mission of giving back to the community and encouraging community members, particularly children, to engage in running for exercise and sport. Funding is derived from Peachtree Road Race revenues. The track property is owned by Atlanta Public Schools (APS) with whom they are coordinating the project. This resurfacing should be completed by the first week of October provided weather is favorable. Kenah said when the project was complete, ATC would host a grand re-opening to possibly include former Olympians from the 1996 Olympics. The suggestion was made ONS could potentially co-host a BBQ and clean-up day to coincide with the reopening.
- A representative from Carter provided an update on the progress of the neighborhood development plans. Specifically:
  - The next quarterly meeting of principals is scheduled for September 23<sup>rd</sup>
  - The student housing building is scheduled to break ground in February 2018 for the 2019 school year
  - Letters of Intent (LOI) have been executed for some Georgia Avenue spaces including one for a coffee shop; work on the Georgia Avenue buildings should begin mid-November
  - It is anticipated some business will be open Spring/Summer of 2018
  - The 125 unit townhouse/apartment building development is scheduled for delivery August 2019
  - Concerns were raised about parking and a lengthy discussion ensued. Carter stated no parking structures are planned for Georgia Avenue at present and that existing surface parking will be utilized for the immediate future. Should parking structures be built in the future, the design standards call for minimal visibility from the street view.

- The corner store space at 112 Ormond (Martin and Ormond) has new owners who are interested in the neighborhoods' ideas for its use. ONS and SNDC agreed to poll communities to identify needs and preferences.
- No significant concerns were expressed regarding GSU games and Luda Day. Colabelli encouraged members to reach out to him should problems be noted.

### **Old Business**

- The prior meeting minutes from August 2017 were approved.
- Michael Lievers was introduced as the recently appointed chair of the public safety committee; the intent to create a neighborhood watch program with designated block captains was announced.

### **New Business**

- FG Management, operator of the Ramada Plaza, presented a request for change of agent for their liquor license due to a new general manager (see attachment). The request was approved by vote. The new general manager indicated he would like to become better connected with the community.
- John Helton was introduced as the nominee for secretary to assume the vacated term of Kristen Mehr who moved out of the area. Additional nominations were solicited from the floor; none being submitted, Helton's nomination was affirmatively accepted by the membership by vote.
- Colabelli announced the Residential Housing Usage proposal, which had been discussed several times in prior ONS meetings, had been submitted to Carla Smith's office for legislative and legal review. This proposal addresses concerns that the neighborhood's proximity to Georgia State University (GSU) and the university and Carter's plans to create additional student housing near the neighborhood will result in increased student rental housing of existing single family homes. The proposal, modeled after similar pieces of legislation in other areas, would limit the number of non-related people residing in a non-owner occupied residence (rental unit). No timeline has been established for this proposal to be reviewed or brought forward to the city council.

### **Program: Speaker/Event/Presentation**

- Eric T. Merriweather, executive director of African American Association of Georgia (AAAG), presented an upcoming event in which groceries and toiletries will be provided to needy families in the community. In a similar event last year, 50 families were served. PepsiCo, Frito Lay and WalMart are sponsors. They plan to serve 125 families this year. He solicited referrals of any known families who had home-bound members in need. He wishes to create a lasting partnership with ONS to assist the community. The event is October 18<sup>th</sup> in the Panther Stadium parking lot. Colabelli suggested he attend NPU-V

meeting and discuss with Stephanie Flowers to further advertise the project.

- Bryan Adams updated the membership on his work with Adam at Carter on the Park Pride and Kaboom grants. Plans for Phoenix III include potentially adding a sidewalk and park benches as well as a toddler friendly area for Phoenix II. The grants were submitted the previous Friday. Colabelli added he has been working with the city to improve maintenance in Phoenix III. The city arborist has inspected the park and he shared tree markings simply indicated trimming, not removal.

### **Announcements/Events and Updates**

- Colabelli invited members to attend the NPU-V meeting and called attention to several announcements posted on the agenda. He also invited attendance at the SNDC meeting on the third Wednesday of each month at 5:30 p.m. at the SNDC house on Georgia Avenue.
- Colabelli shared comments from Matt Underwood from the Atlanta Neighborhood Charter School (ANCS) relaying his appreciation for advertising student recruitment efforts. 10% of ANCS students are from Summerhill which is especially impressive since we comprise only 5% of students in the catchment area.
- Colabelli will post a link to a sign-up sheet for interested members to work concessions at GSU game to earn money for ONS.
- The metal plate on Fulton street was referenced as was the light outage on Georgia Avenue.

### **Adjournment**

Colabelli adjourned the meeting at 8:15 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for October 2, 2017.