**Poncey-Highland Neighborhood Association**

**Monthly General Meeting Minutes**

**Wednesday, November 17, 2021**

**(32 Members; 4 Guests)**

**Welcome – Erika Heller, President**

* At the beginning of 2021, the Bylaws Revision Committee was formed which included Chris Jenko, John O’Brien, Susan Sommach (all of whom have legal backgrounds) and Erika. The Committee had approximately ten working group meetings and several hours of email communications as well as review sessions with the PHNA Board. The goal of the Committee was to reformat the document to make it easier to read and to review against other NPU-N neighborhood bylaws documents to ensure the PHNA bylaws are not overly complicated and challenging to read or follow. One draft revision was published in early October, and a special meeting was held to discuss the proposed revisions and answer any questions. The Board received feedback from members both at the Special Meeting and via email. Additional revisions were made, and the most recent draft was presented and brought to a vote. Lianne Deren made a motion to approve the revisions to the PHNA Bylaws. Ward Binns seconded the motion. The Bylaws revisions were approved with 68 In Support and 4 Opposed.  (Absentee ballots = 49; Zoom Poll votes = 20; Proxies = 3)

**APD Zone 6 Update:**

* Lt. Clint Meyer represented APD for Zone 6. He did not have anything specific to report with respect to new crimes trending, but he did encourage the neighborhood to stay alert and vigilant and requested that if you “see something, say something.” If you see a crime, please call 911 and provide as much information and details as possible. APD continues their initiative to get more officer presence on the streets and throughout the city to decrease criminal activity.
* In response to a question from the floor regarding updates on theft of catalytic converters (specifically five being stolen from cars on Blue Ridge Avenue NE), Lt. Meyer shared that the Blue Ridge Avenue case is currently active and assigned to an investigator. The case number is 212891402. If you want to speak with the supervisor overseeing this investigation, Lt. Germain Dearlove can be reached via email at: [GADearlove@AtlantaGa.Gov](mailto:GADearlove@AtlantaGa.Gov).
* With respect to street racing, APD continues to work hard toward minimizing street racing. APD’s HIT Team (high-intensity traffic team) has issued several traffic tickets and neighboring APD Zones are working together to maximize their officers during the night hours of 8:00 PM and 5:00 AM to address and minimize street racing activities.
* Lt. Meyer also reported that the majority of property crimes in the Poncey-Highland neighborhood are larceny of vehicles. In the last 28-30 days there was a total of 11 cars broken into, 1 home burglary and 3 miscellaneous larcenies/thefts.
* Street light outages can be reported to Atlanta 311. If you have any additional questions or concerns, Lt. Clint Myers can be reached via email at: [cvmyers@atlantaga.gov](mailto:cvmyers@atlantaga.gov).

**Fundraising – Ward Binns, Vice President:**

* On behalf of PHNA, Ward thanked Jim McMahel and Chris Jenko of The McJenko Remax team for sponsoring the Halloween event. Their sponsorship of the event, allowed for a break-even event which is very much appreciated.

**Treasurer Report – Nick Pastore:**

* Nick presented a year-to-date financial update. With a starting balance of $677 in January and a current cash balance of $7,928, PHNA has a net increase of $7,251. The Board does not anticipate any other significant expenses through the remainder of 2021. The goal of the Board was to end the year at $5,600, and we are well over are that target goal for the year. Special thanks to Ward Binns and the fundraising committee for their efforts to plan fundraising events, and thank you to everyone that donated and participated in the fundraising events.

**Land Use/NPU – Lianne Deren, Land Use Chair:**

* Lianne presented Land Use matters including one to be voted on by the membership this month. As a reminder, you must be a resident (owner or renter) to vote on land use/zoning issues.   Photo ID and proof of Poncey-Highland residency may be required for new PHNA attendees to validate vote.
* **Illuminarium Experiences Alcohol License Change of Agent Request** Lianne made a motion to approve the Change of Agent request for Illuminarium Experiences' three (3) existing alcohol licenses (Event Center, Restaurant, & Patio) located at 820 Ralph McGill Boulevard NE ( at Common Ground on the BeltLine). Ward Binns seconded the motion. The Change of Agent request for Illuminarium Experiences was approved with 29 in Support and 1 Abstention.  (All votes were cast via Zoom Poll and Chat.)
* Lianne reported on Poncey-Highland Historic District (PHHD) updates. Two Certificates of Occupancy (COA) have been applied for within the PHHD. Both were originally scheduled to be presented to the Urban Design Commission (UDC) last month but have been deferred to November 22nd. The applications in Poncey-Highland’s Historic District include a single family home at 1036 Williams Mill Road and the Dugan’s site at 767 Ponce de Leon which has applied for a Chick-Fila drive-thru restaurant. As a reminder, Type 2 applications go before the Historic Preservation Studio for review and approval, and all type 3 COAs go before both the Historic Preservation Studio and the Urban Design Commission for review and approval.
* The city is embarking on its first full zoning rewrite since 1982. The current zoning is not reflective of our current building environment. This will be a multi-year effort and is expected to take four years with a start in Fall of 2022 and a vote in Summer 2024. They will be conducting public engagement sessions with the first virtual session on November 3rd. To learn more about the upcoming full zoning rewrite and the upcoming "Idea Lab" and other public engagement opportunities: <https://atlzoning.com/> and <https://atlzoning.com/meet-and-contribute/>
* Information on proposed legislation, PHHD applications, and LRB applications can be found on the PHNA website under the Land Use section: <https://www.ponceyhighland.org/land-use>
* Questions for the PHNA Land Use Committee? Reach us at [phlanduse@gmail.com](mailto:phlanduse@gmail.com).
* Questions about doing work in Poncey-Highland's Historic District? Reach the PHNA Historic District Subcommittee at [PHhistoric@gmail.com](mailto:PHhistoric@gmail.com).
* Link to Poncey-Highland Historic District regulations: <https://library.municode.com/ga/atlanta/codes/code_of_ordinances?nodeId=PTIIICOORANDECO_PT16ZO_CH20VPOGHHIDI>
* Before filing an application for a Certificate of Appropriateness, we strongly encourage you to reach out to both the PHNA Historic District Subcommittee and the Office of Design's Historic Preservation Studio. Office of Design - Historic Preservation Studio Email: [historicpreservation@atlantaga.gov](mailto:historicpreservation@atlantaga.gov) Main Line: (404) 546-0134

**Nominations for 2022 PHNA Board of Directors**

* Cathi Barlow has led the Nominating Committee, which is made up of past PHNA presidents. Information on the proposed slate of Directors for 2022 will be shared within a few days, and the vote will be held at the annual meeting on December 15th. If you or someone you know is interested in serving on the 2022 Board, please reach out to Cathi Barlow directly to nominate yourself or someone else who is interested in serving in this capacity. Please send nominations as soon as possible to: [ponceyhighlandna@gmail.com](mailto:ponceyhighlandna@gmail.com).

\*Please reach out to Andrea Zern (Secretary) regarding any additions, omissions or corrections. [Andrea.zern@yahoo.com](mailto:Andrea.zern@yahoo.com) A recording of this meeting is available on the PHNA website.