PNA Pittsburgh Neighborhood Association



Meeting Minutes May 4, 2024

Attendance: Uknown

Note - Recording Secretary was absent due to illness

Voting Members: 14

Call to Order

Introductions: Remarks and Introduction from President **Stephanie Flowers**

Approval of April Minutes:

Correction needed to spelling of "Welch" on page 4 Motion: Delvin Davis | Second: Tyrone Clemmons Yae: 14 • Nay: 0 • Abstain: 0 **Outcome: Motion Passed**

Approval of May Agenda:

Motion: Patricia Bailey | Second: Tyrone Clemons Yae: 14 • Nay: 0 • Abstain: 0 **Outcome: Motion Passed**

Presentations

Ariel Bowen Memorial United Methodist Church Pastor Arundel Hope

- SWAYBO (South-West Atlanta Youth Business Association) Meets every Monday night in the basement. Helps youth with business development.
- Movie Night: Saturday, May 11, 7pm, showing Toy Story 3 in the church parking lot. Tickets are \$3, and all proceeds go to SWAYBO.

Georgia Power Community Resource Workshop Patricia Bailev

- In partnership with District 12, Councilman Antonio Lewis's office.
- Date: May 8, 2024, 6pm-8pm.
- Location: Arthur Langford Rec Center . 1614 Arthur Langford Jr Pl SW.
- Discussing energy efficiency programs and low-income home energy assistance programs.

Pittsburgh Community Market

Tron Banks

- Weekly market at Pittsburgh Yards on Saturdays, Noon-• 5pm, from March to October.
- Community Bike Ride with BRAG (Bicycle Ride Across • Georgia) - Today, May 4. Partnering for monthly bike rides across Georgia (BRAG https://brag.org) Geared towards both kids and adults. Some bikes for children are available. Contact ahead to arrange bikes for kids in need.

- Q: Can someone donate bikes?
- A: I would reach out and ask, and I will also inquire.
- Beltline Lantern Parade Workshop Saturday, May 11. Workshops to build lanterns before the parade. Kids parade at Pittsburgh Yards before the main event.
- Ariel Bowman Jazz Festival June 22, 3pm-7pm at Pittsburgh Yards.
- Nia Fest Saturday, September 21. Focus on STEAM with an emphasis on cars. Looking for mechanics to conduct workshops.Acknowledgment
- Thank you to Stephanie Flowers for inspiring me and us to community involvement.
- Information about accelerating the southside trail of the beltline will be coming soon.

Reports from City Departments:

APD Public Safety

19 incidents from April 1-30, 2024:

- Vehicle Theft: 2 •
- Burglary/Breaking & Entering: 4
- Theft from Vehicle: 6 Theft from Building: 1
- Aggravated Assault: 5
- Other Larceny: 1
- Burglary incidents have decreased in the area due to our concentrated efforts, and things have slowed down. One suspect was arrested, which seems to have further reduced these incidents.
- We have also been noticing parking issues. If you have any complaints about parking, please let us know.

Questions:

- Q: There are lots of gunfire incidents in the Pittsburgh area late at night.
- A: We do get calls about gunfire, but unfortunately, we often cannot locate the source after shots are fired. At night, we have a beat officer in Pittsburgh who investigates these issues, and we also have an APEX unit. Multiple units are patrolling the area. Sometimes when shootings occur, the APD is not called. Please ensure you call in any gunshots that you hear, especially if you can pinpoint location.
- Q: Are you able to request increased nighttime patrols?
- A: Yes.
- Q: There was a shooting on Sims Street a few weeks back. Any updates on that?

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- A: I believe the person involved was in critical condition, and the incident stemmed from a dispute at an Airbnb.
- Q: I wanted to ask about the aggravated assault incidents. Are those personal disputes?
- A: Yes, they are all between family members or individuals who know each other. For example, an older gentleman was shot on McDaniel, which stemmed from a dispute between two individuals who likely knew each other. Most incidents are personal disputes.
- Q: Who compiles the incident list? There seem to be some addresses that consistently have issues, and we are concerned about being caught in an incident at one of these locations.
- A: The Zone 3 precinct compiles the list. We do keep an eye on problem areas and make regular rounds, but unfortunately, police presence does not always deter crime.
- Q: Regarding the shooting at 906 Sims, which is across the street from my house, there were 18 shots fired at an illegal Airbnb. We have had many issues with that location and crime. What can I do? I called the police and asked for more patrols.
- A: We are working with Code Enforcement to shut down problematic Airbnbs.
- Stephanie Flowers: We have a public safety committee within the PNA, and that is where the work happens to partner with the APD. We need to get that committee started and need someone to step up and chair it. It has to be an active committee with actionable steps. Public safety is a huge concern of ours, and we need to back our words with action. Sometimes when shootings occur, the APD is not called. Please ensure you call in any gunshots that you hear.

Elected Officials Report:

Councilman Antonio Lewis - District 12

- BluePrint58 Spring Fling: Happening today with the Wiggins' Foundation.
- Pittsburgh Day at Rodney Scott BBQ: Scheduled before the Reunion in August.
 - Chris Welch is working with the Engagement Committee to coordinate.
- Stephanie Flowers: Please loop us in on these so we can be involved in the planning process. We need to get the permit 90 days prior.
- Georgia Power Event: Refer to previous notes from Patricia Bailey under "Presntations"

- Requested Georgia Power to come out and discuss resources available to community members to lower energy costs.
- Multiple programs are available based on income, with resources for everyone regardless of income.
- The Energy Efficiency Program helps fix windows and make houses more energy efficient.
- Direct addresses of people, especially elders needing help with energy upgrades, can be provided.
- Discounts such as \$35 off monthly bills for those over the age of 62 and other available discounts.
- Several City of Atlanta departments have undergone many leadership changes.
- Bi-monthly Food Drive: Moving from Rosell Fann to The Villages at Carver Family YMCA, 1600 Pryor Road SW.
- **Stephanie Flowers:** There is so much information that needs to be disseminated; we would like to have a Pittsburgh District 12 Town Hall and include the department heads of various city departments..

Questions:

- Q: Can we get an update on the Animal Control issue?
- A: Yes, that is resolved. The city has signed a contract.
- Q: If you can't attend the Georgia Power resource meeting, are there other options?
- A: We can work with Georgia Power to try to get them to come to a PNA meeting.
- Q: I have reported 997 Garibaldi to public works and code enforcement for the past 2 years for illegal dumping.
- A: This falls under the Public Safety Committee's purview. Stephanie will contact code enforcement along with Councilman Lewis to get this resolved.
- Zachary Perry: The Municipal Court of Atlanta is focusing on these properties, and this is the ideal time to report vacant lots and houses that have code enforcement issues. My office, with the City of Atlanta Public Defender, can help you with code enforcement issues free of charge. There are resources in the city for both code enforcement and resolving code enforcement issues.
- Q: Where are we with speed bumps in the community?
- A: The wait list is currently at 2 years, so the speed bumps we requested last year are coming.
- Q: What about Splash Pads for Pittman Park?
- A: I will get an update on this, but Pittman Park is still slated to create the splash pad.

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- Stephanie Flowers: There is a Friends of Pittman Park group, and we will have them come to a meeting to discuss park upgrades.
- Q: The chief of staff last year said University would be repaved, and that was 17 months ago without any updates.
- A: It should be in the ATL DOT report. I will look that up to see what timeline it is slated for.
- Q: Appreciate you coming by. Since they are accelerating work along the Southside trail of the Beltline, do you know if there are any efforts to work on McDaniel due to speeding and safety issues?
- A: I do know that McDaniel is on the list, but it is a "hurry up and wait" situation. There are a lot of projects in line to be done for Pittsburgh.
- Stephanie Flowers: We ask that your office keep PNA in the • loop of your events so that we can ensure our neighbors can be a part.

Matters for Voting

\$750 for Pittsburgh Reunion City of Atlanta Permit

PNA account currently holds \$3011.16

Motion: Paul Sturdivant | Second: Anthony Farajallah Yae: 14 • Nay: 0 • Abstain: 0 **Outcome: Motion Passed**

In-Kind Donation of Leftover Funds from Pittsburgh Days and **Pittsburgh Reunion to PNA**

No specified ammount but to help recover the costs from • PNA.

Motion: Johnny Floyd | Second: Anthony Farajallah Yae: 13 • Nay: 0 • Abstain: 1 **Outcome: Motion Passed**

Committee Reports:

Housing Land Use

- Recurring virtual meetings are scheduled through the end of the year. Meetings are held the last Tuesday of every month at 7pm.
- Discussion on the Comprehensive Development Plan (CDP). . The second phase will take place over the next month.
- Discussed zoning changes and their impact on the • community.
- Efforts to create more cross-coordination with other NPU and community organizations.Following up on the Beltline

and Murphy's Crossing development and its impact on the area.

For concerns about AirBNBs, check if they are listed as • short-term rentals on the City of Atlanta's Website. If not listed, report the property to help reduce party houses and problem listings. Short-Term Rental Info.

Communications

• Chair was sick and not in attendance.

Membership/Engagement

- Unable to meet this month.
- Awaiting logo development by Communications to create street signs announcing upcoming meetings.
- Working on permits for the Pittsburgh Reunion. •
- Fundraising opportunities and t-shirts will help raise funds. •
- Jerry Smokin'B: Recommends vendor booths at the Reunion • to help recoup costs.

President's Report:

- Welch Street Park Survey due by May 31. https://bit.ly/WelchStPark-Survey
 - Park Pride informed Community Movement Builders that they will no longer be the adopters of Welch Street Park effective December 2024. No response from CMB yet.
 - PNA will work with Park Pride to design what the community wants in the park, with work beginning in 2025.
 - Only 13 survey responses received so far.
 - Park Pride will update us on survey results in an upcoming meeting.
- Stadium Neighborhood Trust Fund, from the sale of Turner Field, will be distributed among Summerhill, Peoplestown, and Pittsburgh.
 - Grant application submitted on May 8.
 - Board approval required, and City Council must vote on it.
- Q: Is it possible to set up a trust fund for annual money?
- A: We can discuss this further. Currently applying for \$28K, subject to approval by the city.
- Atlanta Beltline Southside Trail meeting on May 30, 6:30-8pm.

https://beltline.org/event/southeast-southwest-studygroup-virtual-public-meeting-southside-trail-segments-2-3-construction-westide-trail-ralph-david-abernathy-blvd-

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access-point-updates/

- CDP plan is crucial for our neighborhood. Phase 2 is starting and there will be meetings where our community will have opportunity to give input as to what we want in future developments for Pittsburgh. https://www.atlantaforall.com/about
- Stephanie's son, Marcus, graduating from Carver with honors. He will attend Clark University, studying Political Science with a minor in Sports Management. Huge congratulations! Community invited to the graduation party.
- Advocating with the Annie E. Casey Foundation to address gun safety and violence. Meeting to be scheduled soon.
- Encourages everyone to attend BluePrint58 Spring Fling and help with cleanup after the event, ending at 3PM..

Announcements:

Johnny Floyd: On behalf of Delvin Davis's mother, who is not doing well. Please keep her and the family in your thoughts and prayers.

Paul Sturdivant: Annual alumni breakfast was successful, with nearly a quarter of a million dollars in scholarships awarded. This year, Johnny Floyd raised \$11K, a record amount.

Stewart Center: Hired a new Director of Community Development, Daniella Petrone. She will support community development efforts and attend meetings.

Sonia Ofchus: Introduced herself and announced her candidacy for Fulton County Commissioner. Volunteered to help with the Public Safety Committee.

Closing Prayer: Paul Sturdivant

Meeting End

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