



MORNINGSIDE LENOX PARK ASSOCIATION

Monthly Board Meeting Minutes

November 11, 2024

Board members present: *(asterisk indicates not present)*

President – Donald Campbell

Vice President – Rob Schuler

Secretary – Brandon Dhande

Treasurer – Marc Tammes*

Membership – Kristen Pollack

Security – Phyllis Wingo

Parks – Micah Coleman

Marketing – Eric Lewis

Technology – Grant Davies*

Events – Ryan Murphy*

Zoning – Marti Breen

Legal – Josh Kirschner*

Communications – Marla Johnson

Licensing – Ashley Milam

Public Affairs - Michael Parkerson*

Business Liaison – Nick Vachon*

Call to Order and Welcome:

Don Campbell called the meeting to order.

Don presented the past and upcoming events for MLPA in 2024. Overview of Parks Committee status and accomplishments. Discussion of the Security Patrol efforts in 2024, including the License Plate Reader campaign to add more LPRs to the neighborhood and to spread awareness of recent burglaries and prevention efforts. MLPA is conducting a holiday Toy Drive, in coordination with APD Zone 6. Regarding the MLPA Master Plan, we have sponsored new roundabouts, speed readers, and stop signs. Overview of community and neighborhood sponsorship and discussion about the new Morningside Community Foundation, which will be a 501c3 nonprofit organization dedicated to improvement of the neighborhood in various aspects.

Initial discussions included:

- **DeKalb County Commissioner Michelle Spears** provided an update on DeKalb County issues impacting the Morningside Lenox Park, including priority areas such as animal services, including spay and neuter outreach, and other matters such as addressing lot sizes for homes.
- **Commissioners Alex Wan and Matt Westmoreland:** Provided joint updates on City of Atlanta issues, including the upcoming ribbon cutting for the Beltline at 10th and Monroe. The City is monitoring issues regarding unhoused encampments, as the weather gets colder, particularly around fire risks or associated concerns. Alex provided an update on the status of the adult



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establishment Tokyo Valentino and associated legal actions by the City. There is an upcoming runoff election for the At-Large seats.

- **State House Reps. Saira Draper and Stacey Evans** provided an update on the recent election, as it impacts Fulton County and DeKalb County areas of Morningside. The best way to stay informed is their respective constituency websites. Discussion on upcoming legislative and political efforts on the state level.
- **Atlanta School Board Commission Ken Zeff** shared updates on the school system, including news regarding Midtown High School. The principal at Morningside Elementary has been promoted within Atlanta Schools.

Security Update:

- Lt. Damian Crowder, Burglary Unit Commander, provided an update on recent burglaries in Morningside, including information regarding potential suspects. For those impacted, it would be helpful for residents to keep track of serial numbers and maintain security cameras that record events. The Burglary Unit is making active overnight patrols in Morningside.
- Maj. Rick Vazquez presented as head of MLPA Security Patrol, including updates on overnight patrols.
- Zone 6 Evening Watch Manager Major Mercado appeared on behalf of Zone 6 to discuss recent patrols and approach to policing.
- Zone 2 Sgt. Kim Williams appeared on behalf of Zone 2, sharing data that shows a decrease by 8% in crimes, particularly for violent crimes. Reminder about the Clean Car Campaign to reduce valuables (including firearms) left in cars. Zone 2 has made recent arrests regarding burglaries.

Zoning Update:

- V24-209 – 1045 Glenn Avenue: the Zoning Committee did a site visit and voted unanimously to approve the variance to add a second floor to an existing nonconforming structure. The MLPA Board voted to unanimously approve.

Finance Update:

- Our bank balance is up this month, due to various drivers including a private donation of \$5k to improve security patrols.
- Board voted in favor of presenting bylaw changes to membership at upcoming Annual Meeting.



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2025 Board Slate:

The MLPA Membership unanimously approved the 2025 Board nominated slate, listed below:

Marla Johnson	President
Sejal Patel	Vice President
Steven Cayton	Secretary
Marc Tammes	Treasurer
John Hults	Events
Michael Parkerson	Infrastructure
Ashley Milam	Licensing
Kristen Pollock	Membership
Phyllis Wingo	Security
Rachel Palumbo	Sponsorships
Leslie Bristow Mather	Zoning

Bylaws Changes:

The MLPA Membership unanimously approved two changes to the MLPA Bylaws, presented to Membership prior to the meeting.

Concluding notes:

- Don thanked the meeting attendees and concluded the meeting.

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