

**Poncey-Highland Neighborhood Association
Monthly General Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, September 15, 2021**

Welcome – Erika Heller, President

- Erika announced that the slate of 2022 Board of Directors will be voted on at the November General Membership meeting, and Cathi Barlow has offered to lead the Nominating Committee again this year. The Nominating Committee is made up of past PHNA presidents, and their purpose is to find qualified volunteers to fill vacant seats on the Board. 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. Cathi's email is: cathibarlow08@comcast.net.
- Erika discussed the forthcoming proposed revisions to the PHNA Bylaws. The Board is planning to have a Special Session in October to introduce the proposed changes and address any questions or concerns. A vote on the proposed changes to the bylaws is expected to take place at the October general membership meeting. Feel free to contact Erika directly at erikaphna@outlook.com or the Board at phna@ponceyhighland.com if you have any questions.

In response to a question from the floor, Erika shared two of the most significant proposed changes to the Bylaws.

1. Proxy voting will be prohibited from general membership meetings, special meetings and Board of Directors meetings.
2. A conflict of interest clause will be added for the Board of Directors. If a Director has a conflict of interest on any matter requiring a vote, the director would be required to recuse him/herself from having a vote if they have a special interest on the matter, be it financial or otherwise.

Other changes being proposed are more minor in nature such as clarification, creating consistency in terms and language, cleaning up contradictions, etc.

Treasurer Report – Nick Pastore:

- Nick presented a financial update. The PHNA's starting cash balance in January 2021 was \$676; the current cash balance year-to-date is \$10,400. Fundraising events throughout the Spring and Summer have played a significant role in PHNA's financial success this year, including \$3,000 raised during the Non-Event Gala in March, \$1,500 raised from sponsors for the Trivia Night in April, and Camp Poncey-Hi during August which raised \$5,800. Thank you to all of the sponsors, individual contributors and participants who have made each of these events such a great success.

APD Zone 6 Update:

- Sergeant Simmons reported that APD’s initiative to get more officer presence on the streets and throughout the city has helped curb some crime. In response to a question from the floor, she stated there are no new specific crimes trending, but she will try to provide more specific information on crime trends at next month’s meeting.
- With respect to street racing, Sergeant Simmons reported that APD is working hard to minimize street racing. APD’s HIT Team (high-intensity traffic team) has issued several traffic tickets and automobile towing over the past month. Neighboring APD zones are working together to maximize their officers during the hours of 8:00PM and 5:00AM to address and minimize street racing activities.

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

- A liquor application for a new business was presented to the NPU this month for a neighboring, adjacent NPU. Therefore, it is presented for review and comment only; PHNA will not vote on this application. The applicant is King of Pops Bar and Good Grub located at 675 Ponce de Leon Avenue in Ponce City Market. The Land Use Committee did not have any opposition to this application. If anyone has any questions or concerns, Poncey-Highland residents are welcome to attend this month’s NPU-M meeting on September 23rd at 7:00p.m.
- Short-Term Rental (STR) Ordinance legislation was presented to the Land Use Committee and will be voted on in October at the NPU level. This is “companion legislation” that coincides with the STR legislation passed earlier in 2021. The original legislation essentially created the foundation and framework to regulate short-term rentals in the city of Atlanta. This new component to the STR ordinance relates to permissible use in all of the residential zoning districts and anywhere dwelling units exist. Due to the Historic District, the Poncey-Highland Historic District is specifically included in this legislation since it does not have defined underlying zoning regulations such as R4 and R5.
- Lianne gave a brief review of Amir Farokhi’s proposed three-part zoning legislation and related amendments to the proposed legislation. The zoning legislation will be presented for review and comment only in August and September at the NPU level and will then be up for vote in October. Below are links for the original proposed legislation, amendments to the proposed legislation as well as an audio recording of a presentation at the August NPU meeting. You can also listen to Lianne’s update on the September Zoom meeting recording that is uploaded to the PHNA website. Her review begins at approximately minute 11:10.)

Links to Proposed Rezoning Legislation:

Proactive Rezoning - <https://www.ponceyhighland.org/land-use/21-o-0454-z-21-73-mr-mu-proactive-rezoning>

ACD Housing Text Amendments - <https://www.ponceyhighland.org/land-use/21-o-0456-z-21-74-atlanta-city-design-housing-text-amendment>

CDP Land Use Amendment - <https://www.ponceyhighland.org/land-use/21-o-0455-cdp-21-043-cdp-land-use-amendment>

Links to AMENDED Proposed Rezoning Legislation:

AMENDED ACD Housing Text Amendments - <https://www.ponceyhighland.org/land-use/amended-9321-21-o-0456-z-21-74-atlanta-city-design-housing-text-amendment>

AMENDED CDP Land Use Amendment - <https://www.ponceyhighland.org/land-use/amended-9921-21-o-0455-cdp-21-043-cdp-land-use-amendment>

Audio recording of August NPU-N meeting -

https://www.dropbox.com/s/yly9djt1i7weuvr/audio_only.m4a?dl=0

Josh Humphries presents the proposed rezoning legislation at this meeting. His presentation begins at approximately 1:15:05 and continues to 2:29:00.

Additional resources that speak both to the proposed legislation and the housing challenges that our City faces as we continue to grow:

Atlanta City Design Housing: A look into how housing policy shaped Atlanta's design, how that design impacts the city's residents, and ways to design it for everyone.

<https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/e91c43ad299a4634add2bed4cf2eca9d>

Atlanta Regional Housing Forum: Expanding Housing Choice - how residential zoning reform can improve equitable access to affordable housing and economic opportunity.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hB6vmkvW35s>

Zoning Reform as key to the Beloved Community? Councilmember Amir Farokhi spoke in August on a webinar about why our zoning laws are an important piece of creating a more just and equitable Atlanta.

https://www.facebook.com/watch/live/?v=366199658460643&ref=watch_permalink

- The Department of City Planning received feedback and approval from the State and the Atlanta Regional Commission for Plan A of the 2021 Comprehensive Development Plan. They are in the process of making revisions based upon public review and comment and expect to finalize the plan in this month.
Plan A/2021 Comprehensive Development Plan: <https://www.atlcitydesign.com/2021-cdp>
Comments can be emailed to cdp2021@atlantaga.gov
- Last month PHNA asked Jay Tribby for an update on the HAWK signal at North Avenue and Somerset. Amir Farokhi reported back to Land Use that the HAWK signal is still in procurement and they will update PHNA as soon as they have an installation date.
- Historic District updates: An application was received for 1036 Williams Mill Road for a second story addition to a single story historic home. The homeowners and their architect met with the Historic District Subcommittee to review the application, answer questions and provide any guidance to the homeowners.

Do you have questions for the PHNA Land Use Committee? Reach us at phlanduse@gmail.com

Do you have questions about doing work in Poncey-Highland's Historic District? Reach the PHNA Historic Subcommittee at PHhistoric@gmail.com

Link to Poncey-Highland Historic District regulations:

https://library.municode.com/ga/atlanta/codes/code_of_ordinances?nodeId=PTIICOORANDECO_PT16ZO_CH20VPOGHHIDI

*Please reach out to Andrea Zern (Secretary) regarding any additions, omissions or corrections.
Andrea.zern@yahoo.com