



January 28, 2019 UHNA General Meeting Minutes

1. Meeting called to order by President Heather Sheets at 7:05pm
2. Executive Committee reelected with the exception of the vacant Treasurer position.
3. Kathryn Kolb, Director of EcoAddendum gave a presentation on the City in the Forest initiative:
 - a. The Atlanta tree ordinance is not good at saving trees.
 - b. A new draft will be written over the next 3-6 months.
 - c. Atlanta's growth was not normal for large cities. It began in the 1960's.
 - d. A lot of the tree canopy was retained on hard to develop land.
 - e. The old forest in Atlanta is on steep slopes, stream corridors, rocky places, historic places and older properties.
 - f. Old soil is good for trees unlike graded clay that contains high levels of aluminum.
 - g. Low value landscapes are considered canopy. Would like the city to prioritize high value canopy.
 - h. Canopy is being lost in back and side yards of teardowns. Also, large footprint rebuilds are causing runoff problems.
 - i. 95% of canopy is on private property including 80% on single family residence property.
 - j. Options are to replant, doesn't really replace, or purchase greenspace which is too expensive and not effective.
 - k. The Build with Trees – 4 Step Plan is:
 - i. Plan for trees pre-construction
 - ii. Preserve the best trees
 - iii. Set a maximum sustainable footprint
 - iv. Effective enforcement
 - l. Other improvements:
 - i. Minimum green space required for all zoning
 - ii. Cluster design – eliminate standard setback and frontage requirements
 - iii. Conservation easements
 - iv. Tax relief to homeowners who retain trees
 - m. Margaret Brady from City in the Forest presented a resolution to follow the Build with Trees 4 Step Plan when rewriting the tree ordinance
 - i. Decided to defer voting on resolution until a later meeting.
 - ii. Sample letter to council members was presented
4. Deniece Johnson from Blandtown discussed the potential concrete plant on Huber St. in Blandtown:
 - a. SRM Concrete wants to build a concrete plant at 1521 Huber St.
 - b. Property is zone I-2 but would need a Special Use Permit for a concrete plant.
 - c. SRM wants to connect Huber St. to Fairmont Ave. to allow trucks access to Huff Rd.
 - d. Property is 150 ft. for the last house.
 - e. Property purchase is contingent on Special Use Permit and street connection
 - f. Jim Martin of NPU-D has been guiding the neighborhood through the process
 - g. SRM is trying to gain entry into the Atlanta market
 - h. Neighborhood voted unanimously to support Blandtown's effort to oppose the concrete plant.



5. Elizabeth Hollister gave an update on the Upper Westside CID:
 - a. Funding for Complete Streets Howell Mill (\$12M) and Howell Mill Signal Project (\$3M) is not at risk in the rebaselining for Renew Atlanta
 - b. Continue to advocate including responding to the Renew Atlanta survey.
 - c. Clark Dumas reiterated the continued advocacy because some projects have been cut.
 - d. Signals project will include timing and monitoring. Also, new signals at Beck@Howell Mill and Emery@Collier.
 - e. Complete Streets may not have money for sidewalks.
 - f. There will be a fire station signal and signal priority for emergency vehicles.
 - g. The CID will landscape the ramps on Howell Mill, with GDOT approved plants.
 - h. Project scheduled for March or April
 - i. CID will try to get pedestrian beacons
 - j. Also trying to get benches and bike racks for the 17th and Northside park.

6. Clark Dumas and Jeremy Blair gave the Traffic Committee update:
 - a. Nextdoor survey prompted traffic studies.
 - b. Just received data two weeks ago.
 - c. As a result of the survey and studies the stop sign at Harper and Woodland Hills was added because of volume and visibility.
 - d. Also, the Don't Block the Box boxes were painted on Howell Mill at Ridgeway, Defoor and Chattahoochee
 - e. Too much traffic on Defoor for stop signs.
 - f. No data on Volberg and Ridgeway.
 - g. Not enough speeders on Marvin and Springer for speed humps.
 - h. In process of repairing sidewalks and replacing water meter covers.
 - i. Will fight for right-in/right-out of QT.
 - j. Researching using "paper streets" as pedestrian alternative on Howell Mill. "Paper streets" are streets that are listed on maps but are not built out.

7. Sponsors were thanked:
 - a. Gold sponsors – Charlie Ballard Real Estate, Handyman of Marketing (In Kind), Joe Burns – Keller Williams Real Estate Agent, Florist Atlanta (In Kind), The Primrose School of Atlanta – Westside, Petwell Veterinary Healthcare
 - a. Bronze - Comfort Shied Heating and Air, The UPS Store
 - b. Special thanks to Florist Atlanta for providing flowers for the Welcome Wagon
 - c. Atlanta Brewery was thanked for hosting.

8. Next meeting will be on March 18.

9. Meeting adjourned at 8:35.