



The Buckhead Council of Neighborhoods

Board Meeting

November 13, 2008

Peachtree Presbyterian Church

6:30 – 8:30 PM

Meeting Minutes

Meeting Attendees:

	Name	Association	Email Address
1	Yolanda Adrean	Mt. Paran-Northside	yadrean@earthlink.net
2	Frank Bennett	Paces	fobennett@yahoo.com
3	Gordon Certain	North Buckhead	gcertain@comcast.net
4	Jeremy Ellis	Peachtree Park	jeremyellis@earthlink.net
5	Steve Fairley	Ardmore Park	Steve.Fairley@nobleinvestment.com
6	Jay Jameson	Peachtree Hills	jjjameson@gproperties.com
7	Kim Kahwach	Buckhead Forest	kajensen@bellsouth.net
8	Jim King	Chastain Park	jimking@mindspring.com
9	Bill Langley	Ridgedale Park	billlangley@bellsouth.net
10	Jennifer Moyers	Whitewater Creek	jennifermoyers@beacham.com
11	Kirk Oppenlander	Chastain Park	oppie@mindspring.com
12	Elizabeth Pritchard	Peachtree Battle Alliance	elizpritchard@bellsouth.net
13	Susan Soper	Peachtree Heights East	ssoper@mindspring.com
14	Henry Wyche	Grant Estates/South Tuxedo Park	hwyche@valleycap.com

Representation by Association

	Neighborhood	Representative/Attendee(s)
1	Ardmore Park	Steve Fairley
2	Buckhead Forest	Kim Kahwach
3	Chastain Park	Jim King / Kirk Oppenlander
4	Grant Estates/South Tuxedo Park	Henry Wyche
5	Mt. Paran-Northside	Yolanda Adrean
6	North Buckhead	Gordon Certain
7	Paces	Frank Bennett
8	Peachtree Battle Alliance	Elizabeth Pritchard
9	Peachtree Heights East	Susan Soper
10	Peachtree Hills	Jay Jameson
11	Peachtree Park	Jeremy Ellis
12	Ridgedale Park	Bill Langley
13	Whitewater Creek	Jennifer Moyers

Jim King called the meeting to order at around 6:45 PM.

BCN Board Meeting Minutes – November 13, 2008

Jim King asked that the board waive the requirement for one more meeting that neighborhood associations pay dues to be able to vote on BCN business. The board agreed.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Henry Wyche presented the treasurer's report – 13 neighborhoods have paid as of this meeting. One check was received tonight; \$1200 is in the bank. See table on page 6 for status just prior to 12/11 meeting.

Introductions and Regrets

Attendees introduced themselves. Jim read a list of neighborhoods which could not attend and discussed neighborhoods which are not yet represented.

October Minutes and Bylaws Modifications

Minutes

Secretary Gordon Certain reported on the minutes, which were accepted by the BCN board.

Bylaws: the voice?

A lengthy (33 minutes) discussion of proposed bylaws changes followed. The issue was Article I Section 2(b) of the Bylaws.

The Corporation is organized and shall be operated exclusively for the promotion of social welfare, and for such related purposes as may be permitted to corporations that are organized and operated under Section 501(c)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code") (or the corresponding provision of any future United States internal revenue law). The Corporation shall be focused on, but shall not be limited to, improving, protecting, and enhancing the quality of life and services in the Buckhead neighborhoods and community, while **servicing as the voice of and watchdog for Buckhead homeowners**. These purposes shall be carried out in such ways as the Board of Directors shall determine in its discretion.

The specific issue was the phrase "**servicing as the voice of and watchdog for the Buckhead homeowners**". In the October meeting, Sally Silver suggested the phrase be reworded. The BCN Executive Committee, in its meeting prior to the 11/13 board meeting suggested that the word "unified" be inserted, so the phrase would read: "servicing as the *unified* voice of and watchdog for the Buckhead homeowners".

In the discussion, some felt the word *unified* implied unanimous BCN votes, which might not be attainable. Others disagreed. After several unsuccessful motions, the following language was proposed and adopted: "**servicing as the unified representative and watchdog for Buckhead homeowners**".

BCN Board Meeting Minutes – November 13, 2008

Bylaws: Proxies?

A discussion of Bylaws Article II section 2, first sentence followed, regarding whether voting of proxies should be authorized.

Term of Office and Election of Directors. Directors shall be designated to serve on The Buckhead Council of Neighborhoods in writing by BCN recognized neighborhoods. Each director shall hold office for the term to which he or she is designated and until his or her successor has been designated or until his or her earlier resignation, removal from office or death.

Since the first sentence gives the member associations the power to designate their representative(s) in writing, it was concluded that no provision for proxies was needed. Associations might choose to include alternates in their letter designating their official representatives to BCN. The member associations could send an alternate if needed with a new letter. The board revised the first sentence to read “ Directors and their alternates shall be designated...”

Distribute and Sign I-85 and GA 400 Interchange Petition

In the October meeting, a draft version of the GA 400/I-85 Interchange petition was distributed and discussed at length. The petition’s purpose was to encourage applicable governments to complete the problematic interchange of a priority basis. A number of changes were discussed and agreed upon. A revised version of the petition was distributed and approved by the BCN board after a 15 minute discussion. (The revised petition is at www.nbca.org/BCN.)

Review of Northside Drive Draft Petition

Elizabeth Pritchett guided a review of the proposed petition which is intended to urge early completion of parts a long-delayed project to improve Northside Drive between I-75 and Arden Drive. Basically, the work requested on an expedited basis is the elimination of the dangerous reversible lane through restriping and removal of signage, converting it to left turn lanes. This segment project was thought to involve relatively little cost. The draft petition was approved with changes after a nine minute discussion. (The revised petition is at www.nbca.org/BCN.)

Discussion of Community Concerns

Yolanda Adrean expressed concern that reductions were being considered for police and fire staffing because of the City’s revenue shortfall. She suggested that the BCN or its members contact the City Council to see if these reductions could be avoided.

A 37 minute discussion of off-duty police and security guard services followed. Among the points that were discussed were the following:

- Many neighborhoods hire off-duty officers or security guards. Off-duty officers have the advantage of carrying guns and the ability to arrest. Guards are cheaper.

BCN Board Meeting Minutes – November 13, 2008

- It was reported that the APD shifts its assignment of patrols away from areas which it knows are being staffed by officers hired by the neighborhoods. This may not be a legitimate/appropriate action by the APD.
- A lot of people don't report crimes – police resources are assigned where crimes are reported.
- We need to find out how patrol officers are allocated. Jim King said the assignment was via the COBRA system, based on the COMSTAT system, which allocates based on the type and frequency of crimes. Manpower is shifted where needed. The method has proved very successful in New Orleans, New York, and Los Angeles.
- Midtown has what is called “Midtown Blue”, its own police force headed by Major Mock, retired from APD. Midtown Blue is funded by the Midtown Improvement District.
- Apparently a “Buckhead Blue” has been discussed but never implemented. Concern was expressed that Buckhead Blue, if funded by BCID would just serve businesses.
- Kim Kawach mentioned that many layers of “special district” governments have been established, layers that often address the needs of the business communities, not neighborhoods. She wondered how special districts get created/approved. Can special districts be established to serve neighborhoods?
- It was proposed that an e-mail group be started to research neighborhood-financed patrols. Jeremy, Yolanda and Jaime were mentioned.
- Opposing planned cuts in police/fire staffing was reiterated, but a motion was never made/seconded. BCN needs to verify that cuts to police are at the same level as other departments and then start an e-mail chain to lobby against them.
- Every mayoral candidate has campaigned for a 2000 member police force, but it never happens.

Suggestions for Future Speakers

The following suggestions were made:

- Howard Shook – Finance Committee report
- Major Sellers
- Charter Schools
- DOT representatives
- Atlanta Task Force for Play (Cynthia Gentry)
- TADs

BCN Board Meeting Minutes – November 13, 2008

New Business

Resolution: Monitoring government

Kim proposed a four-point resolution:

1. A committee be established to keep tabs on the various layers of government and report monthly
2. Reports by the committee be approved by the BCN board before distribution to neighborhoods.
3. That BCN reps send information from 1/2 to residents every month.
4. That the Member At Large schedule appearance of government officials before the BCN board.

Kim will reword the resolution for the December meeting.

Revive285

Gordon Certain passed out flyers for upcoming public briefings regarding I-285.

BCN Web Site

Jim said he will try to get something started.

BCN Press Release

Jennifer Moyers distributed a press release prepared to educate neighborhoods and the public on the purpose of BCN. (Jennifer handed it out. If you need a copy, it is at www.nbca.org/BCN.)

Next Meeting : December 11, 2008

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned after about 2¼ hours.

Prepared by Gordon Certain

BCN Secretary

December 6, 2008

Last revised on December 9, 2008

Interim BCN Web Page
www.nbca.org/BCN

BCN Board Meeting Minutes – November 13, 2008

BCN Organizational Status as of 12/9/08					
	Neighborhood	Designation Letter Provided?	Check Status	Represented at 10/16/08 meeting	Represented at 11/13/08 meeting
1	Arden				
2	Ardmore Park	Need	\$100	Yes	Yes
3	Brookhaven				
4	Brookwood Hills				
5	Buckhead Forest	Need	\$100	Yes	Yes
6	Castlewood				
7	Chastain Park	Yes	\$100	Yes	Yes
8	Collier Hills North				
9	Garden Hills				
10	Grant Estates/South Tuxedo Park	Need	\$100	Yes	Yes
11	Kingswood	Yes	\$100	Yes	
12	Lindridge Martin Manor			Yes	
13	Margaret Mitchell				
14	Memorial Park	Need	\$100	Yes	
15	Mount Paran Parkway				
16	Mt. Paran-Northside	Yes	Need	Yes	Yes
17	North Buckhead	Yes	\$100	Yes	Yes
18	Paces	Need	\$100		Yes
19	P'tree Battle Alliance	Yes	\$100	Yes	Yes
20	Peachtree Heights East	Yes	\$100	Yes	Yes
21	Peachtree Heights West				
22	Peachtree Hills	Yes	\$100	Yes	Yes
23	Peachtree Park	Need	\$100		Yes
24	Pine Hills				
25	Pleasant Hill				
26	Randall Mill				
27	Ridgedale Park	Need	\$100	Yes	Yes
28	Springlake				
29	Tuxedo Park	Yes	\$100	Yes	
30	Wesley Battle		\$100		
31	West Paces Northside	Yes	\$100	Yes	
32	Whitewater Creek	Yes	\$100	Yes	Yes
33	Wildwood			Yes	