

The Buckhead Council of Neighborhoods

Board Meeting

July 16, 2009 Peachtree Presbyterian Church 6:35 – 7:45 PM **Meeting Minutes**

Meeting Attendees:

	Name	Neighborhood/Organization	Email Address
1	Yolanda Adrean	Mt. Paran-Northside	yadrean@earthlink.net
2	Frank Bennett	Paces	fobennett@yahoo.com
3	Andrea Botham	Buckhead Reporter	Andrea.Botham@yahoo.com
4	Laura Braddick	Northside Neighbor	lbraddick@mdjonline.com
5	Glenn Cartledge	Memorial Park	glenncar@bellsouth.net
6	Gordon Certain	North Buckhead	gcertain@comcast.net
7	Glenn Delk	Historic Brookhaven	glenndelk@mindspring.com
8	Jeremy Ellis	Peachtree Park	jeremyellis@earthlink.net
9	Tom Gordon	Ardmore Park	
10	David Gylfe	Collier Hills	dcgylfe@bellsouth.net
11	Amy Halford	Buckhead Forest	amy.halford@yahoo.com
12	Jack Hellriegel	West Paces Northside	jehellriegel@comcast.net
13	Phillips Jones	Tuxedo Park	gpjatl@bellsouth.net
14	Barbara Kennedy	Collier Hills	Bar2010@aol.com
15	Jim King	Chastain Park	jimking@mindspring.com
16	Bill Langley	Ridgedale Park	langleybill@comcast.net
17	Walda Lavroff	North Buckhead	waldalavroff@comcast.net
18	Jennifer Moyers	Whitewater Creek	jennifermoyers@beacham.com
19	Elizabeth Pritchard	Peachtree Battle Alliance	elizpritchard@bellsouth.net
20	Bob Schneider	Garden Hills	bschneider@gardenhills.net
21	Betsy Teplis		bbteplis@bellsouth.net
22	Henry Wyche	Grant Estates/South Tuxedo Park	hwyche@valleycap.com

Representation by Neighborhood:

	Neighborhood/Organization	Name(s)
1	Ardmore Park	Tom Gordon
2	Buckhead Forest	Amy Halford
3	Chastain Park	Jim King
4	Collier Hills	Barbara Kennedy, David Gylfe
5	Garden Hills	Bob Schneider
6	Grant Estates/South Tuxedo Park	Henry Wyche
7	Historic Brookhaven	Glenn Delk
8	Memorial Park	Glenn Cartledge
9	Mt. Paran-Northside	Yolanda Adrean
10	North Buckhead	Gordon Certain, Walda Lavroff
11	Paces	Frank Bennett
12	Peachtree Battle Alliance	Elizabeth Pritchard
13	Peachtree Park	Jeremy Ellis
14	Ridgedale Park	Bill Langley
15	Tuxedo Park	Phillips Jones
16	West Paces Northside	Jack Hellriegel
17	Whitewater Creek	Jennifer Moyers

I. Welcome

Jim King called the meeting to order at around 6:35 PM. A quorum was present.

II. Introductions

III. Secretary's Report

Minutes for the June board meeting were approved by the Board.

IV. Treasurer's Report

BCN has slightly more than \$2,100 in the bank.

Garden Hills petitioned the board to join BCN this month and was accepted as BCN's 24th neighborhood. The map at the right shows the status of BCN membership. Twenty-24 neighborhoods are members (shown in light red) and eight additional neighborhoods have been represented at least one BCN board meeting (light blue).

Jim King talked again about helping other neighborhoods who aren't yet members of BCN because they lack an organized association either by helping them organize or by affiliating with another neighborhood which is already organized.

THE BUCKHEAD COUNCIL OF NEIGHBORHOODS

Brookwood Hills and Springlake were identified as organized neighborhoods who should be encouraged to become involved in BCN.

V. Committee Reports

a. Public Safety

Kim is travelling and made no report. Elizabeth Prichard said that there had been some "activity" at the Peachtree Battle Shopping Center in which people had been followed home and harassed, ostensibly to repair cars, and won't stop if you say "no", coming back day after day. Make sure that residents know to look out when leaving that center to make sure that they are not being followed.

Frank Bennett asked about the experience of other neighborhoods regarding off-duty police patrols: he said they struggled with the issue of knowing if they were actually patrolling when they say they do. He said they spend \$100k per year and while they get time sheets, they don't know if they reflect actual work done. He said they recently provided the patrol a cell phone. He said there was a service called AccuTracker based on GPS for \$5.99 a month. He said they would try the tracking service to verify the time sheets (after letting the patrol know of their plans). He asked if others had dealt with this issue. In response, some neighborhoods employ logbooks, others require the officers to check in a the beginning and end of the shift, and some provide notebook computers for e-mailing the patrols. Jeremy Ellis noted that AccuTracker depends on the cell towers being equipped with GPS and that not all towers in Buckhead were equipped.

The question was asked about coyotes, foxes, etc. Some neighborhoods have them on every street. Some neighborhoods hire or help to hire trappers.

Fire Station 23 finally reopened.

The finding against the City's lack of compliance with the requirements f the Americans with Disabilities Act was mentioned by Hwnry Wyche – would it have any impact on support for ongoing public safety service?

Minutes & Bylaws available on BCN's interim web page www.buckheadcouncil.org Page 2 of 6

b. Transportation

Piedmont Hospital area – Elizabeth Pritchard reported that the health impact analysis done in response to the Brookwood Alliance resulted in two recommendations: that a liaison group of neighborhoods work with the hospital to work out possible areas of improvement. The Brookwood Alliance invited the Peachtree Battle Alliance and Peachtree Hills to join the liaison's monthly meetings with the hospital. She said it is also hoped that this liaison could be expanded up Peachtree Road to include representatives of Peachtree Heights East, Peachtree Heights West and Garden Hills under the BCN umbrella as the BCID attempts to annex the last remaining area on Peachtree for the Peachtree Corridor project, "Brookwood Section". She said that the hospital's representative said that they were interested in supporting whatever the neighborhoods worked out for the Peachtree Corridor project for this largely residential segment of Peachtree. She thought that greater neighborhood influence on the project was appropriate given its residential character.

Another speaker (male) who attended the hospital meetings said that there was discussion with the hospital suggesting that they might employ another policemen on a part time basis to help with traffic congestion.

GA 400 – Jim King said that he had been trying to get more information about the GA 400 project and, specifically, its environmental assessment but didn't have any new information, though he expects more information before Fall.

c. Education

Jeremy Ellis reported on his efforts to digest statewide CRCT school testing data. He has established that there is no way to compare test results from public schools to those in private schools. He said it should be possible to accurately compare public schools, including charter schools, to each other (except for extremely small schools – under 10 students).

d. Parks

The park sign has been erected at the new city park on Peachtree Dunwoody Road, Little Nancy Creek Park. That five acre park was purchased by the city and will be equipped through private donations.

VI. Speakers and Major Topics

Note on Presentation Reports: For simplicity in reporting, the material reported below is usually reported from the point of view of the speakers. These reports reflect the opinions of the individual presenters and may not necessarily be the position of BCN or its member associations.

There were no invited speakers for this meeting.

Buckhead "Branding"

An article published in the Atlanta Business Chronicle was handed out. It outlined efforts to market Buckhead to tourists. There was concern that its description of Buckhead was very superficial and might reinforce undesirable stereotypes of Buckhead, such as the great night life, in spite of our great efforts to remove the bar scene problems in the Village. Gordon Certain reported that he had been contacted by Garth Peters who wanted us to contact the organizers of this campaign before we got too upset – that we needed to understand the nature and audience of the campaign. Jennifer Moyers and Jim King agreed to discuss possible concerns with the campaign's lead person, Donna Fleishman.

BCN Mayoral Forum

Jim King discussed our long time interest in having a Buckhead-oriented mayoral forum. John Haliburton has explored some dates with the candidates. He explored the possible formats and extent of interaction among the candidates.

Jeremy Ellis suggested the Roxy and giving the candidates five topics specific to Buckhead, giving them time in advance to research their responses, not as they relate to the city but to Buckhead in particular. He said we could select a moderator who could research the topic and ask meaningful follow-up questions.

Would we also want to do this for the council members who are running? Maybe for Council President.

Yolanda said her neighborhood association was going to invite candidates to a church with a capacity of 200 on October 13 and that Brenda Smith was trying to get the top four or so mayoral candidates. The Roxy on the other hand might accommodate 1,000 attendees. The Atlanta History Center and Pace Academy were also suggested. A central location is important. North Atlanta has a huge auditorium. Do we want to see if we can get them to sign pledges (not raise property taxes, etc)? Glenn Delk thought the pledges wouldn't be worth much. We need a video to record the candidate's positions.

We need to move very quickly. John Haliburton and Jennifer Moyers will coordinate selecting a date. Jeremy Ellis and Frank Bennett will coordinate the proposed questions, coordinating through Gordon.

Preliminary question categories:

- Transportation
- Public Safety
- Education
- Taxes/Finance/"Managed Competition" (Privatization)/Pension
- Parks

V. Community Concerns

Watershed Petition Status

Kristy was not in attendance. No response had been received from Watershed Management in regard to BCN's letter transmitting resident's petitions.

Survey of Neighborhood "Best Practices"

Craig Perry, President of West Paces Northside, collected survey forms sent by e-mail. Since Craig was not in attendance, this item was deferred until next month.

Stratford Road Study

Gordon Certain outlined North Buckhead's request to the Buckhead CID to conduct a study of pedestrian and vehicle connectivity in the area Bounded by GA400 on the west, the Buckhead Loop on the north and east and Peachtree Road on the south. Currently this area is heavily urbanized but has very limited access. MARTA and the state have fully funded the "Northern Concourse", a pedestrian bridge joining the Tower Place through the Buckhead MARTA station to Stratford Road in the amount of over \$20 million. But without access improvements, access to the bridge will be very limited. The study would be modeled on the Peachtree Corridor project and would involve all commercial and residential stakeholders.

VII. Updates and Announcements

None.

VIII. Next Meeting: August 13

IX. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at around 7:45 PM.

Prepared by Gordon Certain

BCN Secretary August 10, 2009

BCN Organizational Status as of 07/16/09												
			Represented?									
	Neighborhood	BCN Member?	2008 Oct	Nov	Dec	2009 Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul
1	Arden											
2	Ardmore Park	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes			Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
3	Brookwood							Yes				
4	Brookwood Hills											
5	Buckhead Forest	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes		Yes		Yes
6	Buckhead Heights	163	163	163	163	163	163	163		163	Yes	163
7	Castlewood	Yes									Yes	
8	Castiewood Chastain Park	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
9	Collier Hills	163	169	163	169	169	163	163	169	Yes	Yes	Yes
10	Collier Hills North									163	Yes	163
11	Garden Hills	Yes					Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	163	Yes
- ' '	Grant Estates/South Tuxedo	163					163	163	163	163		163
12	Park	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes	Yes
13	Historic Brookhaven	Yes			Yes		Yes	Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes
14	Kingswood	Yes	Yes							Yes		
15	Lindridge Martin Manor	Yes	Yes				Yes					
16	Margaret Mitchell	Yes					Yes				Yes	
17	Memorial Park	Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes	Yes		Yes		Yes	Yes
18	Mount Paran Parkway											
19	Mt. Paran-Northside	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes			Yes
20	North Buckhead	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
21	P'tree Battle Alliance	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes	Yes
22	Paces	Yes		Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes		Yes		Yes
23	Paces West	Yes				Yes	Yes					
24	Peachtree Heights East	Yes	Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes	Yes			Yes	
25	Peachtree Heights West				Yes							
26	Peachtree Hills	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
27	Peachtree Park	Yes		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes		Yes		Yes	Yes
28	Pine Hills				Yes							
29	Pleasant Hill											
30	Randall Mill											
31	Ridgedale Park	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes
32	Springlake											
33	Tuxedo Park	Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
34	Wesley Battle	Yes				Yes		Yes				
35	West Paces Northside	Yes	Yes		Yes		Yes		Yes	Yes		Yes
36	Whitewater Creek	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes	Yes
37	Wildwood		Yes									
	Count	24	17	13	18	14	20	17	12	14	18	17