



The Buckhead Council of Neighborhoods

Board Meeting

November 10, 2011

Peachtree Presbyterian Church, Room 2315

6:30 – 8:30 PM

Meeting Minutes

Attendees

	Full Name	Neighborhood/Organization	Email Address
1	Amanda Baxter	Brookwood Hills	aczabor@gmail.com
2	Gordon Certain	North Buckhead	gcertain@comcast.net
3	Hannah Chung	Zone 2 Community Prosecutor	Hannah.Chung@FultonCountyGA.gov
4	Leslie Churchill	Margaret Mitchell	lschurchill@bellsouth.net
5	Kathy Collura	Peachtree Heights East	KathyCollura@bellsouth.net
6	Diane Cox	Brookwood	dianecox@acpatl.com
7	Tom Gordon	Ardmore Park	tgordon@mindspring.com
8	Ron Grunwald	Loring Heights	Rgrunwald@bellsouth.net
9	William "Bill" Hargett	Paces West HOA	bhargett@oxford-properties.com
10	Phillips Jones	Tuxedo Park	gpjatl@bellsouth.net
11	Barbara Kennedy	Collier Hills	bar2010@aol.com
12	Jim King	Chastain Park	jimking@mindspring.com
13	Walda Lavroff	North Buckhead	waldalavroff@comcast.net
14	Tad Linder	Castlewood	tlinder@lindersecurity.com
15	Gloria Love	Northside Neighbor	glove@mdjonline.com
16	Louis Mayeux	North Buckhead/Patch	Louis.Mayeux@patch.com
17	George Mirgorod	Pine Hills	gmirgorod@comcast.net
18	Roger Moister	Collier Hills North	Moisters2@yahoo.com
19	Ann O'Connell	Mt. Paran-Northside	annoconnell1@bellsouth.net
20	John Pensec	Channing Valley	jpensec@mac.com
21	Elizabeth Pritchard	Peachtree Battle Alliance	eliz@epritcharddesigns.com
22	Buff Quillian	Peachtree Heights West	buffquillianphw@gmail.com
23	Loulie Reese	Memorial Park	Loulie_tarbutton_reese@yahoo.com
24	David Ross	Peachtree Battle Alliance	dross1102@bellsouth.net
25	Mercy Sandberg-Wright	Tuxedo Park	mercywright@msn.com
26	John Schaffner	Buckhead View	jfschaffner@gmail.com
27	Bob Schneider	Garden Hills	bobschneider@me.com
28	Alex Smith	Wildwood	asmithconsulting@earthlink.net
29	Will Strums (?)	Tuxedo Park	unknown
30	Alena Tranzo (?)	Unknown	unknown
31	Mary Anne Walser	Channing Valley	mwalsen@kw.com
32	Debra Wathen	Paces	6wathens@bellsouth.net
33	Dan Whisenhunt	Buckhead Reporter	danwhisenhunt@reporternewspapers.net

Representation by Neighborhood

	Neighborhood	Names
1	Ardmore Park	Tom Gordon
2	Brookwood	Diane Cox
3	Brookwood Hills	Amanda Baxter, Matt Tolleson

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4	Buckhead Forest	Kim Kahwach
5	Castlewood/Brandon	Katy Carpenter, Charlotte Goldfarb
6	Chastain Park	Jim King, Kirk Oppenlander
7	Collier Hills	Barbara Kennedy
8	Collier Hills North	Roger Moister
9	Fernleaf/Brandon	Anne Green
10	Hanover West/Brandon	Katie Mori
11	Historic Brookhaven	Glenn Delk
12	Loring Heights	Jeremy Faughtenberry
13	Margaret Mitchell	Leslie Churchill
14	Memorial Park	Garth Peters, Claire Stratton
15	North Buckhead	Gordon Certain
16	Peachtree Battle Alliance	Elizabeth Pritchard, David Ross
17	Peachtree Heights West	Buff Quillian
18	Peachtree Park	Cathy Muzzy
19	Pine Hills	George Mirgorod
20	Tuxedo Park	Mercy Sandberg-Wright
21	West Paces Northside	Ronnie Martin, Tom Tidwell

BCN 2011/12 Officers (Executive Committee)

Office	Officer	Neighborhood	E-mail
Chairman	Jim King	Chastain Park	jimking@mindspring.com
Vice-chairman	Elizabeth Pritchard	Peachtree Battle Alliance	eliz@epritcharddesigns.com
Secretary	Gordon Certain	North Buckhead	gcertain@comcast.net
Treasurer	Barbara Kennedy	Collier Hills	bar2010@aol.com
Communications	Bob Schneider	Garden Hills	bschneider@gardenhills.net
Member at Large	George Mirgorod	Pine Hills	gmirgorod@comcast.net
Member at Large	Ann O'Connell	Mt. Paran Northside	annoconnell1@bellsouth.net

BCN Standing Committees

Committee	Chair	E-mail
Executive Committee	Jim King	jimking@mindspring.com
Communications Committee	Bob Schneider	bschneider@gardenhills.net

BCN 2011/12 Liaisons

Topic	Liaison	E-mail
Education	Leslie Churchill	lschurchill@bellsouth.net
Membership	Elizabeth Pritchard	eliz@epritcharddesigns.com
Neighborhood Governance/Topics	Kathy Collura	KathyCollura@bellsouth.net
Parks	Gordon Certain	gcertain@comcast.net
Property Taxes	George Mirgorod	gmirgorod@comcast.net
Public Safety	Barbara Kennedy	bar2010@aol.com
	Tad Linder	
	Kim Kahwach (?)	KAJensen@bellsouth.net
Redistricting	Jim King	jimking@mindspring.com
Transportation, Development and Infrastructure	Diane Cox	brookwoodcivic@gmail.com
	Ron Grunwald	rgrunwald@bellsouth.net
	Deborah Wathen	6wathens@bellsouth.net
	Kristy Gillmann (?)	phca_kristy@hotmail.com

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I. Welcome

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

II. Introductions

The attendees introduced themselves. A quorum was present.

III. Approval of August Minutes

Minutes for the October meeting were approved.

IV. Annual Election (2011/12 Officers and Liaisons)

Elizabeth Prichard drafted a list of [BCN accomplishments](#) which has been expanded and e-mailed to directors prior to the meeting. The document also listed the current BCN directors (but not alternates), current officers, current committees and liaisons.

Officers: A **motion** was made, seconded and unanimously adopted to retain the six current BCN officers for another one-year term. Elizabeth Prichard moved that a second "member at large" officer be established, nominating **Ann O'Connell** for that position – that **motion** was seconded and approved unanimously. The 2011/12 officers are shown on page 2 of these minutes.

Liaisons: Liaisons were discussed next. The decision to split Transportation, Development and Infrastructure made in the October BCN meeting was reversed. Other liaison positions were worked out and are reflected at the bottom of page 2 of these minutes. (Two liaisons listed were not in attendance and are shown with a question mark until their participation can be confirmed.) Multi-person liaisons will select leaders or will decide to serve jointly.

V. Admit New Member Neighborhoods

Twenty-eight neighborhoods have paid 2011 dues as of this meeting. No votes were taken to admit new neighborhoods. But many changes are coming.

- **Paces West** has paid their 2012 dues.
- **Brandon** has been organized and has voted to join BCN. (Their 2012 dues payment was received after the meeting.)
- **Castlewood** indicated they would join.
- **Kingswood** (Bill Bollworker ?) has indicated that they will join.
- **Wesley Battle** (Tim Adams) has been contacted and they will be in touch.
- **Channing Valley** was represented but has not joined.
- **Pleasant Hill** has been contacted and, while they operate under the umbrella of the Paces neighborhood, they will probably join.
- **Habersham Park** Civic Association has been organized. [Update - [A map](#) is now available on the Peachtree Heights West web site to clarify Habersham Park's boundaries.] The new civic association includes Argonne Forest, Arden Habersham, and Wyngate. The BCN map has been updated to show this new combination.

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VI. Committee and Liaison Updates

- **Communications Committee – Bob Schneider** reported that work has progressed on moving the BCN web site to a permanent hosting site. A provider and development tool have been selected. The annual cost will be \$99. Remaining tasks include linking the site to the BCN domain name, selecting a look and feel, selecting a graphic/picture and developing interesting content such as topical news items. Bob asked for help in securing content for the site, such as links to all BCN member web sites, announcements of neighborhood accomplishments, etc. He will also propose positions on policies about data which we may/may not want to share publicly. **Elizabeth Prichard** offered to help.
- **Education – Leslie Churchill** reported that our area's current concern is how APS will address school overcrowding. Focus groups have been conducted by APS consultants. Community meetings are expected in November but the exact date is not clear.

Leslie reported that Nancy Meister had a briefing in October about the SPLOST – Buckhead will receive \$88.3 million for Brandon, E. Rivers, a new Buckhead elementary school, to retire five years of debt on the new North Atlanta high school, and other purposes. Plans for the new high school were presented and are on the APS web site.

Also, it is apparent that the APS administration is not addressing (or even thinking about) pending recommendations in the Northern Cluster, such as the 6th Grade Annex proposal.

She said that Superintendent Errol Davis brought up the very high per-student cost in APS. Part of the reason is, except for Buckhead, APS schools are much smaller than average – 14 schools have less than 200 students. Expect a lot of money-saving school consolidations. Also, APS has one administrator per 74 students – roughly one per 2½ classes.

- **Executive Committee** – No report.
- **Neighborhood Governance/Topics** – No report.
- **Parks – Gordon Certain** reported again on the LBI efforts to create the multi-use GA 400 trail. North Buckhead expects these effort to result in an agreement with GDOT that would permit use of GDOT ROW for the planned Mountain Way park. There was a major October cleanup event at Mountain Way involving about 150 volunteers.

Efforts continue to create a 1½ acre park in a former rock quarry between Peachtree Dunwoody Road and GA 400. The site includes a narrow 24-foot spring-fed waterfall. An anonymous donor will purchase the site for the city if the city will make it into a park. Planning is underway involving the city, LBI and the neighborhood.

- **Property Taxes – George Mirgorod** had no report.
- **Public Safety – Hannah Chung** said that crime has continued to decline in Zone 2. **Mercy Sandberg-Wright** commented about the apparent unwillingness of 911 operators to share information about a crime situation happening next door to her home.

There was a discussion of door-to-door solicitors – tell your residents to call 911 if anyone is selling. If someone suspicious knocks on the door, let them know you are inside (so they don't kick the door down) and call 911 on a land line (not a cell phone, which may be difficult for 911 to link to a physical address.) **Gordon Certain** reported on an incident where a 12-year old girl was home alone when prowlers knocked on the BCN's interim web page is at www.nbca.org/bcn/index.htm

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front door and then went onto the backyard deck – she called 911 and the police quickly responded, ultimately arresting the two prowlers about a mile away – commendably, the 911 operator stayed on the phone with the girl until the police arrived. Hannah said it was important to encourage kids to call 911 if suspicious things happen when home alone. **Jim King** reiterated that the calls to 911 should be made on a land line, if possible.

- **Redistricting – Jim King** reported that city and county redistricting efforts were under way. Little impact is expected for Buckhead city council districts. All of Buckhead *could* be moved into a county district with Midtown – Jim will monitor.
- **Transportation, Development and Infrastructure –**

“Buckhead Atlanta” – Gordon Certain sent out an e-mail asking for an on-line vote on the motion that BCN should ask developer OliverMcMillan (OM) to consider an alternate name to Buckhead Atlanta for their project on the site of the Streets of Buckhead project. While a majority of 22 BCN members who responded favored the motion, the on-line vote fell far short of the 100% participation (28 Yes/No/Abstain responses) required by BCN’s current bylaws. So the on-line results, being incomplete, were not binding and were ignored.

A new **motion** was made by Gordon and seconded: “BCN should ask OliverMcMillan to pick another name for their project.” It was argued that the name “Buckhead Atlanta” is too generic. “Streets of Buckhead” wasn’t as generic because it implied only a part of Buckhead was involved. Buckhead is a community of about 28 square miles (roughly 18,000 acres). OM is taking the name of our 18,000-acre community for their 8-acre commercial project. Confusion will result, according to Gordon.

One attendee asked if the OM site was the same location as the original Buckhead – no, it’s several blocks away. Another commented that “Buckhead” is an area officially designated by the state – aren’t they “stealing” the name? Jim commented that there’s a city of Buckhead out I-20.

A contrary view was argued by lawyer David Ross. He argued that OM has a “legal right” to call it whatever they want. He said it diminishes this organization to tell a private entity that we don’t like their branding name. This organization has a lot of credibility in certain areas and if we take issues as an organization in something like this, it diminishes our credibility. We may not like it but they have every legal right to use the name. “If I took this to my Peachtree Battle Alliance, people would be asking why are we wasting our time on this as an organization?”

Gordon responded that there is nothing immoral or illegal about what OM wants to do – they are free to do it. And we as BCN are free to respond. David countered, “Why is that our issue? Why does that rise as an issue that this organization needs to be concerned about? Are we going to be involved in any branding issue that comes along?” Gordon responded, “this is not any branding issue. This is the use of the regional term ‘Buckhead’ for eight acres.” This went on and on, with some board members arguing that they were “offended” by OM’s name selection and others arguing that it wasn’t an issue we should be involved in. Several similar alternative wordings of the motion were considered in friendly amendments. In the end after about 15 minutes of discussion, the BCN board voted 7 in favor, 6 opposed and 6 abstaining to the motion “BCN does not like the name because it misrepresents the 28 square miles of neighborhoods called ‘Buckhead’.” – the motion failed, not reaching a simple majority.

Bylaws changes related to action without a meeting: The discussion then turned to BCN’s bylaws:

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Article III, Meetings Of Directors Section 9. Action by Directors Without a Meeting.

Action taken and affirmed by a majority of Directors without a meeting is nevertheless action of the Board of Directors if written consent to the action in question is signed by all the Directors then in office and filed with the minutes of the proceedings of the Board of Directors. Action taken under this section is effective when the last Director signs the consent, unless the consent specifies a different effective date.

It was argued that these provisions unreasonably restrict BCN's ability to act without a special board meeting. Specifically, if just one director doesn't bother to vote or their e-mail account is not working, no action can be taken by BCN regardless of how many BCN directors favor it.

This discussion was tabled when it was determined that a quorum for changing the bylaws had been lost – a two-thirds majority must approve a change to BCN's bylaws.

VII. Community Concerns / New Business

Traffic Flow (Piedmont and Roswell Road Area)

Two issues were discussed:

- Roswell/Piedmont/Habersham has experienced backups apparently resulting from efforts of off-duty officers employed by BCID. While traffic flow out of the commercial areas appears to be improved by these officers, traffic flow in other directions is delayed. There may also be a traffic synchronization problem involving the new signal at Roswell and Powers Ferry. We need to talk with BCID and Zone 2 APD.
- Roswell/Wieuca/Windsor Parkway – a multi-neighborhood Atlanta/Sandy Springs group has been organized to get the traffic departments of the two cities involved to resolve rush-hour congestion in this area. The problem appears to be due to traffic signal timing and the layout of lanes on streets feeding into Roswell.

VIII. Announcements

IX. Next Meeting – December 8, 2011.

X. Adjourn - The meeting adjourned at about 8:55 PM.

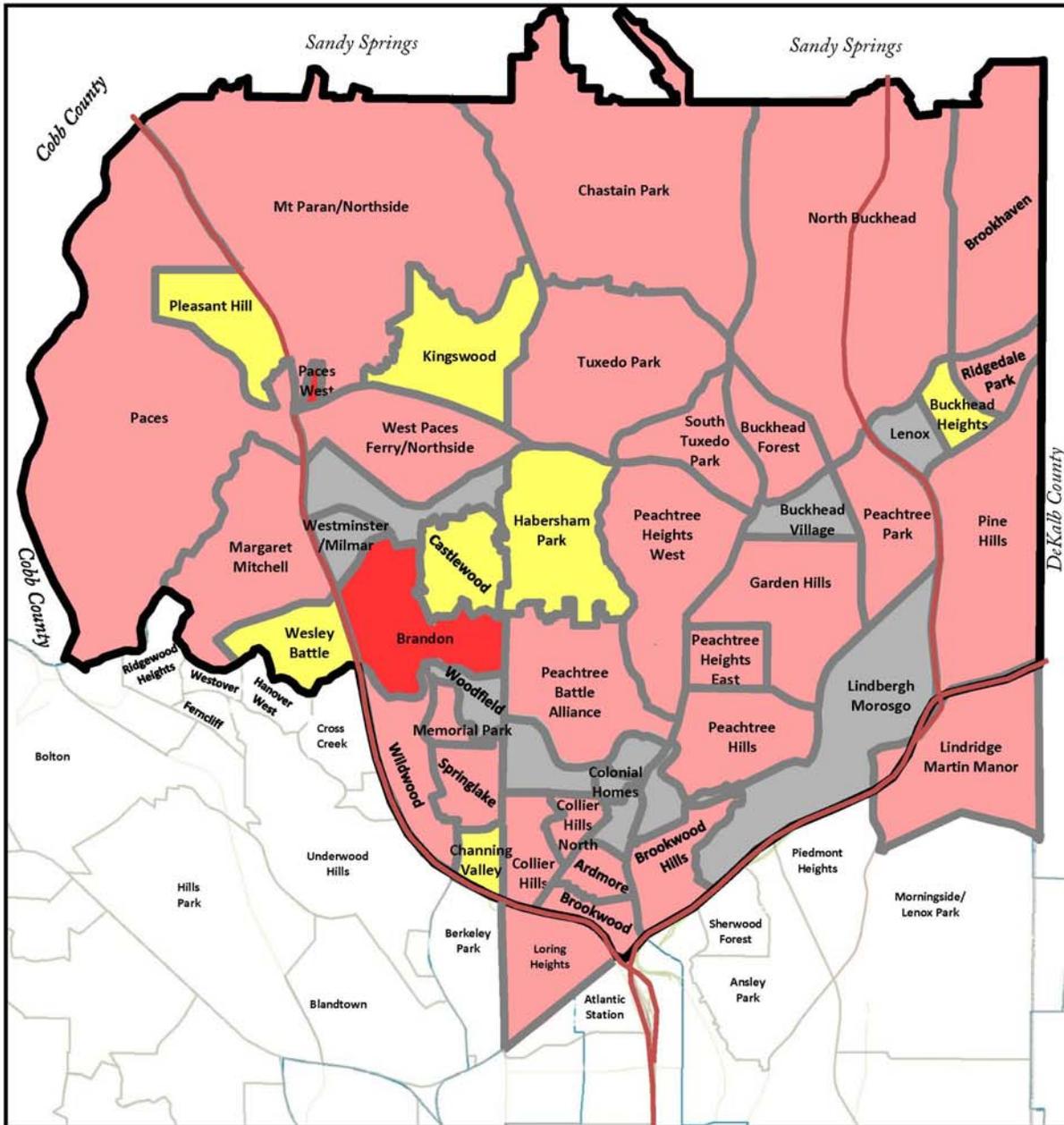
***Note:** The opinions expressed by the speakers and individual neighborhood representatives in these minutes do not necessarily represent those of BCN or its member neighborhoods.*

Prepared by Gordon Certain
BCN Secretary
December 6, 2011

Revised 7PM, December 7, to add two attendee e-mail addresses and correct various typos and awkward wordings.

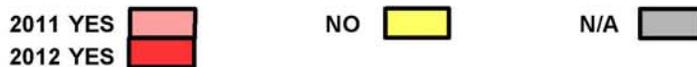
Buckhead Council of Neighborhoods

Paid Membership as of 12/06/11



LEGEND

Paid Membership as of 12/06/11



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BCN Organizational Status as of 11/10/11																				
		BCN Dues				Representation at BCN Board Meetings														
	Neighborhood	2009	2010	2011	2012	2008	2009	2010	2011											
						3 meetings	12 meetings	11 meetings	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	
1	Ardmore Park	✓	✓	✓		100%	67%	91%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓		
2	Brandon				✓															
3	Brookwood		✓	✓			17%	45%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓		
4	Brookwood Hills			✓			8%		✓						✓	✓	✓			
5	Buckhead Forest	✓	✓	✓		100%	75%	100%		✓							✓			
6	Buckhead Heights						8%													
7	Castlewood	✓	✓				17%										✓	✓		
8	Channing Valley																	✓		
9	Chastain Park	✓	✓	✓		100%	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
10	Collier Hills	✓	✓	✓			67%	82%	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
11	Collier Hills North			✓			8%	9%		✓	✓						✓	✓		
12	Garden Hills	✓	✓	✓			75%	91%		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		
13	Grant Estates	✓	✓	✓		100%	83%	82%												
14	Habersham Park							9%												
15	Historic Brookhaven	✓	✓	✓		33%	58%	91%			✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓			
16	Kingswood	✓				33%	8%	9%												
17	Lindbergh											✓								
18	Lindridge Martin Manor	✓	✓	✓		33%	25%	55%	✓											
19	Loring Heights			✓							✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
20	Margaret Mitchell	✓	✓	✓			33%	64%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓		
21	Memorial Park	✓	✓	✓		67%	58%	91%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
22	Mt. Paran-Northside	✓	✓	✓		100%	75%	55%	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		
23	North Buckhead	✓	✓	✓		100%	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
24	Paces	✓	✓	✓		67%	58%	55%	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓		✓		✓		
25	Paces West	✓	✓		✓		17%											✓		
26	PeachtreeBattle Alliance	✓	✓	✓		100%	83%	64%	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓		
27	Peachtree Heights East	✓	✓	✓		67%	50%		✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		
28	Peachtree Heights West	✓	✓	✓		33%	25%	73%	✓	✓			✓	✓			✓	✓		
29	Peachtree Hills	✓	✓	✓		100%	75%	45%	✓	✓						✓				
30	Peachtree Park	✓	✓	✓		67%	83%	55%		✓			✓			✓	✓			
31	Pine Hills		✓	✓		33%	8%	91%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓		
32	Pleasant Hill																			
33	Ridgedale Park	✓	✓	✓		100%	58%	73%		✓				✓						
34	Springlake		✓	✓				55%	✓					✓						
35	Tuxedo Park	✓	✓	✓		67%	75%	73%	✓				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
36	Wesley Bohler	✓	✓				17%	9%						✓						
37	West Paces Northside	✓	✓	✓		67%	67%	64%	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
38	Wildwood			✓		33%		27%		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				
Neighborhood Totals		26	28	28	2	Avg: 16	Avg: 16	Avg: 18	20	19	16	13	20	18	16	20	19	21		