

Ardmore Park Notes

Ardmore Park Neighborhood Association

Atlanta, Georgia

**MEETING
MEMORANDUM**

TO: file

FROM: Julie Hall

DATE: 25 April, 2008

ATTENDING: Jim Wright
Joe Gardner
Dr. Catherine Ross
Karen Leone de Nie, Research Scientist
Clair Muller
Officer Barry Miller
Ardmore Park Neighborhood Association Members
Guests of the Brookwood Alliance

COPY: All Attending
Susan Crawford
Anne Young
Steve Fairley
Sandy Builder

The Ardmore Park Neighborhood Association Annual Meeting was held at the Rich Auditorium at Piedmont Hospital on Sunday, April 20, 2008. President Jim Wright presided over the meeting. Jim began by welcoming neighbors and guests to the annual meeting held to discuss several relevant issues concerning the neighborhood. The following comments summarize issues discussed. Please notify Jim Wright or Julie Hall of any clarifications or amendments pertaining to items listed below.

Item:

A. Brookwood Alliance: After a brief introduction by Ardmore Park President Jim Wright Brookwood Alliance President Joe Gardner presented an overview of the Alliance:

1. **Who:** the six neighborhoods in the Brookwood area of Buckhead including Brookwood Hills, Brookwood, Ardmore Park, Loring Heights, Collier Hills, and Colliers Hills North.
2. **What:** Newly formed organization to help preserve and protect the neighborhoods.

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3. **Where:** the boundaries of the Alliance area are the 75/85 interchange to the south, Northside Drive to the West, the Eastern edge of Brookwood Hills to the East, and roughly Peachtree creek to the North. The north boundary is still being decided.
4. **When:** Alliance board meetings are held the second Tuesday of each month to discuss current issues within the Brookwood area.
5. **Why:** to preserve and protect the quality of the Brookwood area neighborhoods.
6. **How:** Neighborhoods within the Alliance will fund the organization. Joe presented a request for neighbors to voluntarily join the Alliance by contributing \$25 per household in dues to the Organization. Additional information will be following soon.

B. City Representative: Clair Muller spoke briefly to congratulate the neighborhoods for coming together to form the Brookwood Alliance. Clair recognized Jim's and others' hard work in this effort.

C. Piedmont Hospital / Collier Road Health Assessment Impact:

Dr. Catherine Ross began her presentation on the Piedmont Hospital Collier Road Area Health Impact Assessment (HIA) after an introduction by Jim Wright.

1. HIA—The Health Impact Assessment, made possible by a research grant from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, is being conducted by the Georgia Institute of Technology's Center for Quality Growth and Regional Development, with technical assistance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.
2. According to Dr. Ross health is “a state of complete physical, social and mental well being, and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity.” The HIA is “a combination of procedures or methods by which a policy, program or project may be judged as to the effects it may have on the health of a population.”
3. HIA's explicitly consider social and environmental justice issues, adopt a multidisciplinary and participatory process, and use both qualitative and quantitative evidence as well as transparency in the process.
4. The goal of the Piedmont / Collier Road HIA is to make health a part of the decision-making process related to the Brookwood area by predicting health consequences, informing decision makers and the public about health impacts, and providing realistic recommendations to prevent or mitigate negative health outcomes. To undertake this task, the HIA team includes researchers and practitioners with expertise in public health, city planning, and transportation planning. The final report due sometime this summer will contain numerous recommendations concerning public policy, implementation, design,

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maintenance, and operations. The recommendations are intended to give decision makers, community members, designers, and project implementers strategies that can be utilized to support positive health outcomes for all of the populations affected by Piedmont Hospital as an anchor institution in this area.

5. HIAs enable communities to make the goal of positive health outcomes for all people a primary element in deciding the course of future project and policies.
6. Some early survey results and data are indicating:
 - a. that residents believe living near Piedmont Hospital causes both positive and negative health impacts.
 - b. the residents in the Brookwood area are significantly more active than the national average. So far the study results indicate that residents use their neighborhood amenities such as parks and sidewalks for a large percentage of their recreation and fitness.
 - c. the Brookwood area has a lower death rate when compared to the city of Atlanta death rates.
7. At present Piedmont Hospital has not participated in the study despite several requests made by the GA Tech and CDC research team.
8. Question/Answer/Discussion Period concerning the HIA:
 - a. Several neighbors questioned the lack of interest Piedmont Hospital has shown this study funded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. It was pointed out that Timothy Stack, President and Chief Executive Officer for Piedmont Healthcare is a neighbor in Brookwood Hills. Joe Gardner of the Brookwood Alliance agreed that the BA should more aggressively encourage the hospital to participate in the study. Ardmore Park neighbor Dr. William Kenny indicated that he would also make additional contacts to his colleagues at the hospital to encourage participation.
 - b. Ardmore Park neighbor David Fosgate added that the Brookwood Alliance Board should proactively interact with Piedmont Hospital executives in a spirit of cooperation and good faith to address the impact that the hospital is having on contiguous neighborhoods.
 - c. Brookwood Hills resident and President of the Georgia Conservancy Jim Stocks stated that it is vital that an urban design blueprint be formulated for the Brookwood segment of the Peachtree Corridor with associated developmental guidelines and controls.
9. After the presentation by Dr. Ross, researcher Karen Leone de Nie asked meeting participants to review and indicate with red dots and notations specific trouble areas on four Brookwood area maps. The four maps were identified as **Fast Cars, Intersections, Crime, and Pedestrian Hazards**. Neighbors were asked to spend ten minutes reviewing and indicating trouble spots on the maps.



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D. Ardmore Park Annual Meeting: Jim Wright presented a brief overview of neighborhood issues after the ten minute planning session ended.

1. Recently it was brought to the attention of the neighborhood association board that Ardmore Park and several other neighborhoods in the area are designated as Medium Density Residential on the future land use map (FLUM). According to city planner Michael Fleming it appears that the neighborhoods have been designated Medium Density Residential for many years. The zoning for the neighborhood remains predominately designated as R-4 Single Family Residential, however. The neighborhood association board would like to have the future land use map changed to indicate that the neighborhood will remain as predominately Single Family Residential. Jim Wright agreed to ask the Brookwood Alliance for assistance on a community-initiated future land use map (FLUM) change in one of the quarterly cycles to pursue changing from Medium Density Residential to Single Family Residential.
2. Security Officer Susan Crawford forwarded the security report as she was unable to attend the meeting. Dues are \$150 for houses and \$80 for condos, and the money goes entirely to buying patrol hours in our neighborhood. Every \$20 buys one hour of patrol time. Security Officer Barry Miller was on hand and reported about neighborhood security. He reminded neighbors not to leave any valuables in cars.
3. Treasurer Rich Hall gave a brief report about the neighborhood treasury. Our recent increase in dues to \$35 per household, combined with a significant increase in the number of members paying dues, has improved our financial situation. Even after some increased expenses relating to the Brookwood Alliance, we have still maintained our bank balance at approximately \$3000. Neighbors should expect a dues reminder letter in the Fall.
4. Pat Gordon, Chair of the new Social Committee updated neighbors about the new committee. Please join Pat at her home Wednesday, April 23 at 7:30 in the evening for about an hour to begin organizing neighborhood social functions.
5. Webmaster Tom Gordon reminded everyone about the new website www.ardmorepark.org. The website has information about current news, upcoming events and other announcements. Soon we will have secure access to neighborhood directories from the website.

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- E. Officer Election:** Past President Bill Miller headed up the nominating committee this year.
1. The slate of officers for the new term:
 - President: Jim Wright - continuing
 - Vice President: Tom Gordon - new this term
 - Treasurer: David Fosgate- new this term
 - Secretary: Julie Hall - past Vice President
 - NPU-E: Steve Fairley - continuing
 2. As there were no other nominations the slate was elected and thanked for serving. Bill also thanked 2007 officers Past Treasurer Rich Hall and Past Secretary Sandy Builder for their hard work.
 3. Jim concluded the meeting by thanking Security Officer Susan Crawford, Street Rep Coordinator Anne Young, and Newsletter Editor Julie Hall for their service to the neighborhood. He also recognized NPU-E representative Steve Fairley for his outstanding efforts.

END