

Glennwood Estates Neighborhood Association (GENA) Meeting

Monday, March 18 @ 7:30 PM

Call to order - 7:37 PM

Introductions

Members in Attendance:

Erin Braden
Betsy Skelton
Kyla Ross
Lee Pritchard
Holly Grimes
Erin Braden
Renita Trotti

Max Baender
Paul Cushing
Debbie Cushing
Mary Leslie
Richard Ford
Jan Selman

Representative Renita Shannon

Representative Shannon's legislative aid, Kenyatta, was also in attendance

They have been in the process of updating lists of neighborhood associations to visit and meet leadership

6-7 days away from the end of the general session

Bills that may be relevant for our neighbors:

- Georgia's Heartbeat Bill
 - This is an initiative led by Georgia Governor that would effectively outlaw abortion in Georgia.
 - Passed senate bill and will go to senate floor for vote, then moves to house due to revisions.
- Bill 316
 - This bill is proposed to change the way voting is done in Georgia.
 - The bill involves finances to purchase new voting machines that print out cast ballots with a barcode.
 - The change would cost \$150-400 million.
 - Paper ballots will cost ~\$20 million and may be more secure, according to some experts.
- Medicaid waiver bill
 - Concerns with this bill involve covering fewer Georgians (200k Georgians) for large costs (~\$900-million).
 - An alternative could be to expand Medicaid for more coverage and less cost.
- Bill proposed to protect all existing statues
 - The proposal states that cities and counties cannot remove statues of any kind.
- Annexation
 - City of Decatur purchased United Methodist Home, and there is a proposal for 12 total properties (including the home) to annex.
 - The concern is that 1 person owns 6 of the 12 properties, and that property owner is not in favor of annexation due to a drop in property value; he wants a rezoning prior to indicating his support.

- Looking to implement policies for annexation, including an impact study and lead time for proposal submission (i.e., 2 months prior to session).
- Medical Marijuana bill
 - Concerns regarding lack of underrepresented minority participation and access to medical marijuana.
- Other bills sponsored (longer timeline for passing):
 - Non-discrimination ordinance
 - Marijuana possession as a ticketable offense
- Dekalb delegation meetings –
 - Every Monday at 12 PM in Capital Room 216
 - Everyone is welcome to attend.
- City bills
 - Impact study is needed to better understand how city conversion will impact counties.
- Question from our group regarding senior exemptions – no word on possible extensions, and it will be revisited closer to the time of expiration.
- **Contact:**
 - Renitashannon.com – “keep me updated” (sign up for emails to be informed)
 - Phone: 770-299-9548

Finance Update – Kyla Ross

- \$2041.32 current balance in account
- Upcoming expenses – spring block party
- Nick Cortese is taking over the secretary/treasurer role from Kyla (approved) – this change will take place in May

Spring Block Party

- We are seeking block party chair/co-chairs.
- Marissa Loomis has graciously continued to host but no longer lives here.
- Estimated 10 hours of work – including vendors, food/supplies purchase, setup, and take down.
- Renita Trotti has agreed to serve! Thank you, Renita!
- Proposed date: Saturday, May 18 (confirming calendars)

Spring Newsletter

- Discussion regarding newsletters and access for neighbors who are not on the Listserv.
- Advertise new neighbor/welcoming committee, website, dues drive, possibly accolades.
- Debate as to whether or not a newsletter is needed.
- Suggestion to post to the website, and remind neighbors of the website frequently.

Flock Security Cameras

- Rhea Craig and Lee Pritchard attended on behalf of the neighborhood.
- Flock is a subscription service for cameras that scan license plates as cars come into and out of the neighborhood for up to 2 weeks.
- It has a searchability feature for make of car, time of day, license plates, color of car; night photos of high quality.

- Require a police or gatekeeper to review scans, and gated communities and areas of high crime tend to use it.
- Cost: \$2000/camera/year
- Not much support for Flock in Glennwood Estates.

Decatur Prevention Initiative and Decatur Parents Network

- Purpose of these organizations is to promote a healthy Decatur, free of negative effects of alcohol and other drugs on youth and families.
- Reached out to neighborhoods and Erin Braden will publicize events to our neighborhood.

Pedestrian Crosswalks

- The state is planning to install pedestrian crosswalks at the front of our neighborhood on Glendale and Ponce.
- Lines drawn indicate that they may dig up bushes near our signs – we are awaiting some update and will watch closely.

City will Soon Shrink Commerce

- There are plans to shrink Commerce to 3 lanes in front of McDonald's.
- Cost is \$2.1 million dollars subsidized by the Path Foundation.
- Concerns were raised regarding bicycle lanes and changes proposed, as there will likely be unintended consequences of traffic on Church. Glendale may become a cut-through.

258 Forkner Townhouse Development

- There were significant changes to the original design to accommodate for guest parking.
- There is now a 5 ft rather than 8 ft sidewalk, and there is no current word on plans/timelines.

Meeting adjourned 9:04 PM