

Glennwood Estates Neighborhood Association (GENA) Meeting

Wednesday, March 21 2018 @ 7:00 PM

Call to order - 7:11 PM

Introductions

Members in Attendance:

Renita Trotti
Muna Diawayri
Kelly Walsh
Lynn Paxton
Mary Leslie
Jessica Gross
Hayley Stevens
Erin Braden

Betsy Skelton
Sophie Pritchard
Lee Pritchard
Chrissy Tatum
Josh Chamberlain
Kathryn Fox
Marissa Loomis

Finance Update - Betsy

We are in good shape with a balance of just over \$2300. Minimal spend since Halloween (web domain registration)

It's time to start the new dues drive - \$20 per family; Betsy advised it is less confusing if we just do it annually rather than skipping some years. Comms will be forthcoming via newsletter & listserv.

Newsletter Update - Betsy

NO paper newsletter last fall, as majority are on listserv.

Upcoming newsletter will be published on paper as well to extend to others, with the usual listserv registration instructions. All suggestions for newsletter topics are welcome.

Sunday 16 Sept is national neighborhood day, consider how we could participate (we had late notice last year so let's try to plan ahead this year); what besides the Glenlake Park activity could we do? Cocktails? Dog meetup?

Spring Block Party on the Triangle - Marissa

Saturday May 12 (the day before Mother's Day) is the best fit – put that date in your calendars!

Food & Drink: Hot Dogs, toppings, chips, beverages (beer, wine, and non-alcoholic options) and everyone is encouraged to bring a side dish or two.

Entertainment: In addition to the usual Bouncy House and local musicians, we'd like to include some new options. Suggestions include the Bubble man, or possibly a Balloon Shaper, and maybe a ping pong table set up outside.

Help is needed for takedown of the event, from just after 7pm ish

If we have rain, the back porch of 140 Glendale Ave (Pritchard House) is our alternate venue.

Sink Hole

Glendale Ave damaged road near entrance to park – Renita Trotti provided an update, advising that it has become a CoD vs Dekalb county debate which continues, with no resolution yet. Renita has taken this as far as she can & will share the sequence of events and contacts with Kelly Walsh.

Kelly will speak to Peggy Merris.

Other ideas – include an update about this issue in the forthcoming newsletter, advising concerned neighbors to also add their voices via email, phone calls, personal contacts and appropriate Public meetings.\

City Commission Update - Kelly Walsh

Disclaimer: this is not a town hall meeting

Kelly shared her admiration for the unity of our neighborhood, the values we share, and the activities we engage in.

She then provided highlights of activities and accomplishments during her first few months in office (see following summary). Topics included Orientation for newly elected state of GA officials, interaction protocol with other commissioner, Schools, Seniors, service opportunities, City Planning, UMC Children's Home Vision sessions, affordable housing, traffic and pedestrian safety, and Busker permitting (!)...

During Kelly's narration, attendees engaged in an interactive dialogue.

Key takeaways –

- Engage with Kelly and the other commissioners
- Take note of and read about the City Commission Meetings

Top level CoD website link with a nice group photo of our commissioners

<http://www.decaturga.com/city-government/city-commission>

From here, there is a link to Agendas and Minutes and Streaming Video! (live meetings in progress as well as videos of previous meetings)

Reach out to Kelly and/or the City Manager Peggy Merriss with any suggestions, concerns or questions you may have.

Everyone thanked Kelly for providing such a comprehensive and informative update.

Meeting adjourned 8:24 PM



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**Commissioner Kelly Walsh on
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Meetings Attended

- 5 Commission Meetings
- 2 day Strategic Planning retreat
- 1 Planning Commission Meeting
- Clairemont Oaks Seniors monthly meeting
- 3 of 5 UMCH Vision sessions
- Downtown Neighbors x 2
- Decatur Heights x 1
- Joint City / School board meeting
- Newly-Elected Official Training in Tifton, GA - 2 days
- Mayor's Day conference
- Meeting at the Capitol with DeKalb Delegation
- Winonna Park residents meeting on traffic calming
- 50 coffee chats and walks with constituents....:-)

Decisions Taken / News to Share

- Approved Talley Street site plan for new 3-5 school
- Approved Busker permitting for downtown performers
- Designated a tributary of Peavine Creek as Wolfpack Creek
- Community Transportation plan in final stages
- UMCH Vision process moving into second phase
- Decatur ranked No. 1 out of 452 places measured by Niche.com
- New signage for 12 city park facilities
- Approved expenditure for PD to purchase Tasers for all officers.
- Recommended a project budget of \$50,000 for repair of sidewalks throughout COD.
- Recommend designation of four on-street parking spaces to be used for electric vehicle charging station - 2 downtown and 2 in Harmony Park in Oakhurst
- Approved alcohol and beverage licenses for Savi grocery store and liquor shop and for Korean BBQ at 225 East Trinity Place
- Important support by Police, Fire, and Public Works to ensure safety and the success of the March 12th School Walkout Gun Violence protest

Call to Action

- Attend commission meetings, watch them live-streamed, ask questions, invite me back!