**Welcome by Judy at 6:45 pm**

**I. Reading of May Minutes**

**-**Motion to approve/accept minutes made with no opposition, and the minutes were approved as read.

**II. Public Safety Update from Police and Fire Departments**

**Police Update**

**-**Lieutenant McCalla from Zone 4 explained crime is down, and that there has been a significant reduction.

-There was a question as to whether officers were calling out sick in protest and Lieutenant McCalla indicated this was not a problem, and that Zone 4 was not affected.

-Judy indicated there is an interest in having conversation with police in zone/community, and wanted to know if the police are receptive. She has to talk to Major Titis or the Captain about this.

-Someone remarked that at the NPU meeting it was mentioned there were two homicides inside Zone 4, and wanted to know if this was in Oakland City? Someone said the murders were on Peeples Street and Lee Street. Unfortunately, Lieutenant McCalla was not able to answer her questions.

-Someone asked about the fireworks/gunshots in the neighborhood and said they called, 911 but was not sure what it was. Lieutenant McCalla explained that a city ordinance lets people fire fireworks until 10:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. However, he said to call 911 if you have any concerns. Demetrius from Cleta Winslow’s office added that a state ordinance allows fireworks year around, but he indicated he was not completely sure.

**III. Treasurer Report (Allison Myrick)**

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| --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |
| **June, 2020** | **Profit & Lost Statement** |  |
|  |  |  |
| Income |  |  |
|  |  |  |
| Beginning Balance | Operating Account- $3,277.10 | 3,277.10 |
|  |  |  |
| Donations: |  |  |
| In Kind Donations | 2020 Membership Pmt, Banners Pmt, Pay Pal & Donations- $1,910.33 | 1,910.33 |
|  | Bank Deposits, Checks, Cash- $450.00 | 450.00 |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
| Total Deposits |  | **2,360.33** |
|  |  |  |
| Expenses: | Reimbursements for police, fire and COVID-19 event- $2,215.25 | 2,215.25 |
|  | zoom.us- $12.74 | 12.74 |
|  | WiX,Com Monthly- $14.50 | 14.50 |
|  | Citizens Trust Bank Monthly Fee- 5.00 | 5.00 |
|  |  |  |
| Total Expenses | $2,247.49 | **2,247.49** |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
| **Net Income** | **Balance as of 05/29/2020- $3,389.94** | 3,389.94 |
|  |  |  |
|  | OCCO 06/2020 Balance Minus $1,500 Garden Grant- $1,889.94 | **1,889.94** |

**-**Judy added that the executive board voted to obtain a liability insurance policy that would cover the executive board, and the quotes are for $1,100.00 to $1,200.00. She asked that members please donate so we can obtain such a policy.

-Donations can be made on the Oakland City site (occoatl.org).

-Allison instructed people to call her at 404-805-5988 if they want to write a check.

**IV. Committee Chair Reports - 5 Minutes**

**Housing Code Violations (Dillon Johnson-code@occoatl.org)**

**-**Dillon explained that each committee chair’s information is available on the OCCO website (occoatl.org).

-Dillon asked everyone send violations to code@occoatl.org and take pictures things such as: high/overgrown grass, abandon cars, people repairing cars on the street, etc.…

**Historic Preservation (Kaseem Dickens-historic@occoatl.org)**

**-**Kaseem explained we have seen a slow down in community concerning renovations.

-New construction houses are going up, but he is watching these projects closely. He explained that many projects are stalling, but he is still monitoring activity.

-There are pending projects on White Oak Avenue and Lawton Street, and he is waiting to see if these projects will resume.

-All violations have been reported, but Kaseem emphasized that we need to stay on top of housing violations.

-Judy asked if there is anyone that wants to expand the historic district, and one person said they are interested. Judy asked this person join the committee.

-James Johnson had a question about a new house that is in the historic preservation area, but does not appear to historically appropriate, and wanted to know what the ramifications are. Discussion began about parameters of the historic district and which side of Oakland Avenue is part of historic district.

**Education (Terra Washington-vicepresident@occoatl.org)**

-She explained we are working with Lifecycle on Murphy Avenue, and Oakland City will be part of Little Libraries. Lifecycle is an amazing community partner, and they preparing library tutorials so our volunteers can make the libraries, as well as taking on the cost to build the libraries.

-We need volunteers to assist in this initiative, and people to donate books or make a monetary donation. If someone has books, please email Terra at vicepresident@occoatl.org.

-The Little Libraries will supplement reading for the kids in the neighborhood.

-Judy also indicated she wants an initiative to address the middle and high school students.

**Beautification (Carissa Zedaker-beautificaiton@occoatl.org)**

-Carissa is still working on organizing the community wide clean up, and is reaching out to the surrounding communities.

-Starting in July, the second Thursday from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. and third Saturday of every month from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. We are hosting clean ups of James Orange Park on July 9th from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. and on July 18th from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m.

-Carissa asked the community to notify her if there are streets that need to be cleaned.

-Carissa contacted Marta and is working on getting a meeting with them to discuss beautification of the Oakland City Marta Station.

**-**

**The Acorn Newsletter (James Johnson-parliamentarian@occoatl.org)**

-James explained he needs to start working some content for the newsletter. He has two volunteers to help him with formatting the newsletter.

-James is interested in addressing the new homes being built in the neighborhood, new businesses, etc.…

-James is trying to keep up with news and get the word out there in a timely manner.

**Community Garden (Mike McCord-communitygarden@occoatl.org)**

-Mike explained that the produce from Harnett Garden goes to volunteers and people on the NPU’s check-in list.

-Mike explained they are expanding the garden and changing things, and need volunteers for garden programs and other gardens in the community. They especially need assistance with weeding.

**Friends of James Orange Park (Jamida Orange)**

**-**Jamida was not on call, but Judy explained Park Pride has an initiative going on to assess what we want in the park. Judy indicated there is an online forum to give our feedback.

**WAWA (Dr. Erica Holloman-Hill)**

-Erica has environmental education materials/resources and will contact Terra.

-WAWA has a summer reading program for children and is giving out books. To register, go to Eventbrite and find out more information as to when to pick up books and the core dates to meet online.

-WAWA is also offering two-academy camp sessions that will be face-to- face, but this will be done safely. There are six spots for kids and two counselors. The kids will play in 26-acre area and the camp will be the last 2 weeks in July.

-In relation to Harnett Community Garden, Erica explained we are in the process of setting up volunteer times, and looking for the individuals to train and lead the morning sessions.

-Concerning the Fresh Food Initiative, Erica explained they want to work with Bush Mountain and Oakland City, so these neighborhoods have better access to pick up fruit and veggies as part of the program.

**NPU (Nick Hess-NPUs.org)**

-Nick explained that the next meeting is on July 16th at 7:00 p.m.

-Nick mentioned a proposed ordinance on landlocked parcels, and indicated it should go through the special use process, but it was deferred.

-Atlanta Beltline/Murphy Crossing was also discussed at the recent meeting.

-Additionally, the legal status of Airbnbs was addressed and they are against city ordinance, as they are short-term leases that are similar to a boarding house or hotel. Basically, Airbnbs are unlicensed hotels. If you are aware of an Airbnb, Nick suggested you call zoning enforcement who are responsible to regulate this.

-There is a bylaws clinic at NPU University on July 9th online**.**

-Wellness checks are still going on and WAWA and the community garden are helping out with this. However, they are looking to move to a model that requires calling less frequently. If you want a check in let Nick know via email.

**VI. Beltline/Tucker Avenue Update (Beth McMillon who is the VP of community planning)**

**-**The RFP for Murphy Crossing was cancelled because of the economics with Covid-19

-The South Carolina WRS development company are the developers for the underground, but the community did not like this, so they bowed out. ABI has decided to rework the proposal of the RFP.

-Currently a committee is being formed and the community is to appoint people to serve on this committee. Working with the community will help us formulate and understand what the community wants.

-We want to start a task force for small businesses, but this will not get started until August.

-Moving forward, the process will be the same- once the RFP is released no talks with the community until the developer is selected.

-Ms. McMillon asked if anyone had questions, and no one did, but she will come back to talk to us in the future.

**VII. Tucker Avenue (Amanda Ryan)**

**-**Atlanta Land Trust owns a 2-acre parcel on Tucker Avenue, and the site will have 23 affordable housing units. While they were able to rezone the site, and secure all approvals, the pricing came in over budget by 3 million.

-Ms. Ryan added that since there is no sewer line on site, that is adding cost to project in the form of infrastructure costs.

-They are trying to figure out how to move forward, and are working with another developer and to build onsite rather than modular units. They are interested in utilizing local contractors.

–Ms. Ryan emphasized they are working hard, and she hopes in July to provide an update on moving forward.

**-**Judy expressed an interest in hearing about the timeframe and jobs for local residents.

-The maintenance of Tucker Avenue is the responsibility of the City of Atlanta (as they are paying the city to maintain the area). Ms. Ryan has followed up with them concerning dumping and trash, and the City was going to address the issue immediately.

-Someone asked about use of the site before building begins and Ms. Ryan said that she is open to requests for intermittent uses to the site by the community.

**IX. Stacey Evans**

-Judy extended congratulations concerning her District 57 election win. She will be replacing Pat Gardner.

-Ms. Evans discussed good news, and explained the House and Senate passed a hate crimes bill on June 23rd, and it is on the way to the Governor’s desk.

-Ms. Evans will take office in January 2021, and she asked that everyone reach out to her with concerns and she will have a newsletter.

-Ms. Evans agreed to attend our community meetings or NPU-S meetings once a quarter to keep us abreast of what is going on and hear the community’s concerns.

-Judy mentioned that she is concerned about illegal gambling at the gas station, and this is an issue she wants addressed.

**X. Old Business**

**-**OCCO is the Awardee of Fulton Fresh Program, which will start July 20th through August 20th.

-Produce pick up is after class online- you can look at the flyer for pick up dates and locations.

-We applied for another grant to help people with Internet access to take the online classes, as well as gas cards.

-We need volunteers to help on the pick up dates and dropping off produce to legacy residents.

-The Program is open to surrounding communities.

**-**Send Judy the contact information for any residents that do not have the means to pick up their produce, and she can organize ways to help get food to seniors.

-This program is open to everyone, and is about healthy eating and cooking. Moreover, this is an example of the Beltline being a community partner by allowing us to use their area as a distribution center.

-Demetrius from Cleta Winslow’s office mentioned that if we are interested in expanding historic district, he will help out at City Hall. He also added that concerning beautification, he will come out to round up people to assist. He asked if we need garbage bags and gloves, as well as asked if we need help with Tiny Libraries, as he may be able to help out with books. Lastly, he mentioned the budget was passed this weekend on Saturday afternoon, asked if we have any questions to let him know.

**XI. New Business**

**-**Oakland City t-shirts, amendments to banner and retail t-shirts.

-We are open to design suggestions for both t-shirts as long as things are not copywrited. All submissions must be in PDF form.

-Contact Allison concerning design suggestions for the retail t-shirts.

-Judy is interested in changing the language in the banner.

**XII. Closing Comments**

**-**Covid-19 testing on June 24th at the Seventh Day Adventist Church and at Lee and White Street. Tyler Perry is sponsoring the testing.

-Meeting in two weeks around Beltline and Tucker Avenue before FRP and recommendations of interim use of Tucker Avenue. -Please call into the NPU meetings, as they address voting and zoning issues, and representative of all city services are there. ----Roy from Open Hand Atlanta wants us to be more involved looking for volunteers. Go to website to <https://openhandatlanta.volunteerhub.com/> for volunteer opportunities.

**Meeting closed at 8:22 pm**