Executive Board joining the meeting:

Judy Walker-President (video)

Terra Washington-Vice President

Allison Myrick-Treasurer

Adriana Sola Capifali-Secretary

James Johnson-Parliamentarian

Kassim Dickens (video)

Nick Hess (NPU chair)

Kelly

Councilman Winslow

1. Welcome/Greeting-Judy Walker at 6:36 pm
2. Public Safety/Elected Officials Update-
3. Corona Virus
4. Lieutenant McCalla gave a brief overview of the steps the police force is taking concerning the Corona Virus.

• Officers are being given protective gear to wear when they approach victims or suspects, and the officers are also giving the victim/suspect a mask and call Grady if said person reports Corona Virus symptoms.

• Concerning citizens, Lieutenant McCalla explained that the mayor has a shelter in place-not order on the City of Atlanta, and congregating in groups over 10 is not permitted. He also explained that city is working with state and federal government.

1. Crime
2. Lieutenant McCalla explained that crime is not good, and in fact, trending up. In the three different beats (including 402 and 408) the numbers are trending upward.

• The biggest increase is in the 402 beat, which covers the Donnelly/Beacher area.

• In the Donnelly/Beacher area, officers are making a lot of stops and resources are going there to address burglaries. The burglaries are in the form of construction theft on new builds, in which appliances are being removed from homes).

C. Questions-concerns:

1. Councilwomen Winslow expressed an interest in addressing the properties that are being broken into and wants to get in touch with the owners. Lieutenant McCalla referred her to Michael Watkins who can run crime statistics reports.

2. Another community member brought up concerns about gunfire by James Orange Park, and another individual expressed the same concerns by Avon Avenue and Oakland Drive. Additionally, there is concern about gunfire coming from apartments by James Orange Park, as well as Sparks Street and White Oak Avenue.

3. Allison Myrick asked about the gunfire detector program, and requested an update. Specifically, she wanted to know if is working well, as well as the accuracy of the detectors.

• Lieutenant McCalla explained the detectors are working well, and alert officers of gunfire in the area, but detectors do not have cameras.

• The detectors pick up one incident a week.

• Councilman Winslow indicated she would see about working with the Mayor Lance Bottoms about having more gunfire detectors installed in the neighborhood.

4. Someone asked what is the best way to report incidents of gunfire.

• Lieutenant McCalla instructed everyone to call 911 whenever they hear or witness gunfire.

• Ms. Walker requests all individuals that are concerned about the crime in the neighborhood to join the Crime and Safety Committee, and to please send the executive board an email to get involved.

1. Introduction of Executive Board Members & Committee Chairs
2. Committee Chair Report

A. Historic Preservation Committee-Kassim Dickens

1. Urban Design Commission had a meeting scheduled for March 25th, but was canceled and maybe held March 31st.

• Although the meeting has been postponed, Mr. Dickens explained the Commission is in constant contact with applicants regarding permits and designs.

1. Mr. Dickens also indicated his committee is looking for more people to join, and if you are interested please reach out to him.
2. The committee’s responsibilities include communicating with contractors and to survey work being done. Mr. Dickens explained the committee is not policing, but informing and making sure guidelines are being followed.
3. Doug Young and two of his planners met with Ms. Walker and highly recommended we expand the footprint of the community, thus expanding the historic designation, but this will take more volunteers.

• Mr. Dickens explained that streets that are not designated are not protected regarding historic preservation, and by expanding the area in Oakland City that is historic will protect more of the community.

1. Housing Code Violations Committee-Dillon Johnson
2. This committee focuses on reporting housing code violations such as abandoned cars, and houses that are not boarded up, and do not have plumbing/heat.

• There is a police officer that manages these violations for the city.

• Please notify the city if you observe any violations and also consider joining this committee.

C. Community Garden-Michael McCord

1. Mr. McCord explained the garden is not hosting any volunteer days now, but they are setting up a system so individuals can volunteer on their own.

• Mr. McCord explained that there’s work to be done and he can set up tasks that would keep volunteers within six feet of others.

• If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Mr. McCord at 404-670-1043.

• The garden is located on Bridges Avenue off of Oakland Drive.

D. Education Committee-Terra Washington

1. Finch elementary and Reading Across America

• Ms. Washington explained we had about 32 volunteers read to students, and also worked with Cathedral of Faith volunteers.

• The kids were excited, and Councilwomen Winslow helped us secure hats, stickers, pencils and cupcakes. We also had volunteers dressed up as characters Dr. Suess. It was fun and was a great event.

1. A question was asked as to whether the school is providing meals to students.

• The school has been delivering food and snacks via school buses.

• From 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm Oakland City Recreational Center has been providing bag meals, and has been bringing meals to the apartments in the area.

•Councilman Winslow will let us know if there is anything we can do to assist, and she will let Ms. Washington know.

E. Crime/Safety Committee-James Johnson

1. No update was given by the committee chair, as he was not in attendance.

1. Zoning Committee-Kyle Lamont

1. No update was given by the committee chair, as he was not in attendance.

1. Fort McPherson-Ms. Walker
2. Ms. Walker explained they are looking to hire director for the local redevelopment authority.

• Ms. Walker explained that now the board is in place and has the same chair.

• After the new the director is selected, the developer will be selected.

1. Tyler Perry has indicated he is interested in purchasing 20 acres of land, but no additional information is available at this time.
2. Food and Drug Administration (hereinafter FDA) is going to relocate to Fort McPherson.

• The FDA purchased a building in Fort McPherson and will be moving 300 employees to this location.

• Hopefully, this move will spark new retail on Lee Street.

1. February Meeting Minutes
2. Adriana Sola reviewed the February meeting minutes, and a motion to accept the minutes was put forward by Ms. Washington and second by Ms. Myrick with no opposition.
3. Treasurer Report

A. Kim Carter explained ways to support Oakland City

• Go online and pay dues via PayPal. Each member household is to pay $25, which helps the community with projects.

• 9 new members joined, and she believes we have approximately 30 members, but cautioned there may be more members.

• Banners are for sale $35 sold as needed.

• Ms. Walker put out a request that everyone can make donations to help support the organization, but indicated that anyone that cannot afford $25 is still welcome to participate in the group and should talk to Ms. Walker or Ms. Myrick.

• Ms. Myrick reminded everyone that you could donate through Kroger and Amazon rewards/smiles.

1. Friends of James Oranges Park
2. Park Pride- Jamida Johnson (daughter of James Orange). Thanked everyone for praying for her family.

• She has begun working on friends in the park and last year gave out 50 hats and coats. Looking to do more.

• This year, she is working with Councilman Winslow renovate the recreational center keeping teens and seniors needs in mind.

• They need to work with park pride to start the process and Ms. Johnson will be in contact with Councilman Winslow. She is looking to improve upon what has been done.

• An artist has expressed interest in doing artwork in the park and this will be explored in further detail.

1. Tucker Avenue
2. Erica will have a presentation during our next meeting in April.

IX. Signature Events

A. Ms. Walker wants an event to build upon every year and is working with Councilwoman Winslow. Looking for suggestions (send in by email or call).

• Something to address unity, such as restaurants doing a taste, jazz concert (west end).

• Perhaps we do something small in the fall and plan something bigger for next year. In past, there was a fall festival and there was a radio station this is just a suggestion.

1. New Business
2. NPU report presented by Nick Hess.

• He can be reached at 404-890-0089 or [chair@npu-s.org](mailto:chair@npu-s.org).

• There were two voting items at last meeting- motion to support Jazz Fest at John White Park, which passed. Not much else is happening. • Starting wellness check program, which involves volunteers calling anyone who is shut in and has signed up.

• The lawn care service for seniors is starting again and we have a handful of sign ups and volunteers. We are worked with WAWA, and community members can sign up at Npu-s.org.

• NPU is offering tele-conferencing resources to local nonprofits and we have the ability to send out bulk text and voicemails.

• Councilwoman Winslow indicated bag lunches for children are being offered at the Oakland City Recreation Center between 4:00 pm and 6:00 pm. Additionally, City of Atlanta is working with seniors to provide care packages, so if you know of someone that needs one let her know by calling her at 404-216-1701. The City Council with Mayor Lance Bottoms put aside 1 million dollars to seniors, 1 million dollars for business, and 1 million dollars for children, and she can send website information out. A community member asked about the terms of 30,000 dollars in grants, and Councilman Winslow indicated, she would answer questions off line.

1. Comments from Community Members

• A community member asked for the number of Lieutenant McCalla.

• A community member asked for Ms. Walker’s number.

• A community member asked if there were new plans for development on Lee Street, and Councilman Winslow said we have to see what happens with the economy.

1. Reminders
2. Closing Comments were made by Ms. Walker

• Remember to put questions in the chat.

• Let us know what you want to see, let us know if you have talents and/or skills the community could use, this is a collaborative effort. • Please sign up for committees we need more than 1 person and must all work together.

• We need a chair for Beautification Committee, as there is a lot of trash in the neighborhood, and the city needs to clean common areas. A possible solution is more trashcans? We used to do cleanups once a month. • Oakland City Marta Station, Ms. Walker wants people to call Marta and ask to talk to the director. We need a board member to contact us.

• There are lots of people in the chat volunteering to be part of Beautification Committee.

• Cathedral Faith- Thanks to Elizabeth Wilson has been helping Ms. Walker with the recording of the meeting, as well as supporting Finch Elementary.

• Thanks to Councilman Winslow for distributing flyers.

• Please complete census by April 1st.

Ms. Walker closed the meeting at 8:00 pm.