



## Oakland City Community Organization

General Body Meeting | January 26, 2021 at 6:30 p.m.

### MEETING MINUTES

- I. Welcome Adriana Sola, Vice President
- II. Ice Breaker Alex Dileo, Secretary
  - Community members shared words of inspiration for our work together this year: Flowers, Pride, Community-Building, Engagement, Transformation, Community Engagement, Connecting, Food, Sprout
- III. 2020 President's Recap Judy Walker, Immediate Past President
  - Judy begins by thanking 2020 community leaders.
  - She has been a resident of the community for several decades, and welcomes all newcomers.
  - Thank you as well to our elected officials.
  - Terra thanks Judy for a successful year.
  - *Unfortunately, the meeting was briefly interrupted by a hacker, who was removed by the meeting host and reported to Zoom. Information was also shared with the Atlanta Police Department.*
- IV. Treasurer Report Allison Myrick, Treasurer
  - *Could not share screen because of security concerns after hack.*
  - Allison gives verbal report of financials.
  - Successful year despite the uncertainty with COVID.
  - Thanks to Judy for her leadership.
  - Spent \$1K on banners that should last us through the end of the year.
  - Spent \$2,174 for children's toys for holidays. They were all very happy. Allison will post photos on social.
  - Holiday drive thru party at Finch Elementary was a success. Thank you to all who attended, including Councilwoman Winslow.

- With Georgia Standup grant – bought tablets that we can hopefully use for OCCO post-COVID, bought t-shirts designed by Judy. Will give shirts out to volunteers for participating in events.
- OCCO paid to subscribe to CallingPost to help with our communications.
- We have about \$6,150 left in account and need to spend funds for Georgia Stand Up grant.
- Grant was \$5K and we spent \$2,200 so we need to spend the remainder. Judy says that, while not all funds have been spent from the grant, she believes they have been allocated.
- Motion to approve 2020 Treasurer’s Report – Kyle Lamont. Second – Nick Hess. No oppositions. Motion passes. Report approved.
- Judy suggests going forward, we itemize. Allison says she has an itemized copy of the report. Allison is also looking into a better financial database for tracking.

V. 2021 Strategic Focus Areas/Committees Terra Washington, President

- Terra reminds us: not going to let a Zoom pirate steal our joy!
- We have a lot to look forward to and we need all of us to pitch in.
- Public Safety & Roads – Led by Nicole Kimes. She uses the [publicsafety@occoatl.org](mailto:publicsafety@occoatl.org). Captain Cantin with APD will continue to be our liason. He will be invited to meetings and we will set up a separate safety-focused meeting with him for the community.
- Beautification
  - i. Neighborhood Clean Up: led by Carrisa Zedaker once again. Trying to determine which days to do clean ups. Currently do third Saturday of the month 9-11 a.m. As it gets lighter, will add week day back in (previously did Thursday). Carissa is also exploring Keep Atlanta Beautiful Commission and if they can help.
  - ii. Code Enforcement – led by Jason Murphy. He has been great so far about reporting illegal dumping. Dumping can be reported by calling ATL311 or filling out form online.
- Historic Preservation – Diana Chika is leading us. She goes by Chika. Let her know if you’d like to join committee.
- Zoning – led by Kyle Lamont. Laura Glass-Hess will co-chair. Alex Dileo will help, as will Carissa Z.
  - i. Delaying vote on variance request for Geno Yoscovits home. Builder who renovated home built on top of sewer drain. Not up to code (through no fault of his own). 860 Westmont Road SW. Motion to delay vote – Laura Glass-Hess. Allison: second. No opposition. Motion passes.
  - ii. Nick Hess suggests: To report illegal construction work or suspected property violations, call 404-865-8550 or email [CodeBustersDCP@atlantaga.gov](mailto:CodeBustersDCP@atlantaga.gov).
  - iii. Judy says that the flea market on Lee Street next to liquor store has variance sign, but they have not sent info to OCCO yet. He withdrew application last year because it was out of compliance. Kyle will drive by tomorrow to check it out.

- Seniors & Youth Engagement – **Terra invites someone to chair this committee.** We need to look out for our most vulnerable. It would be great to have a chair for Seniors and a different one for Youth.
- Gardens/Trees – Alex and Mike shared free ivy removal (volunteer powered, up to three trees free and low rates for additional). Need volunteers to knock doors and do the actual removal (like gardening on steroids!).
  - i. Removal sign up for residents: <https://forms.gle/btpwuyvtJKi4rTBY9>
  - ii. Volunteer sign up for anyone: <https://volunteer.handsonatlanta.org/opportunity/a0C1H00001M6f9bUAB>
  - iii. Hannah and her husband Antonio want to volunteer, as do Nick Hess and Laura Glass-Hess

VI. Committee Assignments Terra Washington, President

- Terra invited members to indicate in the comments or by sharing with chairs if they'd like to join a committee.
- Parul Reddy indicated interest in learning more. *Reference meeting PowerPoint on OCCOATL.org website and sent via email following meeting.*

VII. Street Captains Terra Washington, President

- If you didn't hear a committee that interests you, you might want to be a Block Captain. Meet your neighbors and make sure everyone is knowledgeable about community events.
- Volunteers: Geno Yoscovits will do Wesmont, Caitlin Highland, Roy Cogdell, Alex Dileo will cover Oakland Drive from Montreat to Donnelly

VIII. Overview of Dues & OCCO Housekeeping Allison Myrick, Treasurer

- Banners – When you purchase banner in your first year, that counts as your dues for the year. In the next year and every year following, we ask for \$25. **Alisa and Hillary paid first dues and want banners.** Allison will arrange.
  - i. You can pay by: paypal go to the OCCOatl.org to the donate page to go to the paypal links <https://www.occoatl.org/donate> and cashapp \$occoatl (no Venmo right now – issues). Allison will also come pick up checks.
- Amazon Smiles – Please sign up.
- Social Media – Follow us on Facebook and Instagram for updates.
- Emailing Mailing List – Make sure you are signed up on our website to receive emails from [occoatl@gmail.com](mailto:occoatl@gmail.com)

VIII. Q&A & Discussion/Announcements All

- Page Bondurant asks for email to be updated in the database ([pagebond08@gmail.com](mailto:pagebond08@gmail.com)). She did not get the email with the agenda.
- Nick Hess will update the Zoom link on NPU-S calendar for these meetings so they are consistent.
- Mary Pearl shared that her neighbor Mrs. John passed in November.

- February 17<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. – Kyle Lamont will lead meeting with Lee + White development.
- Will start printing flyers and mailers for seniors so they know how to get connected to our meetings.
- Street signs – street captains will be asked to put signs out alerting folks of our meeting.
- Barbara Burson – had trouble getting on call.
- Stacey Evans and her assistant Sasha Williams joined. Hosting townhall on Feb 3 with State Senator Sonya Halpern. Please reach out with your opinions and questions. District is 13 miles long with 20 organized neighborhoods. Contact info: State Rep. Stacey Evans: [stacey@staceyevans.com](mailto:stacey@staceyevans.com); 404-275-4135. Sign up for legislative updates and for Feb. 3rd town hall at [www.staceyevans.com](http://www.staceyevans.com)
  - Judy says we are inundated with gambling machines at convenience stores. Need state intervention because we have reported but no luck.
- NPU updates – Contact Nick. Come to meetings! NPU S. chair@npu-s.org (404) 890 0089; next meeting is 2/18. Register beforehand.
- Councilmember Winslow – Demetrius Myatt gives update. CM Winslow did ride around with code enforcement and they made notes and filed things. Pray for her family – her mother passed away at 108.
  - Kyle asks to pass on message for funds for additional cameras as she has done in the past, and ask her to come to an NPU meeting to discuss best placement. Just like what Councilmember Overstreet did for her district – community conversation.
- Comm. Hall update – her aunt passed away at 82. Food giveaway this week – Demetrius can advise. Can also answer questions about COVID vaccine appointments.