

2022 PPCA Annual Meeting Report

We appreciated the more than 60 Peachtree Park neighbors who attended the annual meeting on the evening of Thursday, October 20, 2022. Special thanks to are extended to Maj. Ailen Mitchell, commander of Zone 2, Atlanta Police Department and to Howard Shook, City Council Representative, District 7, for sharing your insights with the members, and to the InterContinental Hotel for hosting the meeting.

The meeting opened with a presentation and lengthy question and answer session with Maj. Mitchell. He reported that violent crime in Zone 2 is down 11 percent for same period last year. The addition of police on bicycles has been effective and will be expanded in 2023. His officers have been aggressive in dealing with water boys resulting in their moving to other parts of the City. There has been very few incidents relative to last year. One of the challenges faced by APD is competition with surrounding police departments that will offer competitive pay for much safer work—every day APD officers go on the job with the knowledge that he/she may be shot at.

Maj. Mitchell praised the officers who conduct our neighborhood patrolling—Patrick Kane, Leon Pilgrim and Kyle Henderson. All of them had served on the SWAT team with Maj. Mitchell. As active, off-duty police officers they have ready access to APD resources whenever an incident warrants.

Councilperson Shook acknowledged the challenge of dealing with restaurants that violate City code by operating as a nightclub. If the property is owned by the restaurant or someone who wants to keep the restaurant opened, they're more than happy to pay whatever fine may be levied as it's such a small percentage of the revenue that's generated.

One of the primary items of business to be conducted was the approval of amendments to the bylaws. The board had reviewed the bylaws in their entirety over the course of the year and proposed amendments that would provide greater clarity and eliminate potentially conflicting language. No changes were made in the authority vested in the board and the members. The amendments were unanimously passed and a copy of the amended bylaws can be found on the PPCA Website.

The officers and committee chairs presented their reports for year to date and fielded questions from the members with the following highlights:

- Welcomed 65 new homeowners into the neighborhood
- Have 322 PPCA members (80% of goal)
- Secured \$7800 in sponsorships (104% of goal)
- While security incidents in the neighborhood have been low, Peachtree Park is bordered by commercial areas that have a relatively number of incidents
- Patrolling by off-duty APD is effective, but costs increased by 57 percent over previous years due to increase in hourly compensation to officers; matching competitive pricing
- The 2022 budget has a built in \$15K deficit to cover the increased security costs
- Deficit spending is not sustainable as other expenses are likely to increase with inflationary pressures
- The Fado happy hour was a huge success and quarterly events will be planned in 2023
- The PPCA is exploring the adoption of a master plan for the neighborhood to help preserve its character and potentially influence the types of development that may take place on its perimeter
- A Peachtree Park entry marker will be constructed at the intersection of Piedmont and Burke that will also honor the memory of longtime resident and PPCA board member David Stoddard

- The 2023 board or directors was announced. Thanks are extended to the current board members for your service and especially to Anne Clark, Laura Miller and Esther Udoji Knoblauch who are completing their terms on the board. We thank the board members who will continue their service and welcome those who will begin their service in January 2023.

The PPCA board announced that membership dues will be increased by \$50 in 2023 for each of the three membership levels—Security, Regular and Senior. This is the first increase in dues since 2017 and is necessitated by increases in security patrolling expenses, landscaping services for common areas and anticipated increases in other expenses due to inflation. The 2022 budgeted anticipated revenues of \$82,500 against expenses of \$98,000. While we were able to absorb the deficit this year with reserve funds, such deficit spending is not sustainable. Some future expenses that may be addressed from the reserve fund outside of the normal operating budget include--\$25,000 for the master plan (if this is pursued), re-landscaping the entrance at Darlington Road, and construction of the Burke Road entrance marker. The dues increases will be reflected when the 2023 membership renewals begin.

The PowerPoint Presentation of officer and committee reports is available on the PPCA Website.