

**Highland Park Neighborhood Association Meeting Notes**  
**Meeting Date: August 8<sup>th</sup>, 2017**

7:00pm: President Glascock called the meeting to order.  
With no changes or edits, the July 2017 meeting minutes were approved.

**Announcements:**

Welcome new residents/attendees

**Police:**

**Officer King attended:**

Incident Report (this month 8.1.17-8.8.17): Burglaries: 2, UBEV: 4, Auto Theft: 0, Robbery: 0

Incident Report (last month): Burglaries: 3, UBEV: 2, Auto Theft: 2, Robbery: 0

Question about house next door to apt. complex; homeowner doing construction and letting construction vehicles park in apt. King said renter at apt. building can sign off on ticket (call South Precinct and wait for police to arrive to sign off on ticket.)

30<sup>th</sup> St. S. and 28<sup>th</sup> St. S. from Highland towards Clairmont – tickets being written for parking violations and police asked to focus here. (E Sanfelippo contacted Gregory with city traffic engineering re: possibility of painting yellow stripes in no parking areas – waiting for reply.)

Warnings/tickets being written for off leash dogs in parks

**General Safety Information:**

If you see something, say something! Call South Precinct: 205-254-2793

Burglaries tend to happen during the day

Surveillance cameras are helpful for BPD, so share footage with them if you have/get it.

Continue to keep an eye out and call police if you see anything suspicious or are the victim of a crime.

If you see finger prints, notify the responding officer so prints can be taken.

**Fire Department: did not attend**

“Get Alarmed” Program is providing residents with a free smoke detector. Contact the Birmingham Fire and Rescue Service Department’s Fire Prevention Bureau at 250-7540 or call the Department’s Public Education Bureau at 785-1332

General Information: Call Police or Fire Department if you see suspicious activity (relating to fires).

**Public Works: Chris Pinke and Tammy Wheeler attended**

**Report from Chris Pinke:**

Trees on the Highland Ave. median between 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> being scheduled for removal.

Orange tags indicate trees being assessed

**Report from Tammie Wheeler:**

Contact her at [tammie.wheeler@birminghamal.gov](mailto:tammie.wheeler@birminghamal.gov) or 205-254-2061 re: inoperable cars and overgrown yards

Graffiti reported on Avalon brick wall along Highland (b/w 30<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> Sts. S.)

Abandoned car on 27<sup>th</sup> place near Highland and Niazuma (between UHaul and apts. On Niazuma)

Shrubbery torn up in front of Park Towers by workers.

Lightpost in median in front of Rojo (closest to Avalon) was hit and bumper is on median.

Furniture and large trash dumped by apt. dwellers without dumpsters on street – ongoing issue.

Contact Ms. Wheeler when you see this, and she can contact apt. bldg. owners to let them know.

32<sup>nd</sup> and Lakeview Crescent house – overgrown. Owner is in court regarding property.

**Request for use of Caldwell Park by First Lutheran Church Sat., Oct. 28<sup>th</sup>, 2017 1-4pm** (exact time to be confirmed) (Park Board now requires 60 days notice for events in parks) for a Halloween Carnival, free and open to all, family friendly with games and snacks

Larry Contri made a motion to approve, motion was seconded (all approved, none opposed)

**Report from City Councilor Valerie Abbott** ([valerie.abbott@birminghamal.gov](mailto:valerie.abbott@birminghamal.gov))

When contacting her, please copy Darryl Lee, her assistant: ([Darryl.lee@birminghamal.gov](mailto:Darryl.lee@birminghamal.gov))

ALDOT footing bill for Hanover Circle repaving – this will take time

New complaints for roads needing repaving are taken on an ongoing basis for future consideration, so please report to 311

Talking with Mayor about program that used to exist where neighborhoods were given 30 trees to plant each year – hopefully program will begin again

Dog park inquiries: 5 Pts. South neighborhood working on strategic plan – including converting Brother Bryan Park into dog park

Large trash and brush schedule – 2x/month. No plans to increase frequency. No appliances.

Evictions – Jefferson County Sheriffs Dept. has to legally empty apt. and leave contents to sit for required amount of time on curb (so that explains some of the piles around our area)

**New Business:**

**Brian Atkinson of CommuteSmart Program.** Visit [commutesmart.org](http://commutesmart.org) for more info.

Incentives for alternative commutes (working from home, carpooling, etc.) Roommates, spouses, etc. all eligible

Database system – enter address, work location, hours, etc. and it helps match you up with others in the area. Vanpool options for longer commutes.

Emergency pickups/rides available.

**Upcoming City Elections on August 22, 2017** (anyone can vote at City Hall at anytime from now until election date): candidates listed attended and spoke

City Council – District 3: Valerie Abbott

School Board Seat – District 3: Larry Contri

**District 3 Debate: Monday, August 14<sup>th</sup> 6-9 at Highlands United Methodist Church in 5 Pts.**

**Senate Election: Tuesday, August 15<sup>th</sup>**

**City Elections: Tuesday, August 22<sup>nd</sup>**

**Old Business:**

**Sister Houses (on Rhodes Park) :** no update

**Rushton Park Community Garden** – (see attached proposed rules and ideas for design of storage shed and fencing) approved with Parks Dept. Now working with Architecture Works on design for storage, fencing, etc. Working with BWB on water supply. Proposed groundbreaking in Oct. and opening in April 2018. This would be first community garden in public city park, and Parks Dept. is excited about this. 30 5x8 plots leased to residents.

Questions: Who will pay for the water and who will prep spigot before freezing weather? \$4,000 to install spigot with a locking mechanism to restrict usage to gardeners. Leasing monies would be used to pay for water. Freeze-proof spigots available.

Fence discussion – ongoing discussion of plan with or without.

Concern over theft of vegetables – (Community gardens in Norwood on abandoned lots – theft from residents has not been an issue) so it may need to be addressed if it becomes a problem.

Storage structure with cistern – plot lessees would have key

Garden Manager would be responsible for emergencies

Working to establish 501c3 to maintain garden, expenses, rules, etc.

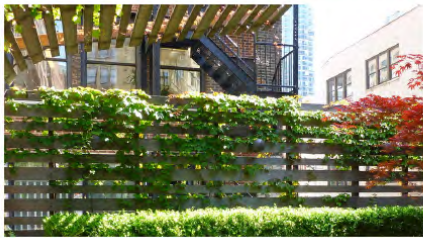
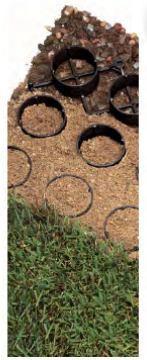
Email [highlandparkgardens@gmail.com](mailto:highlandparkgardens@gmail.com) or [Vwmcdonald90@gmail.com](mailto:Vwmcdonald90@gmail.com) to request a spot or ask questions.

**Variance Request update for proposed townhomes on 30<sup>th</sup> St. S.:** City denied variance request with 3-2 vote

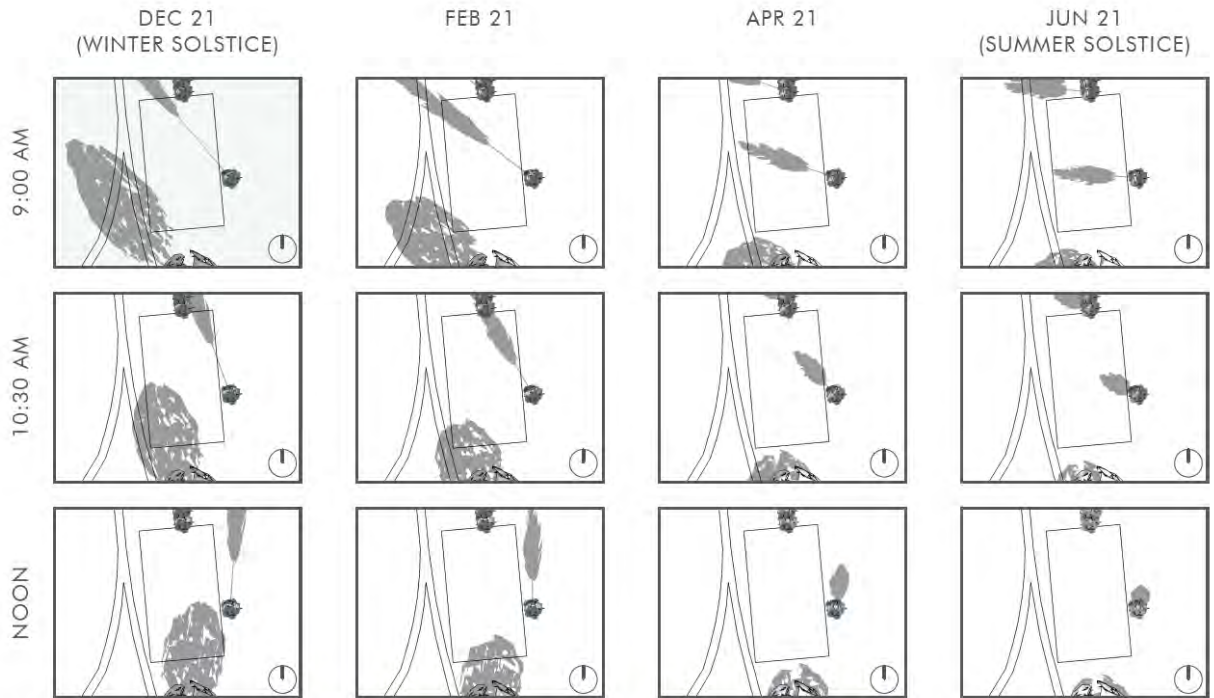
**Adjournment:** With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:25pm.

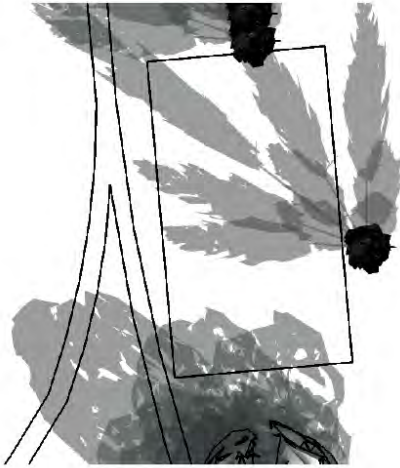
Next meeting will take place at Highland Golf Course (**UPSTAIRS** at the clubhouse) on Tuesday, September 12<sup>th</sup>, 2017 at 7pm.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Elizabeth Sanfelippo  
Secretary, Highland Park Neighborhood Association

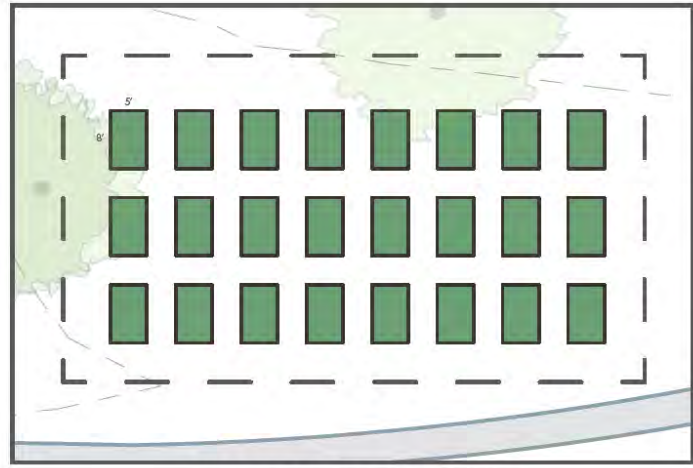








FEBRUARY - OCTOBER  
9AM - NOON



5X8 BEDS IN EXISTING COURT







# Garden Rules

## Rushton Park Community Garden

This document sets out the rules that govern the Rushton Park Community Garden (the "Garden"). These Rules are intended to help all of our Gardeners grow fresh, healthy food in a thriving garden, to help create a sense of community among our gardeners, and to help the Garden to be a good neighbor.

Friends of Rushton Park ("Sponsor" group organized by an ad hoc Steering Committee) sponsors the Garden, and administers these Rules. Every person who has a plot in the Garden (called "Gardeners") must sign a legal agreement with Sponsor in which the Gardener agrees to comply with these Rules.

### Access to the Garden

<b>Season:</b>	The garden is open and accessible all year.
<b>Who May Garden:</b>	Based on availability, garden plots are open to anyone who lives or works in Highland Park.
<b>Hours:</b>	Gardeners may be in the garden from dawn until dusk.
<b>Payment:</b>	Each Gardener will pay a \$40.00 deposit in exchange for a plot. \$20 goes toward supplies and upkeep of the garden. The remaining \$20 deposit will be returned when Gardener returns the plot in tillable condition. The plot should be cut, mulched and composted in preparation for the next gardener.

### Garden Plots

<b>Use of Own Plot:</b>	Gardeners may use only the plots assigned to them. Gardeners will maintain their plants within their plots and will trim any plants that extend into neighboring plots or into common areas. Gardeners may not alter the dimensions of their plot.
<b>Plantings:</b>	Gardeners may plant vegetables, fruits, and flowers. Gardeners may not grow any plants above 4 feet in height.
<b>Supplies:</b>	Gardeners are solely responsible for the planning and management of their own plots, including providing their own seeds, plants, fertilizer, and any tools not provided by the Sponsor or Gardeners collectively.
<b>Organic Methods:</b>	Gardeners are encouraged to garden organically. Gardeners will check with the Garden's Master Gardeners before applying any fertilizers or pesticides. Herbicides and rodenticides are forbidden, even if labeled "organic." Use of compost, organic mulch, and weeding is always acceptable.
<b>Water:</b>	Each Gardener is responsible for watering his or her own plot.
<b>Tools:</b>	Gardeners may bring their own tools into the Garden to use in their plots. Gardeners may not use any power tools, such as those that require gasoline, batteries, or electricity.



## Garden Rules

<b>Plot Maintenance and Trash:</b>	Gardeners will maintain their plots and adjacent paths in a clean and neat fashion, promptly removing any weeds, overgrowth, or other waste from their plot. Gardeners will promptly harvest edible plants. Gardeners are responsible for hauling and disposing of their own trash, such as weeds, boxes, trays, bags, packets, and similar items. Summer gardening begins in early spring. Plots should be weeded and planted by June 1st. Winter gardening begins in late summer. Your plot should be replanted with a winter or cover crop, amended with compost or covered by mulch by October 1st.
<b>Twice Yearly Clean-Up</b>	Gardeners will participate in twice yearly clean-up activities at the Garden on the first Saturday in May and the first Saturday in November.
<b>Absence:</b>	Gardeners may not abandon their plots. Abandonment means failing to maintain a plot for 2 weeks. If a Gardener expects to be away from the Garden for more than 2 weeks, but less than 3 months, he or she must inform the master gardener. The Gardener and the Sponsor will then determine an alternative, such as a temporary substitute, acceptable to both. <b>Gardeners who neglect their plot for more than 2 weeks without notifying the Sponsor will lose their plot and forfeit their deposit.</b>
<b>No Personal Property:</b>	Gardeners may not keep any personal property on their plots or in the Garden when they are not in the Garden.
<b>Common Areas, Common Crops, and Responsibilities</b>	
<b>Common Responsibilities:</b>	Gardeners will keep clean and neat any common areas. Gardeners will promptly report any concerns about the safety of the Garden to the Master Gardener or Sponsor. If there is vandalism, storm damage, or other damage to the Garden, all Gardeners are expected to help in cleaning up and restoring the Garden to its prior condition.
<b>Garden Work Days:</b>	In addition to participating in the twice yearly garden clean up days, Gardeners will participate in 24 hours of scheduled work in the garden throughout the year, assisting and maintaining common areas.
<b>Garden Management:</b>	The Neighborhood Association and the Parks and Recreation Board will designate a Master Gardener to be the official point of contact for the garden. The Sponsor, under the guidance of the Neighborhood Association and the Parks and Recreation Board is authorized to interpret the Rules and make decisions regarding the Garden.

## Garden Rules

<b>Communication:</b>	Communication will take place through the Sponsor's email. Gardeners must tell the Master Gardeners of any change in their contact e-mail addresses or phone numbers.
<b>Gardener Input:</b>	Gardeners are encouraged to provide suggestions about Garden operations to the Master Gardeners. Gardeners should contact the Sponsor directly at the email provided by the Sponsor with any questions relating to day-to-day operational matters (not the Neighborhood Association or the Parks and Recreation Board).
<b>Gardener Orientation:</b>	New Gardeners must annually attend an orientation to become familiar with how the Garden functions and their responsibilities as a Gardener.
<b>Annual Meeting</b>	Once a year, all Gardeners will be invited to an annual meeting to notify Gardeners of any changes made in how the Garden operates and to discuss any issues or concerns. The Sponsor will give written notice of the annual meeting, sent by email no fewer than 14 days in advance.
<b>Conduct</b>	
<b>General Conduct:</b>	Gardeners are expected to be civil, honest, and cooperative in dealing with the Park, the Sponsor, the Neighborhood Association, Garden neighbors, other Gardeners, and guests of other Gardeners.
<b>Guests:</b>	Gardeners may bring guests, including children, into the Garden, provided that the guests comply with the Rules. Gardeners will supervise any child under the age of sixteen. Gardeners will be responsible for the conduct of children and their guests including making sure they do not damage or interfere with activities on other plots or otherwise engage in inappropriate conduct. Guest violations of these Rules are treated as violations by the Gardener.
<b>Pets:</b>	Gardeners may not bring pets into the garden.
<b>Respect Others Property</b>	Gardeners may not enter other plots, use another Gardener's tools or supplies, or harvest another Gardener's produce, without the explicit permission of the other Gardener.
<b>Compliance:</b>	Gardeners must comply with all applicable park rules.
<b>Smoking:</b>	Gardeners may not smoke in the Garden.



## Garden Rules

<b>No Alcohol/Drug Use:</b>	Gardeners may not consume or use alcohol or illegal drugs while on the Garden premises. Gardeners may not come into the Garden while under the influence of alcohol or illegal drugs.
<b>No Fires/No Cooking:</b>	Gardeners may not start or maintain a campfire, burn weeds, or use a barbecue grill, or cook in the Garden with the exception of Garden-wide events.
<b>No Loud Music:</b>	Gardeners may not play music nor the radio loud enough to be a nuisance to other Gardeners or to the Garden's neighbors.
<b>Problems</b>	
<b>Dispute Resolution:</b>	Gardeners will raise with the Sponsor any disputes about the Garden or with fellow Gardeners. The Sponsor will have the power to hear these disputes and will resolve them in the best interest of the Garden.
<b>Rules Violations:</b>	Gardeners may lose their rights to participate in the Garden if they fail to comply with any of these Rules. If a Gardener: endangers other Gardeners, neighbors, or other individuals; takes or uses another Gardener's tools, supplies, or produce without permission; encroaches on Garden neighbors' property; grows illegal plants; uses alcohol or illegal drugs in the Garden, the Sponsor may, at its discretion, terminate immediately the Gardener's right to participate in the Garden. Terminated Gardeners are not entitled to any refunds or other payments from the Sponsor.
<b>Changes in the Rules:</b>	The Sponsor, with approval from the Neighborhood Association and the Parks and Recreation Board, may amend these Rules at its discretion without advance notice. The Sponsor will provide all Gardeners with a copy of the current Rules and will summarize any changes in the next annual meeting. The Gardeners, through the Sponsor, may propose Rules for the Sponsor's consideration.
<b>No Discrimination:</b>	We will not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, disability, age, medical condition, ancestry, marital status, citizenship, sexual orientation, gender identity, or status as a veteran.



