

Highland Park Neighborhood Association Meeting Minutes
Meeting Date: November 9th, 2018

7:00pm: President Glascock called the meeting to order.
With no corrections or edits, October 2018 minutes approved.

Announcements: Welcome new residents/attendees

Public Works: (Tammie Wheeler did not attend)

Contact **Tammie Wheeler** at tammie.wheeler@birninghamal.gov or 205-254-2061 re: inoperable cars and overgrown yards (and furniture and large trash dumped on street by apt. dwellers without dumpsters. She can contact apt. bldg. owners to let them know).

Environmental Code Supervisor: Debra Dubose (Debra.Dubose@birninghamal.gov)

For sidewalks being damaged by trees, contact Randal Smith (randald.smith@birninghamal.gov) with urban forestry.

Horticulture Dept. has a mobile watering source for when we want to plant some trees.

Citizen Concerns/Questions:

Trash near border of St. Vincent's Hospital property and Hanover Circle (A. Glascock and Brian McFarley of St. Vincent's to look at it.)

Police: Officer King attended

He is our 323 Beat Officer from 11 AM to 9 PM Monday through Thursday. 323 Beat area covers from Tom and Jerry's (Chevron near Western on Highland) to Clairmont Ave. to Crestwood, Redmont, and part of 280.

Incident Report for 323 Beat (includes areas other than Highland Park): details pulled from <https://data.birninghamal.gov/dataset?tags=Crime>

Aug. 2018: Auto Thefts 3, Burglaries 18, Robberies 1, Thefts 9, UBEVs 12, Other 2

Sept. 2018: Auto Thefts 1, Burglaries 4, Robberies 1, Thefts 9, UBEVs 6, Other 1

Oct. 2018: Auto Thefts 3, Burglaries 5, Robberies 2, Thefts 9, UBEVs 12, Other 4

Helpful definitions from <https://blogs.findlaw.com>:

Burglary: "Burglary is simply the unlawful entry into a structure, such as a home or business, with the intent to commit a crime inside."

Robbery: "Robbery is essentially theft accomplished through the use of physical force or fear."

Theft: "A theft occurs any time there in an unauthorized taking of property from another with the intent to permanently deprive that person of the property."

Citizen Concerns/Questions:

Pkg. thief has not yet been caught.

Package theft is a big issue right now. Utilize pick up services at UPS stores, have packages delivered to work, ask delivery people to put packages in less visible areas, ask neighbors to take them inside. Two package thieves have recently been arrested.

Request for more Parking Enforcement on Highland Crescent.

Contact police if fire hydrants are blocked 328-9311.

Police can ticket and/or tow if cars are blocking driveways or limiting one's ability to enter/exit a driveway.

Crime is trending down because of increased patrols, resident reports and information, and a major perpetrator was caught and arrested several months ago.

General Safety Information:

If you see something, say something! ALWAYS report suspicious activities or items, etc. to the police. Non-emergency number is **205-328-9311**.

Do not leave bags valuables etc. in your car.

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

Reminder to check your smoke alarms and replace batteries.

AGENDA ITEMS:**Graffiti Task Force Report from Dehryl Mason:**

Group is meeting with interested people to discuss a plan, assess areas, contact city/owners, help clean up. Bham Code mandates cleanup on private property within 15 days. Ideally within the first 40 days of Cities of Service program, graffiti is cleaned up within 1 day. Email:

dehryl.mason@gmail.com to volunteer.

UAB Student Project – mapping sidewalks in need of repairs, dilapidated buildings, and graffiti Survey emailed, posted online on nextdoor.com and Facebook open until 11/23/18 to report locations and severity.

Report from City Council President Valerie Abbott via her Assistant Marcus Odell:

When emailing Abbott (Valerie.abbott@birninghamal.gov), copy Odell

(marcus.odell@birninghamal.gov) and Darry.lee@birninghamal.gov

District 3 Community Forum: Tues., Nov. 20 @ Botanical Gardens with Council President

Abbott and Mayor Woodfin. 5-5:50pm: meet city dept. heads, 6pm Abbott and Woodfin to speak

See www.birminghamdistrict3.com for helpful information.

New large trash and brush will probably be running on a three week schedule cycle until new trucks arrive.

Councilors Scales and Tyson have taken new positions on the Jefferson County Commission.

Committee of the Whole met about sidewalks and found that 60% of city sidewalks are not ADA compliant. Sidewalk plan in the works for entire city.

Results of Neighborhood Elections (Oct. 30):

Elizabeth Sanfelippo - President

Jessica Powers - Vice President

Judy Jones – Secretary

New officers take office in January 2019

New Business:**Complaints/Questions/Suggestions:**

Report items to 311 by calling 254 – city. You can also email sandra.ray@birninghamal.gov to report 311 issues so that the city can track them and we can follow up on them with the specific ID #.

President Glascock reviewed some of the requests from the survey done recently regarding spending discretionary funds that were not selected and may prove difficult to address from an NA standpoint: sidewalks, parking, dilapidated houses, lighting (issues can be handled by AL Power using this link

<https://customerservice2.southerncompany.com/Outages/Report/Information?mnuOpco=APC>), making certain streets 1 way, dog park (5 Pts. South NA is working on one at Brother Bryan Park), recycling bins with city trash cans, cameras (city is working on this), Rushton Park stone pathway repair, CAP (City Action Partnership) patrols, stop sign at intersection by Sheraton apts. On Highland Ave., sponsors for additional poop bag stations

Old Business:

St. Vincent's revised Master Plan was approved by the Planning Commission. Neighbors are encouraged to report if the Fire Lane by McDonald's is not gated and landscaping buffers are not planted and maintained.

Discretionary Funds for Avondale Elementary field trip will be used to go see Annie Jr. at the Virginia Samford Theater.

Trees on Right of Ways (areas between sidewalks and streets) are city property. You must contact the city before removing, planting, etc.

Traffic study that was done several years ago is being reviewed by the city traffic engineer (James Fowler)

Halloween Trail Along Highland went well. Thanks to Jasmine Allen, Eva Bank, and participants (including Rojo, Clubhouse on Highland, O'Henrys, Snap Fitness, Freddy's)

Adjournment: With no further business the meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:00 PM.

Next meeting will be Tuesday, December 11th, 2018 at 7pm Upstairs at Highland Golf Clubhouse.

Respectfully Submitted,
Elizabeth Sanfelippo
Secretary, Highland Park Neighborhood Association