

Highland Park Neighborhood Association Meeting Notes
Meeting Date: December 11th, 2018

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

Announcements: Welcome new residents/attendees

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 includes all of 323 beat (additional neighborhoods included): last month: Burglary: 6, UBEV (unauthorized breaking and entering of a vehicle): 28, Auto Theft: 1, Robbery: 2. This month 12.1.18-12.11.18: Burglary: 0, UBEV: 3, Auto Theft: 1, Robbery: 0.

Citizen Concerns/Questions:

Update: 2 perps who recently broke into home on Highland Crescent at 2pm were caught and arrested thanks to teller at Regions Bank (who suspected a check was fraudulent and contacted the homeowner), the homeowner who notified Officer King (who responded to the incident), and evidence tech who helped confirm fingerprints. Both perps caught and arrested.

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.

General Safety Information:

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

ALWAYS report suspicious activities or items, etc. to the police. Non-emergency number is 205-328-9311.

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.

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.

Public Works: (Tammie Wheeler attended)

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).

Citizen Concerns/Questions:

Tree down on Lakeview Crescent

311 system has been non-functional but is being re-vamped for 2019

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.

Abandoned Cars Procedure: 1. Citizen reports it to BPD; 2.city puts sticker on it; if still there after 24hrs call to ask BPD to “Issue Citation;” and if still there after 24 hours call to request it be towed.

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

Fire Department: did not attend

AGENDA ITEMS:

Graffiti Task Force Update:

Report to Highland Park Neighborhood Association

GRAFITTI BUSTERS Volunteer Committee, December 11, 2018

At the November meeting, Dehryl Mason announced the formation of a task force to eradicate graffiti in Highland Park. She asked those present to volunteer if interested. The model used will be one from Cities of Service. A notice was posted on Next Door Highland Park and more volunteers signed up. The first meeting was held December 2, 2018 at the home of Melissa Robillard and her husband. The process was presented, with input from volunteers and sections of HP were assigned to volunteers to map and document graffiti. A map of all reported graffiti will be created - and current graffiti mapping by the UAB student project will be included. Next meeting will be in January 2019 when the task force will begin plans for removal. All graffiti is evaluated if on public or private property, the surface it is on, etc.

Thanks to the neighborhood volunteers:

Judy Jones, Jeffrey Wurst, Ashley Lewis, Melanie Jackson, Jerry Moore, Mary Fisher, Judy Moore, Keshia Lightner, Mary Helen Crowe, Susan Norman, Jon Splaine, Melodie Mobley, Melissa Robillard, Emme Blackenship

Separately, E. Sanfelippo contacted the City Public Works department who have removed graffiti from a city retaining wall.

Submitted,

Dehryl Mason, Chairwoman

Anne Sunkel, Chair Assist

UAB Mapping Project: UAB Student Meghan L. reported that the project to collect data from neighbors about sidewalk issues, dilapidated houses, and graffiti was completed. [Link to map.](#)

Thank you to Meghan and her classmates.

Spending Committee Discretionary Funds (update from A. Glascock):

\$1,000 Bags to refill dog waste stations – may be a problem bc FIDO is not 501c3

\$1,000 Avondale Elementary arts/theater related field trip (processed)

\$1,000 AEC (Alabama Environmental Council) (processed)

\$0 – (previously \$1000) Rushton Park playground improvements (postponed and looking into possibility of St. Vincent’s and Independent Presbyterian Church partnership)

\$2300 for trees – 3 gingkoes, 3 Japanese Maples, 3 Oaks

Tree total with delivery is anticipated (\$3100); E. Sanfelippo made a motion to re-allocate part of the previously allocated playground money to the additional cost of the trees. J. Somerset seconded motion. All approved, 0 opposed. Motion approved.

Committee will work with current leadership and city departments to fund and implement these projects.

Longer term planning to address: master plan, tree planting, playground improvements at Rushton Park, Community Garden donation, sidewalk and brick repairs, potholes and lighting in alleys.

AEC Recycling Center in Avondale is now closed. Alabama Environmental Council will continue working on “addressing environmental and conservation needs in Alabama.” Visit AEOnline.org for more information and for other recycling centers nearby.

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

When emailing Abbott (Valerie.abbott@birninghamal.gov), copy Odell (marcus.odell@birninghamal.gov) and Darryl Lee (Darryl.lee@birninghamal.gov).

Check out District 3's (7 neighborhoods) website with helpful information:

www.birminghamdistrict3.com.

New Business:

Thanks to President Alison Glascock and Vice President Carl Sosnin for their years of service and dedication to the Highland Park Neighborhood!

Judy Jones spoke about Karen Armstrong's book *12 Steps to a Compassionate Life* and an upcoming speaker series about compassion and being a compassionate neighborhood the 3rd Sundays at the Clubhouse on Highland.

A. Lewis mentioned problems with bricks in sidewalks – particularly around Caldwell Park. He will look into cost to repair via private funds (or possible partnership). Sidewalk Committee is being formed to address these issues and work with city hall to hopefully get repaired.

501c3 to be formed to allow for accepting donations for various things not allowed to be funded with NA funds (committee to be formed at upcoming meeting. E. Sanfelippo to follow up with J. Guin (attorney who began drafting docs several years ago) to see if we can use his docs.

S. Nelson mentioned possible grants for National Historic Districts for Urban Maintenance and Renewal.

Old Business:

None

Adjournment: With no further business the meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:05 PM.

Next meeting will be Tuesday, January 8th, 2018 at 7pm Upstairs at Highland Golf Clubhouse.

Respectfully Submitted,
Elizabeth Sanfelippo
Secretary, Highland Park Neighborhood Association