Sembler Zoning Application Approved At April 2 Hearing

The following summary was written by Kathy Evans, VP of Planning from Lake Claire Neighbors. [Editor's Note: Views expressed are not necessarily those of CPNO, nor is any endorsement implied.]

The [Sembler/Atlanta Gas Light development] application was approved. To me, a few omissions/concerns remain:

1) the overall mixed-use component: no mention of office space, cavalier treatment of concurrency requirement (only 120 housing units required to be built initially rather than the 338/432 recommended); plus 52 housing units are destroyed, which are truly affordable as opposed to rentals being built;
2) the loss of the 52 newly renovated units of affordable housing;
3) the public transit problem is not solved with a week-end only, peak-time shuttle or with a shuttle at all. As ARC said, the nature of the development results in a giant missed opportunity for utilizing two MARTA stations;
4) the buffering of residential/commercial uses (required by the Comprehensive Development Plan) was dismissed;
5) less than 2 acres of pervious surfaces on-site versus the 3 acres recommended by the City and the 6 acres voted on by Organized Neighbors of Edgewood (ONE) and NPU-O.

Natalyn Archibong said Sembler will give Edgewood $200,000 for off-site greenspace (meaning a small park in Edgewood).

6) Sembler will give $100,000 to Inman Park and Candler Park for traffic “calming.”
(Added note: Anne Fauver, Debi Starnes and 2 other council members met with Sembler on Tuesday about the traffic concerns. Apparently they received a huge amount of e-mails, faxes and calls from Candler Park. Sembler agreed to give $100,000 for traffic studies/calming for intersections within a 1/2 mile radius of the development. In Candler Park this includes the intersections at Oakdale & McLendon and Clifton & McLendon. In Inman Park, it includes several intersections near Moreland.

I was pleased that Mary Norwood said for the record that the surrounding neighborhoods are not pleased and feel under-represented. I was very pleased with Anne Fauver’s words and am taking heed of her admonition to look at zoning on DeKalb Avenue. Anne said that the inconsistent zoning in these neighborhoods opened the way for this development. I was pleased with Howard Shook’s comments and especially that he raised stormwater concerns. I think the stormwater management issue could be the biggest one of all for Sembler. It was the only thing that made their folks stir and buzz a bit. I think they know they have a problem that may not be easy to solve, especially when they reduce 10 acres of pervious surfaces to less than two acres on a site with a history of flooding.

—Kathy Evans, Lake Claire Neighbors
Poncey-Highland Residents Recover From Blaze

One of the older apartment buildings on North Avenue at Moreland Avenue, North High Ridge Apartments, was burned almost totally to the ground early last month. It was a blaze that, fortunately, left nobody hurt or killed, but left the tenants of all 24 units homeless and with all their personal belongings lost.

If you can help by donating any items—and they need everything—or have a room or apartment for rent, please either email njhightrelic@yahoo.com or contact Chantal, the property manager for these apartments who is helping the Salvation Army coordinate the relief efforts. She can be reached at 404-870-9317. You also have the option of contacting Carmichael Management directly at 404-892-3133. Please help our neighbors.

—Anna Copello, President, Poncey Highland Neighborhood Assoc.

Wine Tasting Dinner
April 15 At Flying Biscuit

On Tuesday, April 15, at 7 pm, the Flying Biscuit joins with Candler Park SuperMarket to host a wine tasting dinner to raise money to benefit the Candler Park Pool.

The restaurant will be serving a set, four-course meal (vegetarian option available), complete with a different wine at each course, provided by the Candler Park Supermarket, home of the best wine selection this side of town.

Seating is limited to forty people, so hurry and make your reservation. As of press time, there were still plenty of spaces available, so call today!

The cost of the dinner is $50 per person, with all proceeds going to the pool.

To make reservations: Call the Flying Biscuit at 4/687-8888. If you have questions, call George Dusenbury at 4/373-0428.

Candler Park 5K Run Returns For 2003... details to come!

Laughter in the Park by Deb Milbrath
Weekend Of Freedom

On the weekend of May 10, local merchants will be partnering with the Freedom Park Conservancy to raise funds for improvements to Freedom Park. Participating merchants have generously agreed to donate a portion of sales from these days to the park. These funds will be used to improve landscaping, remove kudzu, install garbage cans and water fountains, and make other park improvements.

Participating merchants will display a poster with the Freedom Park Conservancy Logo (right) announcing their involvement with this fund raising event. Additionally, a current list of participating merchants can be found at the Freedom Park Website—www.freedompark.org.

Since these merchants are showing a commitment to the neighborhood, let’s show our commitment to them by patronizing them throughout the year but especially during this Weekend of Freedom.

—Eric Dusenbury

Play Saturdays At DHPC

Druid Hills Presbyterian Church invites your kids and you to join us on the first and third Saturday of each month for Play Saturdays. Instead of having our new playground sit idle on Saturday mornings we have decided to open it up to the community. Our first play session will be from 10:00 am to Noon on Saturday May 3.

The playground is separated into an older kid’s area and an area for children under 4. The older kid’s area includes a climbing wall, swings, sand play area, and a structure with multiple slides and climbing access. The younger kid’s area has the same elements only smaller (no climbing wall).

In addition to the playground we will be shutting down part of our parking lot so kids can play basketball, four square, or ride their bikes. The church will provide drinks and snacks and there will be access to a restroom and a changing area. Druid Hills Presbyterian Church is located at 1026 Ponce De Leon Ave directly across from Publix.

No reservations are required, but please feel free to contact Eric Dusenbury at 4/584-4222 or dusenbur@bellsouth.net if you have any questions. Pictures of the playground can be found on our web site at www.dhpc.org.

—Eric Dusenbury

Join The Candler Park Pool!

Don’t miss your day in the sun!

Print out an application from the Candler Park website, www.candlerpark.org.

There is a Power for Good in the Universe and You Can Use It!

Unleash the creative power and potential of your mind!

Come celebrate the uniqueness of you

Trinity Church of Religious Science
Creating Your Own Divine Experience

Religious Science is a spiritual teaching that teaches God is within each person and our spiritual journey is to manifest our Divinity through the power of Love and Positive Thinking. Religious Science draws upon the spiritual teachings of all the world’s religions and metaphysical teachers. Religious Science is founded on the scientific principle of Cause and Effect—that what we think becomes the reality we experience in life. The Trinity Church of Religious Science welcomes everyone and is as diverse as the people in our community. Services are held every Sunday at 11:00 am at The Fraser Center, 1815 S. Ponce De Leon Ave, Atlanta. For more information call 404-394-4874 or e-mail your name and address to info@trinitycs.org


JOHN THE LAWNGUY – Mowing, blowing, etc., aeration, gutters, free estimates, reasonable. 404-638-6378.

MURPHY’S YARD SERVICE – General yardwork, mowing, cleanup. FREE estimates. 404-622-1822.


PIANO – tuning, repairs, rebuilding, sales. Lessons all ages, levels. 404-378-8310.

The Epworth Church at Candler Park
Multiplying God’s Love
at the corner of Mell and McLendon
An Inclusive Church

Experience Holy Week and Easter With Us.

Palm Sunday, April 15, 10:30 am: Parade of Palms down Ponce with Neighbor Churches. Meet here and parade to Druid Hills Methodist, then Druid Hills Baptist where our Rev. Mary Jane Cormell will preach.

Thursday, April 17, 7:00 pm: Maundy Thursday Service.

Easter Sunday, April 21, 9:00 am: Garden Communion Service
11:00 am: Traditional Easter Service
6:30 pm: Worship Unplugged around back at Enoch’s Coffee House

Druid Hills Presbyterian Church
1026 Ponce De Leon Ave., across from Publix • 404-875-7591 • www.dhpc.org • dhpcusa@yahoo.com

CRIME REPORT


400 block Sterling Ave., 2/20, 9p, aggressive and violent behavior.

600 block Clifton Rd., 2/20, 1p, suspicious mail containing threatening message.

1200 block McLendon Ave., 2/20, stolen vehicle.

1300 block McLendon Ave., 2/22, 5p, break-in with attempted arson, previous tenant left under suspicious circumstances.

300 block Moreland Ave., 2/28, 12a, person in car grabbed victim by the shirt and pointed a small revolver at him. No one was hurt.

1300 block Iverson St., 3/2, 6p, Door to house was found open. Nothing appeared missing.

500 block Moreland Ave., 3/3, 12a, Officer responded to report of fight. One individual was found to have a current warrant and was turned over to Sheriff’s office.

500 block Clifton Rd., 3/4, vehicle forcibly entered, items taken.

1200 block Euclid Ave., 3/6, 5p, stolen bicycle, suspect apprehended.

300 block Moreland Ave., 3/7, damage to vehicle in parking lot.

1200 block McLendon Ave., 3/10, stolen vehicle.

400 block Moreland Ave., 3/12, 2p, public drinking from vodka bottle, one person arrested.

400 block Oakdale Rd., 3/11, vehicle entered, items taken.

1600 block Dekalb Ave., 3/14, 9p, pedestrian robbery, items forcibly taken from victim, no injuries resulted.

LAND USE ISSUES

The following land use issues are scheduled to be heard and voted on at the April CPNO meeting. Deadline for land use issues to be voted on at the May CPNO meeting must be submitted prior to April 18.

596-614 PAGE AVENUE – Yvonne Head (c/o Chris Bailey, agent), owner of an undeveloped lot of former DOT property on the west side of Page Avenue, south of Clifton Terrace (possibly designated by lot address between 596 and 614 Page Avenue), subject to Special Public Interest 7 (Subarea 2) zoning, seeks a variance to increase the maximum front yard setback from 55 feet (required) to 200 feet (proposed) to construct a new two-story single-family residence. This matter will be heard by NPU-N on Thursday April 24th at 7PM at Epworth Methodist Church, followed by hearing on both the variance and applicant’s Certificate of Appropriateness by the City of Atlanta Urban Design Commission at its first regularly scheduled meeting in May.

505 TERRACE AVENUE – Denton and Pam Herbik (c/o Karin Mahmoodi, agent), owners of an existing single-family residential property at 505 Terrace Avenue, subject to R-4 zoning, seek a variance to increase the floorspace allowance for an accessory structure from 30% of main structure (required) to 121% (proposed) to construct a new two-story garage and home office in the rear yard. Applicant has advised that existing main structure contains approximately 1300 square feet of floor area, while proposed structure will have 1568 square feet of floor area. This matter will be heard by NPU-N on Thursday April 24th at Epworth Methodist Church, followed by hearing by the City of Atlanta Board of Zoning Adjustment on May 2nd at City Hall, 2nd Floor Council Chambers.

Maya is happy to help you with all your real estate needs this Spring!

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