



# MESSENGER

January 2019

## Volunteer in 2019!

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# 2019: The Year You Volunteer

By Dana Fowle, [president@candlerpark.org](mailto:president@candlerpark.org)



## Happy New Year!

I mention this a lot because I think it matters: Candler Park Neighborhood Organization is run by volunteers. And community members are running some pretty big projects in their free time: Candler Park Conservancy, Fall Fest, Freedom Park Conservancy, CPNO Sidewalk Committee, Neighborhood Planning Unit, Page Avenue Halloween bash, even porch parties.

Two neighbors have just agreed to become board members on the newly created Little 5 Points Alliance, a group designed to rehab L5P. It's a big, personal commitment. But there are folks who drop in for one-time projects like the CPNO yard sale who are also invaluable.

If I could make one thing on my New Year's wish list come true, it would be to bring in new volunteers. We need fresh bodies. The neighborhood is filling up with young singles, couples and families who really should be taking over helping to create the path forward for Candler Park.

The annual Candler Park Easter Egg Hunt would be a great first start. This will be our 13th year if we can find a few folks to take it over. Our parents from years past no longer have children

## PRESIDENTIAL BRIEFING

who participate and are moving on. I promise, this is an easy one. Saturday night there is a fun egg stuffing party then Sunday morning eggs are hidden, and by afternoon the eggs are found and in baskets.

CPNO membership is at an all-time high, so you're interested in the community; we know that.

Believe me when I say that once the Candler Park Vision Plan is a reality or the neighborhood sidewalks are repaired, those behind the scenes who rolled up their shirt sleeves and made it happen, will say proudly as they walk by, 'Oh, I had a hand in that.'

So think about it. Think about having a porch party to meet your neighbors. Think about selling CPNO swag at Fall Fest. Think about taking on a leadership role this time next year. We'd love to have you.

The mission of the Candler Park Neighborhood Organization is to promote the common good and general welfare in the neighborhood known as Candler Park in the city of Atlanta.

## BOARD of DIRECTORS

<b>PRESIDENT</b> <a href="mailto:president@candlerpark.org">president@candlerpark.org</a>	Dana Fowle
<b>MEMBERSHIP OFFICER</b> <a href="mailto:membership@candlerpark.org">membership@candlerpark.org</a>	Jennifer Wilds
<b>TREASURER</b> <a href="mailto:treasurer@candlerpark.org">treasurer@candlerpark.org</a>	Rohini Kukreja
<b>SECRETARY</b> <a href="mailto:secretary@candlerpark.org">secretary@candlerpark.org</a>	Bonnie Palter 404-525-6744
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<b>PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICER</b> <a href="mailto:safety@candlerpark.org">safety@candlerpark.org</a>	Lexa King
<b>COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER</b> <a href="mailto:communications@candlerpark.org">communications@candlerpark.org</a>	Roger Bakeman
<b>FUNDRAISING OFFICER</b> <a href="mailto:fundraising@candlerpark.org">fundraising@candlerpark.org</a>	Chris Fitzgerald
<b>EXTERNAL AFFAIRS OFFICER</b> <a href="mailto:externalaffairs@candlerpark.org">externalaffairs@candlerpark.org</a>	Matt Kirk

Find a complete list of CPNO committee chairs, representatives and other contacts at [www.candlerpark.org](http://www.candlerpark.org).

## MEETINGS

CPNO Members Meetings are held every third Monday at First Existentialist Congregation, 470 Candler Park Drive.

Committee meetings take place at The Neighborhood Church, 1561 McLendon Ave., unless otherwise announced (enter from the street level door and ring the bell if you're late).

All are welcome. Only registered members are eligible to vote at monthly meetings. Membership applications must be received by Membership Officer by the first day of the month of meeting.

Find specific meeting information on page 6 and a complete list of CPNO meetings at [www.candlerpark.org](http://www.candlerpark.org).

## MEMBERSHIP

CPNO membership is free to Candler Park residents, property owners and businesses. Membership must be renewed annually.

Sign up at [www.candlerpark.org](http://www.candlerpark.org) or mail name, address, and email to

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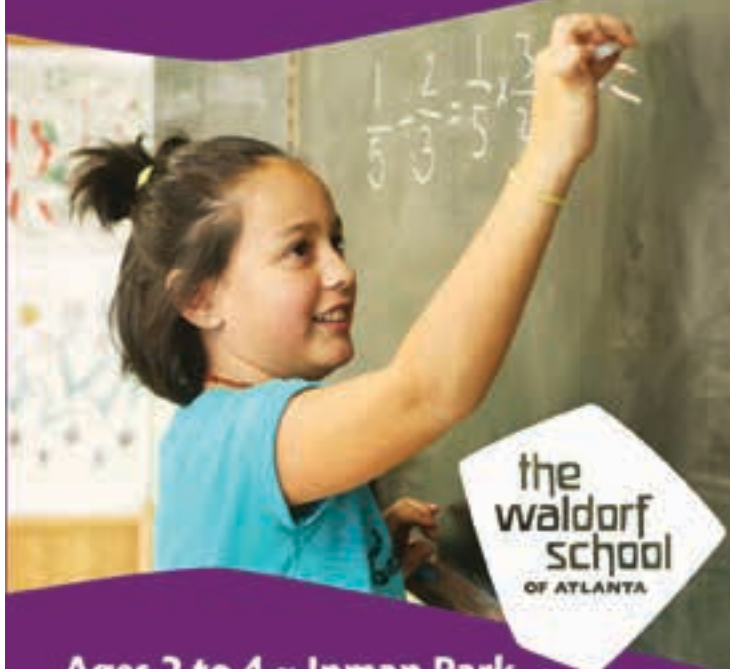
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## Deadline and Guidelines for Messenger Contributions

By Susan Rose, [editor@candlerpark.org](mailto:editor@candlerpark.org)

Over the past couple of years, the deadline for submitting content and photos to the Messenger has been loosely around the 20th of the month. Beginning in January, all content must be submitted by the 15th of the month (with the exception of CPNO meeting minutes.) The Messenger always seeking volunteer writers and photographers to submit content that is relevant to the Candler Park neighborhood. If you enjoy writing and taking photos, this is a great opportunity to get published. If you have ideas for articles and photo features, you can discuss with me or simply submit them for publication. (Note: Any submissions that are considered to be disrespectful, inflammatory, inappropriately biased, or inaccurate may be rejected.) Provide your written submission in a Word document with author noted in byline. Please contact me at [editor@candlerpark.org](mailto:editor@candlerpark.org) if you have questions or ideas for the Messenger.

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## THE MESSENGER

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The Messenger is the monthly newsletter of the Candler Park Neighborhood Organization. Articles reflect the opinions of authors, and not necessarily those of CPNO, the CPNO Board of Directors, the Messenger or the editor.

Articles must be signed and submitted via email to [editor@candlerpark.org](mailto:editor@candlerpark.org) by the 18th of the month prior to publication.

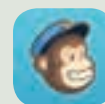
If you have a news tip or story idea, please email relevant information including contacts to [editor@candlerpark.org](mailto:editor@candlerpark.org) or call the editor.

If you live in CP or own a business in CP, and aren't receiving the Messenger by mail, be sure to notify us! Send your name and address to [editor@candlerpark.org](mailto:editor@candlerpark.org). Place the words "Messenger Delivery" in the subject line.

## CP ONLINE

For the most up-to-date information on Candler Park events and news, check us out on the Web at [candlerpark.org](http://candlerpark.org).

## JOIN CPNO TO GET EMAIL BLASTS



To receive informative email blasts, sign up online to become a CPNO member. We don't spam!

## MESSAGES & CRIME ON NEXTDOOR



Join the Candler Park group at [candlerpark.nextdoor.com](http://candlerpark.nextdoor.com) to keep up on crime reports and other messages.

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## DATES TO REMEMBER

### January

- 7** Atlanta Public Schools students back to school
- 14** CPNO Board Meeting, 7 pm, The Wondershop
- 21** Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday CPNO Members Meeting, 7 pm, 1st Existentialist Church

*In case of cancellations or changes, check CPNO's online Events at [candlerpark.org](http://candlerpark.org). For meetings at Epworth, knock on door at street level to get in. All CPNO meetings are open to the public.*



## Neighbors Compete in Holiday Bake Off

At the December CPNO members meeting, neighbors brought their best holiday desserts for a fierce competition in deliciousness. From holiday cookies to candy cane gingerbread, the selection was delightful. As we didn't have a restaurant sponsor for the meeting, Jennifer Wilds stepped up and arranged for ham and salad to properly prepare all of us for the desserts. Winning third place in the bake off was Nancy Porteous who was edged out by Maria Crawford winning second. The overall winner was Silvia Edelstein with her amazing Lemon Curd Pavlova with Papaya and Rosewater Pomegranate. Thanks to all for a festive and delicious holiday meeting!



**Lemon Curd Pavlova with Papaya and Rosewater Pomegranate by Silvia Edelstein**

## The Rescue

*By Sawyer and Layla Klehr (ages 5 and 9) (with a little help from Mommy)*



**The cat rescue team from Fire Stateion No. 12 and Lake Claire neighbors after Trouble was safe again on the ground.**

We were eating dinner in our house on Hardendorf Avenue, and then we heard sirens. We went to look out the window and saw not one, but 2 Fire Station No. 12 fire trucks pass by. Of course we were so curious, that we went outside and saw our neighbor's cat stuck high up a huge, old oak tree. By the time we got there, the fireman was way up his ladder, trying to get the cat down. We wondered why there were two fire trucks, and it turned out that the first fire truck didn't have a ladder long enough. As it turned out, the second ladder wasn't tall enough either!

The fireman yelled and tried waving at the cat. Apparently, the cat didn't like that, so he started jumping down to a lower branch before falling to the ground, unharmed. Everyone cheered. Who knew that the fireman really rescue cats? We thought it was only in books! The best part of the story is that the cat's name is Trouble!



# A Reason To Celebrate! Mulberry Fields Is 20 Years Old!

By Stephanie Van Parys, Executive Director, Wylde Center



Many, many years ago, an acre of land accessed by an alley off of Iverson Street in Candler Park was preserved as a community greenspace when two neighbors bought the property saving it from development. A flourishing garden was created that for the last 20 years has been filled with laughter, art, flowers, and joy. 2019 marks Mulberry Fields' 20th birthday, and we want to celebrate with you.

## What is Mulberry Fields?

Mulberry Fields is a unique community garden tucked away in our Candler Park neighborhood. We are located down an old city alley next to 1303 Iverson St. Follow the alley to where it opens up to a meadow with community vegetable plots, a children's play area, art, magical places to imagine, goats, chickens, and so much more. Everyone is welcome, and the garden is open every day from sun up to sundown.

## We are having a birthday party!

On September 7, 2019, Mulberry Fields will be celebrating its 20th year with a big neighborhood party. Join us at the garden for live music, food, games, and great company. We are currently looking for 20 birthday party sponsors,

one for each year that Mulberry Fields has been a place for everyone to enjoy. Contact [jen@wyldecenter.org](mailto:jen@wyldecenter.org) to sponsor.

## How to stay connected.

The best way to stay connected is to visit Mulberry Fields. We are located next to 1303 Iverson Street, Atlanta, GA 30307. You may walk or bike to, or park on Iverson and walk down the unpaved alley, come around the corner, and spark your imagination with the big open space that is Mulberry Fields. Facebook is a really fun place to see the latest photos and news. You will find us at Wylde Center - Mulberry Fields Community Garden and Greenspace.

## Get ready, get set...

to celebrate Mulberry Fields all year long. What started as a dream and a project led by neighbors who wanted to see a greenspace forever preserved has turned into a community space for everyone to enjoy. We will include a monthly article in The Messenger all year long highlighting the history of the garden, our plot holders, the children who have loved Mulberry, the goats, and so much more! Celebrate with us by bringing your family to Mulberry Fields today!



# Gingerbread House Decorating Event

By Lisa Moldow



Cynthia Baer (in green) and her husband Michael Baer with their “Elves” including Silvia Edelstein (in the candy-stripe apron.)

It’s the most wonderful time of the year, and what’s more wonderful than decorating a Gingerbread House to your heart’s delight? On December 15th, 150 children gathered at the First Existentialist Church in Candler Park to transform their own mini gingerbread house into a magical confection creation! This event was buzzing with the excitement and anticipation of the holiday season, and the spirit of giving back to the community, as toy donations were gathered for the United Methodist Children’s Home.

This is the fourth year in a row that local neighborhood Realtor, Cynthia Baer, has hosted this event (first in this location). Cynthia, an associate Broker with Keller Williams Realty Metro Atlanta, loves giving back to the community that is the heart of her business. Seeing the kids’ faces light up when they are given the opportunity to decorate their own gingerbread masterpiece brings her such joy. Cynthia originally conceived this event as a fun way to get into the holiday spirit with her community. It has since become a tradition for many local families.

The process was fun and simple. Children of all ages were ushered in by “Elves” to select their very own house “for sale” and to select their “building materials” from a buffet of colorful sweets. There was no shortage of creativity in the “construction zone” as each child perfected their designs and finishing touches. As they completed their house, it was taken to the “finishing station” to be dusted with coconut snow for a finishing touch.

Although the event is technically “free”, Baer requests each attendee bring an unwrapped toy to share with the United Methodist Children’s Home. The pile of toys was overflowing and filled the director, Dave Allen Grady’s, car. They were taken directly to the Holiday event for the children happening that day as well and distributed immediately.

Baer has some incredible “elves” helping to make this event happen. Silvia Edelstein, Candler Park resident and owner of Word of Mouth Cooking Club, not only builds each little home, but she also constructed a GIANT Gingerbread Mansion (2 ft tall) complete with “stained glass” candy windows that light from inside and a candy filled front porch. Everyone is encouraged to register to win. This year, Deseree Brittingham was the lucky new owner of the “Mansion” and her children were super excited.

Kate Picton, Candler Park Resident and photographer extraordinaire, captured all of the special moments from this event. Sue Hamilton, an incredible lender with Fidelity Bank, has supported this event since conception. Many helper elves including Michael Baer, Cynthia’s charming husband, work to make sure everyone is having a great time.

Cynthia Baer is already looking forward to next year’s event. If you are interested in getting early alerts to sign up for this festive event next year and/or might like to help out - please reach out to Cynthia Baer at Team@CynthiaBaer.com or 678-358-3369.



# Gingerbread House Decorating Event Continued



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# Meet the 2019 CPNO Board

By Susan Rose, [editor@candlerpark.org](mailto:editor@candlerpark.org)

At the November 2018 CPNO membership meeting, the CPNO board was elected into office. Only one board member is new to the board: Matt Kirk as External Affairs Officer. Many thanks to all board members for your continued service and dedication to our Candler Park neighborhood! The following short summaries introduce (or reintroduce) our board members to the neighborhood.

## Dana Fowle - President



When Dana Fowle moved to Atlanta in 1995, she rented in Inman Park. From there she bought her first home in Old Fourth Ward. After 13 years, a marriage, three dogs and a child, a need for more space prompted her family's move to Candler

Park in 2014 because staying in this public school cluster was important to them. Dana begins her second year serving as CPNO president.

"With so many young families moving into the neighborhood, we'd like to find a way to encourage them to join CPNO and to be active in the organization," Dana said. "Candler Park has been moving in such a positive direction in recent years because of a pro-active Board. My hope is to keep it all moving in that same, positive direction."

Dana has been a journalist in Atlanta for 22 years, and "has, quite literally, been to nearly every neighborhood in the city." Her husband, a native Atlantan, is an Atlanta Public School teacher. Their nine-year-old daughter is obsessed with soccer, Legos, and Harry Potter with The Beatles always playing in the background.

## Roger Bakeman - Communications Officer



A resident of Candler Park since 1975, Roger Bakeman built his current house—designed by long-time Candler Park resident Kelly Jordan—in 1978. Roger is a retired professor who focused on child development and research statistics in the Psychology

Department at Georgia State University. He remains active by consulting with colleagues and serving on NIH-funded research grants.

Previously, he was CPNO Membership

Officer and now moves into his second year as Communications Officer. This past year he worked with a consultant to improve our web site and make it more user friendly ([www.candlerpark.org](http://www.candlerpark.org)). "I hope to make the website more used and more of a resource for our members and neighbors," Roger said. He added that he is "happy to continue on the board; being retired gives me the luxury of time. For 2019, I hope to see more neighbors involved in CPNO and Fall Fest and hope they all can learn more about our neighborhood's history."

## Rohini Kukreja - Treasurer



Rohini Kukreja moved to Candler Park in 2005 from Pittsburgh, PA. As a CPA, formerly with PwC and SunTrust, she now runs her own business called Intown Bookkeeping and Accounting Solutions ([www.intownaccounting.com](http://www.intownaccounting.com)). With a husband and

two kids, Rohini begins her second year of serving as the CPNO Treasurer.

"Together as a team, the Board made great strides last year in terms of creating a pre-approved budget and streamlining the financial process overall," Rohini said. "This year I plan to continue to build on that momentum to continue improving financial transparency and supporting meaningful projects for Candler Park." Rohini wishes for Candler Park to maintain its "neighborly vibe" and become an even stronger community.

## Bonnie Palter - Secretary



A resident of Candler Park since 1974, Bonnie Palter is a retired physical therapist. She joined the CPNO board to be more active in the neighborhood. Bonnie has served many years as Secretary, maintaining excellent records for the

organization and helping to ensure CPNO meetings are run in compliance with Robert's Rules of Order. Her wish for Candler Park is that "we maintain the architectural integrity of the neighborhood."

## Bill Morris - Zoning Officer



Bill Morris has been a resident of Candler Park for 25 years. Retired from the State Environmental Protection Division, Watershed Protection office, Bill begins his third year as CPNO Zoning Officer. As he and his

wife are both retired, they enjoy home improvement and renovation projects that "preserve the original character of our 1925 bungalow."

For the coming year, one goal for the zoning committee is to recruit a few new members - even a commitment of six months to a year would be fine if someone wants to explore their interest. Meetings are once per month and generally last an hour or less. Bill says, "The committee is a good way to meet neighbors, learn about the zoning and variance procedures as well as seeing the types of renovations being done & meeting professionals involved in renovation work in the neighborhood. Also, with recently proposed zoning ordinance changes, it may be a good time to consider taking a broader look at zoning issues in the neighborhood and possibly revisiting recommendations from the master plan."

## Lexa King - Public Safety Officer



Lexa King moved to Candler Park in 1984. A former accountant for almost 20 years, Lexa is a realtor today. Beginning her third year as public safety officer, she wants to make our neighborhood safe, "especially for Seniors aging in place." She

hopes that Candler Park continues to be a place known for its "neighborly ways and its quirkiness." Sidewalk improvements, the addition of park benches in Candler Park and Freedom Park, and progress on implementing items from the Master Plan are Lexa's wishes for the neighborhood. With a daughter and three grandchildren in Savannah, Lexa enjoys world travel, photography, gardening and entertaining.



# Meet the 2019 CPNO Board Continued

## Jennifer Wilds – Membership Officer



Jennifer Wilds will be a familiar face to Candler Park residents who have attended meetings over the past couple of years. She typically greets everyone at the sign-in table and makes sure the food and beverages are set-up well. She has also volunteered

in other ways, such as serving on the nominations committee. A Candler Park resident for 11 years, Jennifer was introduced to the area by her sister and brother in law. “I love the people and small town neighborhood feel with easy accessibility to all that the city has to offer,” Jennifer said. “I hope that people will be inspired to become more involved in the neighborhood in whatever capacity works for them whether it be through CPNO or the Conservancy, block parties or fundraisers, festivals or friends.” Working in the mental health field, Jennifer helps families meet their hopes for the future. She has a niece and nephew that live nearby and loves to watch them play sports.

## Chris Fitzgerald – Fundraising Officer



Chris enjoyed being the Fundraising Chair in 2017 and 2018 so much that she signed up to do it again in 2019. The highlight of the year was Fall Fest which was a tiring but rewarding experience thanks to the support of numerous generous sponsors and

hardworking volunteers. She also enjoyed getting to know many neighbors during other fundraising efforts such as the Annual Yard Sale. She looks forward to continuing to work with neighbors in 2019 to find ways to build community, have fun and raise money for our wonderful neighborhood. When not working for CPNO, Chris enjoys spending time with her husband and two girls. If you have any fundraising ideas, please send an email to [fundraising@candlerpark.org](mailto:fundraising@candlerpark.org). Here's to a fantastic 2019!

## Matt Kirk – External Affairs Officer



Matt, a lifelong resident of Metro Atlanta, moved to Candler Park with his wife in 2017. He works as a tax and asset protection attorney. He is excited about his first year on the CPNO board and becoming more involved in the community. Matt's goal

for 2019 is that Atlanta can continue to grow while still maintaining the character of its neighborhoods. He plans to work so Candler Park's voice is heard at the NPU and its needs are met by the city.



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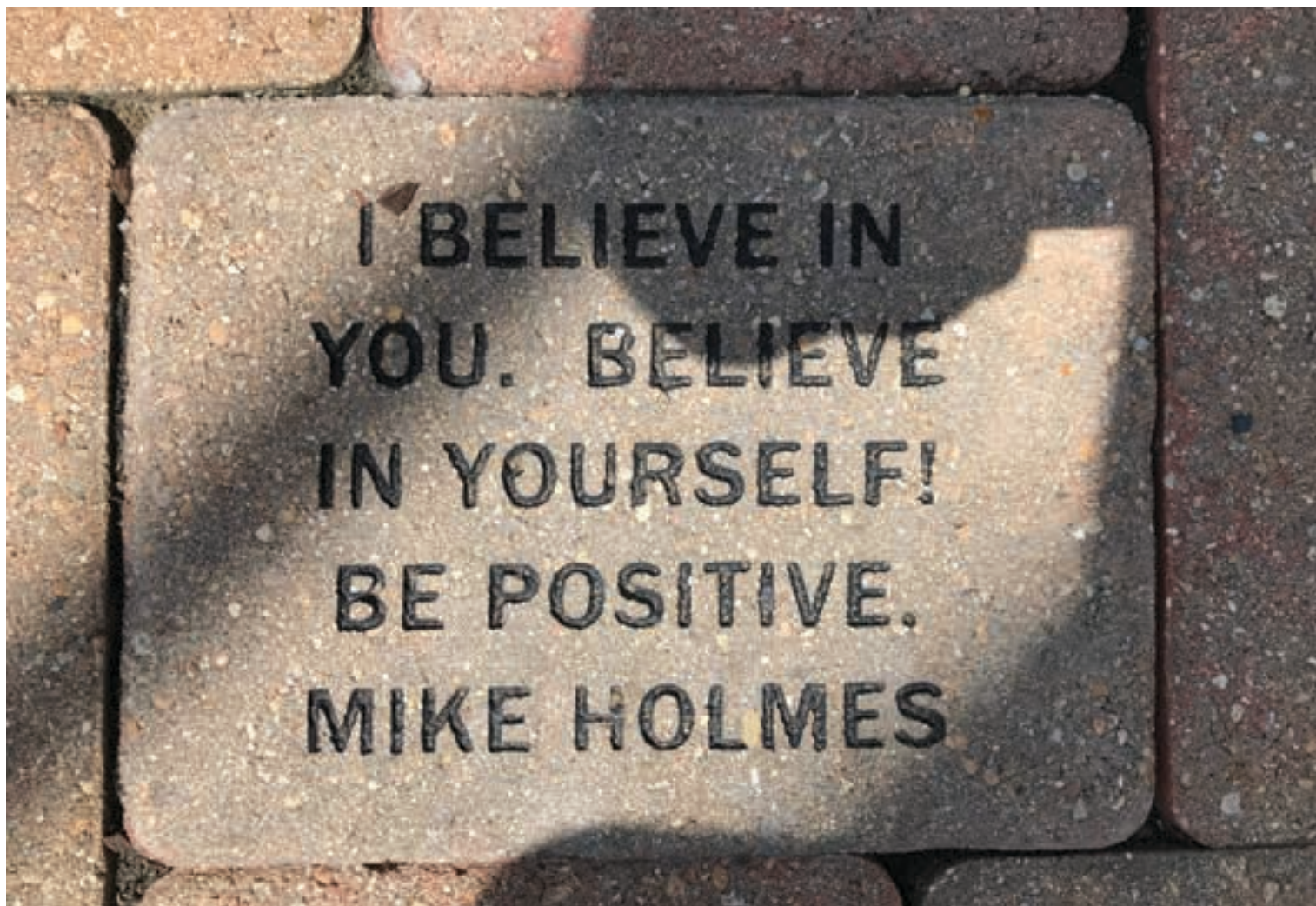
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# It's Time to Rethink the Way You Process "Failures"

By Gail Turner-Cooper, Candler Park Resident and Certified Health Coach



Often when I am working with health coaching clients, the word “fail” comes up.

“I failed at meal planning this week.”

“My diet is a failure.”

“This month feels like a fail.”

With the word itself comes a defeatist attitude, usually accompanied by a long sigh and the general lack of enthusiasm to move forward. The word “failure” is a self-fulfilling prophecy. It makes us want to give in to the misery of having made a mistake, when really—failure is an opportunity.

## Progress Isn't a Straight Line

So often, we seek “quick fixes” to the parts of our life that concern us. We want to see a change in diet take effect right away, we want defined abs after just a few workouts, we want to master meditation after our first session.

The fact is that most wellness habits are a practice in... well, practice! We must engage in health-focused mindsets daily to see true effects take place. If you put time in, you will see rewards!

But sometimes, we are going to mess up. We eat junk foods, we stay up too late, we skip a few workouts. It's going to happen—you're not perfect, nor should you aim for perfection!

What we can aim for is consistently aiming towards progress. There might be dips and breaks in the line every now and then, but if you keep your eyes on your goals, your trajectory will remain one of progress.

## Practicing Forgiveness Is Practicing Self Love

Beating yourself up over every small failure is a foolproof way to deny yourself growth. While you might feel inclined to feel angry or downtrodden after a misstep, there is a better way.

Forgive yourself! Forgiving yourself is a radical act of self love in a society that aims to keep us feeling cynical, or negative.

If you don't love yourself, you won't truly want the best for yourself. Without that motivator, you cannot achieve the self-improving goals you're aiming for.

## Find the Lessons

Rather than seeing failures as obstacles, learn to view them as lessons you can learn. Every misstep is merely an opportunity!

For every stumble, there is a chance for reflection. Give yourself some time to reflect on what mistakes you made, and what your intentions were. Moving forward, set different intentions and follow a different course of action.

Life isn't about getting everything right every time. Life is about trying your best to constantly improve, and if you love yourself enough to forgive yourself every now and then, you can achieve just that.

*Gail Turner-Cooper is a certified health coach and the founder of Align Health Coaching based in Atlanta. You can learn more about her and Align Health at [www.alignhealthcoaching.com](http://www.alignhealthcoaching.com)*





# Exploring the origins of New Year's Resolutions

HAPPY  
NEW  
YEAR

For millennia, people around the world have commemorated the arrival of a new calendar year by adhering to various traditions. Once such tradition is making resolutions for the year ahead. Resolutions are promises to oneself geared around personal fulfillment and betterment.

Resolutions are widely practiced, but some people may not understand the origins of New Year's resolutions and why they have become the norm.

Some historians tie the practice of making resolutions to the ancient Babylonians. More than 4,000 years ago, the Babylonians celebrated the New Year in March rather than January. The spring harvest was in March, and a festival called Akitu, which lasted 12 days, was celebrated. An important part of the festival was the crowning of a new king. Special rituals also affirmed

a connection to the gods. The Babylonians made promises to the gods, which included vows to return borrowed objects and pay outstanding debts.

Resolutions can also be traced to ancient Rome. The Romans were instrumental in creating a more formal calendar, and the start of the new year was moved from March to January (January and February were added to the Roman calendar under the rule of Numa Pompilius). Julius Caesar wanted to honor January's namesake, Janus, the Roman god of beginnings. Janus' two faces enabled him to look back into the past and forward into the future. Sacrifices to Janus were made, and worshipers exchanged gifts with one another. A custom of setting resolutions began during this period as well, with Romans promising to be good to one another.

Eventually, these resolutions were funneled into prayers and fasting when Christianity was adopted by the Roman Empire. Other religious parallels include the Jewish holiday of Yom Kippur, which is a day of atonement and reflection as celebrants examine their wrongdoings and seek forgiveness and to behave better moving forward. Yom Kippur follows Rosh Hashanah, Judaism's own new year.

Resolutions also may be loosely tied to Medieval times. During this time, knights took a "peacock vow" at the end of the Christmas season. Each year, these knights would reaffirm their commitment to chivalry.

Today New Year's resolutions are largely a secular tradition, but they're still connected to a desire to be a good person and put one's best self forward.

## Did you know?

Each January 1, people all over the world make resolutions for the new year. Many of the same resolutions pop up on popularity lists each year. According to a study by GoBankingRates, which in December of 2015 asked 5,000 people what their New Year's Resolutions would be for 2016, the top resolutions included:

- Enjoy life to the fullest.
- Live a healthier lifestyle.
- Lose weight.
- Spend more time with family and friends.
- Save more, spend less.

A study by Thomas Cook UK, a United Kingdom-based travel company, indicated many people in Britain planned to cut back on social media as a top resolution as well. It should be interesting to see which resolutions play out upon the arrival of the new year.

# Neighbor Mark Clement Recognized for Contributions to Candler Park

By Susan Rose, [editor@candlerpark.org](mailto:editor@candlerpark.org)

After decades of contributing volunteer hours to Candler Park, Mark Clement was recognized with APAB's Neighborhoods Matter and Partner Award on December 15 in an awards ceremony "Uplifting Community Champions" at City Hall. This ceremony provides a forum to acknowledge noteworthy contributions by individuals, institutions, organizations, and groups to the City of Atlanta and its neighborhoods.

In reaction to receiving the award, Mark said, "Thanks to all who helped me over the years to always reach beyond our grasp to create a better community."

Many neighbors know Mark for his leadership and execution of the Candler Park Movie Night (Flick-nic) series. He has also played a huge role in the fantastic music line-up for Fall Fest and serving as master of ceremonies throughout the two-day festivals. But, those are only his recent contributions, he has been involved for many years striving to make our neighborhood better.

In nominating Mark for this award recognition, Dana Fowle, CPNO president submitted the following:

"Atlanta attracts families from all around the country. Our neighbors and our weather invite people to settle here. But every now and again you run into someone who can say they were "born and raised in Atlanta." Our Candler Park neighbor Mark Clement can say that.

But his community roots go even deeper. He was born in the home on Benning Place where he lives today with his family. His neighborhood resume' is long, but there are a few notable contributions that set into motion the current Candler Park Neighborhood Organization.

Over the years Mark Clement has held board positions. He was an original organizer of Candler Park's Fall Fest, our annual fundraising event that makes donations to our community possible. He founded Friends of Candler Park to advocate on behalf of the park and the neighbors who use it.

So for these reasons and more, the Candler Park Neighborhood Organization would like to recommend Mark Clement for the 2018 Neighborhoods Matter Award. Recognition of his contributions are long overdue."

Congratulations Mark and thank you!



Mark Clement with his daughter Adelaide after he was recognized with the APAB's Neighborhoods Matter and Partner Award.

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# APS Update: Athletic Fields, “Beating the Odds” and Career Academy Planned

By Annsley Klehr, Lake Claire Education Chair  
and Mary Lin Representative to Council of Intown Neighborhoods and Schools (CINS)

## Walden Athletic Fields

If you have ever gotten on the expressway from Irwin Street, you would pass right by the Walden Athletic Fields (a.k.a. Walden Sports Complex), nestled in between Irwin and Freedom Parkway. These fields are promoted as Grady High School’s athletic space, but they will also be used by other schools.

The space is designed to allow students to practice baseball, softball, lacrosse, football, and soccer. Using \$7 million in SPLOST funding, grass fields were put in for softball and baseball, while turf was used for the other fields.

These fields were desperately needed for the lack of athletic space in intown Atlanta. They are a beautiful addition to the Grady Cluster.

You can find site drawings on the APS website at:  
<https://www.atlantapublicschools.us>

## 46 APS Schools Beat the Odds

In an email from Meria Carstarphen, Atlanta Public School’s Superintendent’s, she congratulates 46 of APS schools. The Governor’s Office of Student Achievement (GOSA) reports that “46 APS schools, or 52 percent of our schools, ‘Beat the Odds!’ Not only that, but in addition, APS has the second-highest percentage of schools that Beat the Odds when compared to other metro-area districts. Wait, there’s more! We beat the overall state rate, which came in at 32 percent!” These schools include Mary Lin Elementary School, Hope-Hill, Inman Middle School, and Grady High School.

So, what is “Beat the Odds”? According to Carstarphen:

- The Beat the Odds calculation represents whether a school’s performance on the College and Career Ready Performance Index (CCRPI) was higher than schools with similar characteristics across the state. Due to changes in the Beating the Odds calculation and changes in CCRPI, this year’s analysis is not comparable to previous years.
- The new calculation for this year includes variables that are outside of a school’s control, such as school size, percent directly certified, percent English language learners, percent of students with disabilities, percent of students in each race



(excluding Native American), school churn rate, whether a school is defined as non-traditional and the school type.

Also, in previous years, schools were designated as “Beat the Odds” or “Did Not Beat the Odds,” but the new calculation this year has separated “Did Not Beat the Odds” into two tiers — Within the Expected Range and Below the Expected Range. With this new framework, in addition to the 46 APS schools that Beat the Odds, 26 were classified as “Within the Expected Range” and 16 were classified as “Below the Expected Range.” This means a total of 72 APS schools, or more than 80%, either Beat the Odds or performed Within the Expected Range.

Here’s how we compare to other metro-area school districts and the state:

Gwinnett County Public Schools	56%
Atlanta Public Schools	52%
State of Georgia	32%
Fulton County Schools	29%
Clayton County Public Schools	29%
DeKalb County Schools	25%
Cobb County School District	14%

## Thoughts to consider . . .

So, what we know is that our scores are doing well, but we must keep asking ourselves, if the

calculations keep changing each year, how can we compare where we’ve been to where we are going? What progress are we making?

To learn more about this topic, feel free to visit:  
<https://gosa.georgia.gov/beating-odds-analysis>

Information taken from both Meria Carstarphen’s email (12/7/18) and <https://atlsuper.com/2018/12/07/46-aps-schools-beat-the-odds/>

## College and Career Academy

The Board of Education voted 7 to 1, to pass APS’s newest school addition (coming in 2020), the College and Career Academy. Accommodating 800 students, the goal is to create a school that trains high school students for jobs in medical, automotive, culinary arts, and construction, as well as other fields.

The project is thought to cost roughly \$12 million, using over \$7 million from sale-tax dollars and an additional \$3 million from a Georgia Technical College System grant. The proposal is to use a district building on Windsor Street to house the school.

The school will be set up as a half-day school so that students can participate at their home high school, but will also have access to classes at the College and Career Academy available to them at their home school. The hope is that students who are not ready or are not interested in going directly to college can still have a career path.

Although the ABOE thought this school a necessity, there was debate over whether this project was fiscally responsible, since all building costs have increased and the ABOE would be spending over their projected budget.

To read more, visit:  
<https://www.atlantapublicschools.us/cms/lib/GA01000924/Centricity/Domain/9279/ACCA%20Executive%20Summary.pdf>

*Special thanks to ABOE, Leslie Grant, for taking the time to give me an update!*

# CPNO Officer and Committee Reports for December

*These reports were submitted by officer and committee chairs prior to the December members meeting.*

## External Affairs Officer - Lindy Kerr

The monthly NPU-N meeting occurred on Thursday, November 29, 2018

### Notable Zoning votes:

- V-18-291: The NPU voted to support the variance at 415 Sterling to reduce the side yard setback. The variance was previously supported by the zoning committee and CPNO.
- V-18-313: The NPU voted to support the variance at 482 Clifton Road NE to reduce the half-depth front yard setback. The variance was previously supported by the zoning committee and CPNO.

### Reports from City Departments:

- Renew Atlanta: The business quarter in Inman Park, between Alaska Avenue and Elizabeth Street on North Highland Avenue, will be undergoing roadway changes to enhance pedestrian safety. Among the changes that are expected to take place: a pedestrian crossing at the Elizabeth Street intersection, the addition of bikes lanes, more street parking, a designated rideshare area, and improved ADA sidewalk ramps. Renew Atlanta has been working with IPNA to receive the neighborhood's input.

### Other:

- NPU-N voted to defer voting on proposed legislation around requiring a 1500 foot distance between service stations (Z-18-143). While the member organizations agreed with the purpose and intent of the legislative changes, several members were concerned that the text as written did not carve out any exceptions and may be too limiting. CPNO previously voted to support this legislation at the November membership meeting.

## Membership - Jennifer Wilds

Happy to say, we are ending the year with our highest membership number ever, 581, exceeding the bumper year of 2013. All members are reminded that membership in CPNO is for the calendar year and needs to be renewed for 2019. If anyone has problems renewing online ([candlerpark.org/renew-membership](http://candlerpark.org/renew-membership)) please let us know at [membership@candlerpark.org](mailto:membership@candlerpark.org).

Communications – Roger Bakeman

In 2018 our website has achieved a new level of stability. We have renewed our domain name ([candlerpark.org](http://candlerpark.org)) for another nine years, until

2027, and thank Roger Johnson who first registered our domain name in 2000, thereby establishing our on-line presence (although a precursor website dates to 1998), and Jay Sandhaus who renewed our domain name in 2009. We also moved our website to WPENGINE.com, who had bought out our previous hosting company—and offered us three free initial months for the move. If anyone has suggestions to improve the content of our website please email me at [communications@candlerpark.org](mailto:communications@candlerpark.org).

## Development Committee - Emily Taff

Has been reviewing the Quick Fix and proposed Zoning rewrites for the City and have been working on a survey to gauge the neighborhood's thoughts with respect to construction, development, home renovations, etc.

## Freedom Park Conservancy - Christina Moore

FPC held its Radiant Ride on December 16th, which created a sparkle spectacle through the park! Please watch FPC's website for upcoming FPC events.

FPC is working on a reschedule date for a guided < 5 mile trek on the Freedom Park PATH trail. Attendees will learn about the history of Freedom Park and FPC's plans for its future while enjoying the sites and sounds of this urban oasis. Visit the FPC website for details and to reserve your spot.

The One Woman Rising statue is undergoing restoration, and we've made requests to the Parks Department and Office of Cultural Affairs to clean up the area around the New Endings statue.

## Zoning - Bill Morris

The December Zoning Committee meeting was held at the Wondershop with two members in attendance. The agenda included variance application V-18-359 (348 Mell Ave.) and follow-up discussion of zoning ordinance Z-18-122 pertaining to the proliferation of service stations within certain commercial corridors.

1. V-18-359, 348 Mell Ave.: The applicant is requesting a variance to reduce the south side yard setback from 7 ft to 0 ft. in order to raise the roof height on a small rear portion of the house for a kitchen renovation. The change will not increase the living space in the home or encroach on neighbors. Lot coverage will be 2645 sq.

ft. of 6988 sq. ft. (38%) 55% allowed for this lot. Justification for the variance includes the house predates zoning regulations and was originally built in the 7 ft setback area; the proposed variance will not increase the amount of encroachment or affect light and air circulation for the neighbors. The applicant provided complete neighborhood checklist materials and support signatures from surrounding neighbors for the variance. Therefore, the committee voted in support of the variance request with standard conditions that the applicant appear at the neighborhood meeting and construct the renovation based on the site plan provided to the City.

2. Atlanta Zoning Ordinance Z-18-122 is an ordinance to address concerns due to the proliferation of service stations along various commercial corridors (University Avenue, Pryor Rd., Metropolitan Parkway, Cleveland Ave., Jonesboro Rd., Sylvan Rd., Campbellton Rd. and Lee St.) requiring a 1500 ft separation between service stations in C1-5 and I1-2 zoning districts. The purpose is to reduce the concentration of service stations in these areas and promote a diversity of land uses along these corridors. The neighborhood voted to support the ordinance in November. Subsequent to the neighborhood vote, the City made minor changes such that it would apply to several special zoning districts across the City (SPI districts) such as Midtown, Mechanicsville, etc. The ordinance was also renumbered to Z-18-134. After the neighborhood voted, the NPU voted for deferral of the ordinance and asked several questions related to implementation and other possible impacts. Since the changes were minor and the City responses to NPU questions did not impact to the neighborhood, the committee determined that the original vote to support the ordinance was sufficient.

## Candler Park Conservancy - Ken Edelstein

The Candler Park Conservancy enjoyed a great deal of progress in 2018 on both our programmatic and organizational objectives. Among other major steps, the Conservancy:

- Organized our first fundraising event, "Beavers, Bluegrass and BBQ," which we plan to turn into an annual springtime



# CPNO Officer and Committee Reports for December Cont.

celebration.

- Put on multiple free participatory events including a birding workshop & tour, a bee-hive demo/pollinators talk, and a tree ID scavenger hunt.
- Held six volunteer/service days for such tasks as tagging trees, weeding the front bed and planting annuals.
- Funded and installed a bike repair station on the PATH at the corner of Terrace Avenue and Clifton Terrace.
- Funded and managed non-native species removal
- Completed the schematic design for improvements to the Active Lawn and the existing makeshift “amphitheater” near the pool house. These are two of the major projects identified by the Conservancy’s 2017 Vision Plan. The design work, by the

architectural firm Perkins + Will, was made possible due to a generous \$60,000 grant from CPNO.

- Updated our website and began sending a monthly email newsletter to members
- Expanded our membership to more than 150 paying members

At the tail end of this eventful year, the Conservancy Board engaged in two three-hour strategic planning sessions, which were led by board member Lauren Welsh. The aim of these sessions was to better prepare our growing and maturing organization to move forward by focusing on the steps that will help us to get to where we want to go.

One challenge will be to determine next steps on the Active Lawn or Amphitheater projects. Now that we’ve completed the schematic designs, we have a better idea of how much these projects

will cost. Each is likely to exceed \$1 million. While the organization’s overall strategy is an ongoing discussion, I expect that we’ll put a fair amount of effort into developing our fundraising capacity.

While the Vision Plan projects are the biggest challenges, we also anticipated completing more small projects over the course of this year.

On a very sad note, we lost one of our founding Board members this year. To refer to Amy Erwin as a “founding Board member” doesn’t do her justice. Amy was in many ways the spirit of this organization — she was crucial to getting it off the ground early on and she served as our first Vice Chair. We will continue to miss her terribly.

If you’re interested in the Candler Park Conservancy, please go to our website at [candlerparkconservancy.org](http://candlerparkconservancy.org) and be sure to join!

## December 17 CPNO Members Meeting – draft minutes

*These minutes are presented for review. They may be amended before being considered for official adoption at the December CPNO Members meeting.*

The meeting was called to order at 7:11 pm by Dana Fowle, President. The motion to adopt the amended agenda passed. The motion to approve the November minutes passed.

### Guest Speaker(s):

- Sgt. Jones from Zone 6 suggested that packages should be delivered to a place of business. There is a new investigation team whose email address is [zone6cid@atl.ga.gov](mailto:zone6cid@atl.ga.gov). She encouraged everyone to forward pictures from cameras to this address as it has made an impact in closing cases. The Y on Memorial Drive continues to be the ‘hot spot’ for car break-ins.
- Jennifer Wilds announced the closing of Palacinta at the corner of Oakdale and McLendon. The last day will be December 29th. Maria is retiring.
- Dana Fowle announced that Cartoons by Deb Milbrath, which are on display tonight, are for sale.
- Dana Fowle reported on her experience at the City’s Transportation Committee meeting. She was there to request funds for sidewalk repair.

### Treasurer’s Report:

Rohini Kukreja, Treasurer, gave year-end financial report. Cash on hand \$148,000.

### Announcements:

- Follow CPNO on Twitter: [CandlerParkATL](https://twitter.com/CandlerParkATL)
- Movie Night- Need volunteers to take over the production of Movie Night. Mark Clement will no longer be able to do this going forward.
- Public Safety- Lexa King had two handouts- one on Elder Care; one on fire safety during the Holidays.

### Zoning: Bill Morris

- Motion to support the application for 348 Mell Ave (V-18-354) with the provision the applicant appear at the NPU N Meeting and the project is built based on the site plan filed with the City passed.
- There will be a vote on Senior Daycare Facilities (Z-18-128) next month.
- Ordinance to allow senior daycare facilities

in R zoning districts by special use permit only; Maximum of occupancy 6; Hours of operation: 6 am – 7 pm; 1 off street parking space required for every 300 sq. ft. of floor area; Cannot locate within 2000 ft of another adult day care facility

- There will be a vote on an Alcohol License for Lazy Betty- replacement restaurant for Radial Café on DeKalb Avenue.
- Restaurant located at 1530 Dekalb Avenue (taking over existing Radial Café location); Hours of operation: 5 – 10 pm; Seating Capacity – 46; Parking required - 29 (available 67); 90% food/10% alcohol; Live entertainment - none
- Need new members for the Zoning Committee.

Bake Off Winners- First Place- Silvia Edelstein  
Second Place- Maria Crawford  
Third Place- Nancy Porteous

The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 pm.  
Submitted by Bonnie Palter, Secretary  
December 17, 2018

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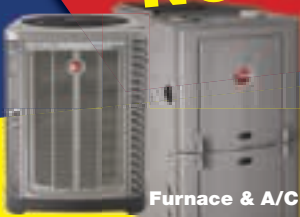
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