

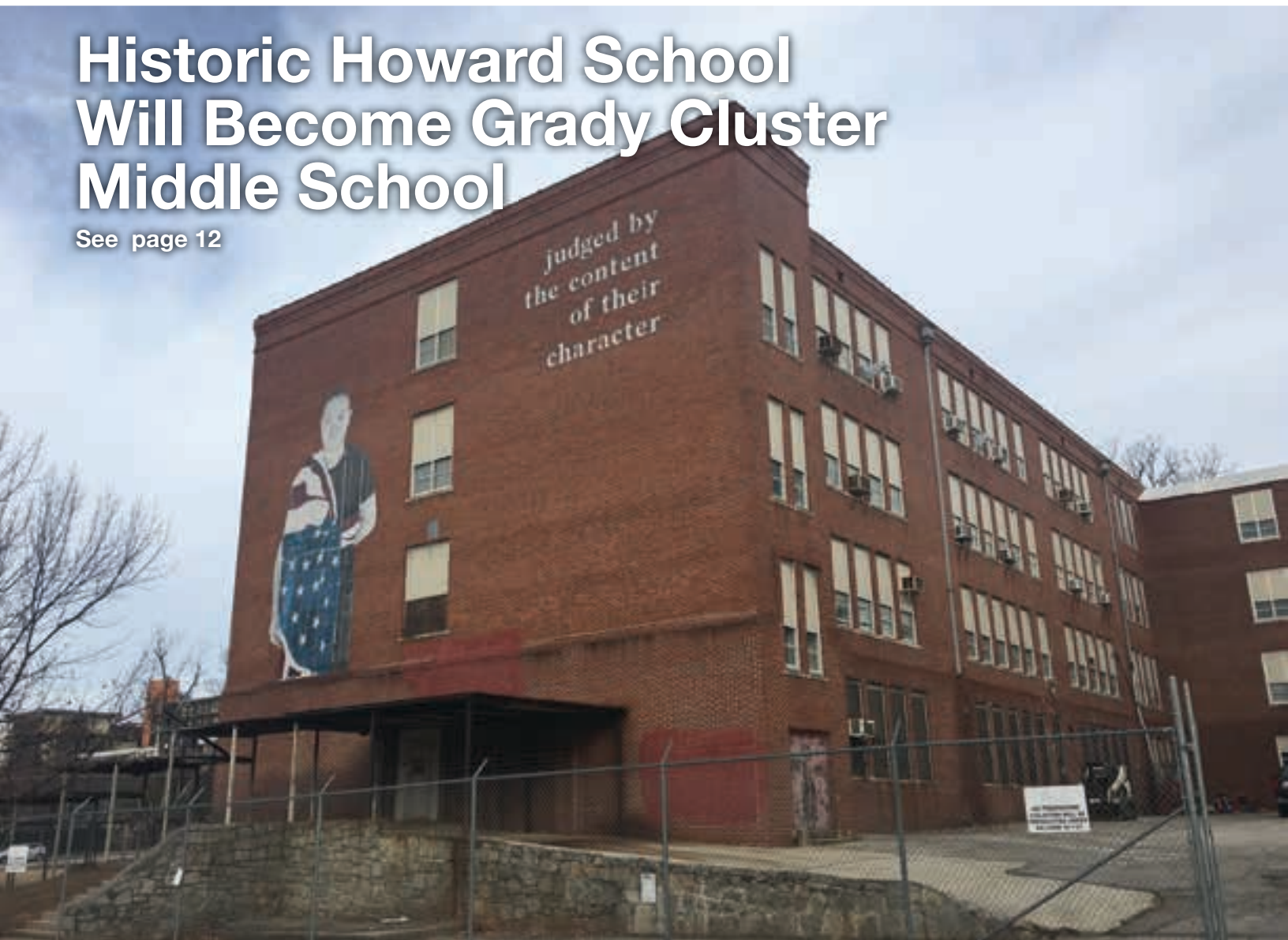


January 2017

MESSENGER

Historic Howard School Will Become Grady Cluster Middle School

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CPNO Needs Your Active Involvement

By Zaid Duwayri, president@candlerpark.org

It's not too late to add one more resolution to your list! It's simple and it would read like this "I want to get a little more involved in my neighborhood organization." Later in this issue you'll get a reminder of all the opportunities available to you to join CPNO committees. I hope that you'll see that they are really intended to reduce the burden of serving, and to maintain an impactful contribution to the neighborhood.

Getting more involved, however, does not need to be all about committees and board positions. Staying in touch by attending our membership meetings or helping us with a refreshed content for our website are examples of valuable contributions. We have one of the most active neighborhood organizations among the in town neighborhoods, and it continues to foster that strong sense of community that is central to Candler Park.

Our neighborhood meetings are warm, welcoming and respectful. Just ask anyone who has been to a CPNO meeting in the past few years and they'll tell you that our meetings are efficient and civil. We discuss matters that impact the livelihood of our entire community and take action that represents the voice of our membership. 2016 witnessed a few situations where CPNO's involvement was instrumental to getting major issues addressed within our neighborhood; examples are our agreement with the city regarding the sidewalk repair project and the

PRESIDENTIAL BRIEFING

escalation to address the retention pond at Mary Lin. Government entities recognize that CPNO has a strong and vocal membership, and they have been responsive to our inquiries and requests.

According to our bylaws, we advocate for issues that are essential to the well-being of our neighborhood. So it is essential that our membership be a representative sample of households within our community. As you would expect, not every issue that appears on our agenda gets a unanimous or an overwhelming majority vote, and that's why it's important for us to continue to grow our membership and to recognize the important mission of CPNO.

Our most recent zoning application was a testimony to how involved our neighborhood wants to be in shaping the future of Candler Park. Both sides of the argument were well represented and contained a healthy mix of demographics and interests that make up our community.

The point I try to make is simple. CPNO can effectively advocate for issues that impact our neighborhood, and we need your active involvement to bring us these issues and for you to add your opinion to our collective voice.

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

PRESIDENT Zaid Duwayri
president@candlerpark.org 404-637-6691

MEMBERSHIP OFFICER Roger Bakeman
membership@candlerpark.org

TREASURER Rohini Kukreja
treasurer@candlerpark.org

SECRETARY Bonnie Palter
secretary@candlerpark.org 404-525-6744

ZONING OFFICER Bill Morris
zoning@candlerpark.org

PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICER Lexa King
safety@candlerpark.org

COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER Russell Miller
communications@candlerpark.org

FUNDRAISING OFFICER Chris Fitzgerald
fundraising@candlerpark.org

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS OFFICER Lindy Kerr
externalaffairs@candlerpark.org

Find a complete list of CPNO committee chairs, representatives and other contacts at 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 Epworth United Methodist 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 1 and a complete list of CPNO meetings at 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 or mail name, address, and email to

**CPNO membership,
PO Box 5418, Atlanta, GA 31107**



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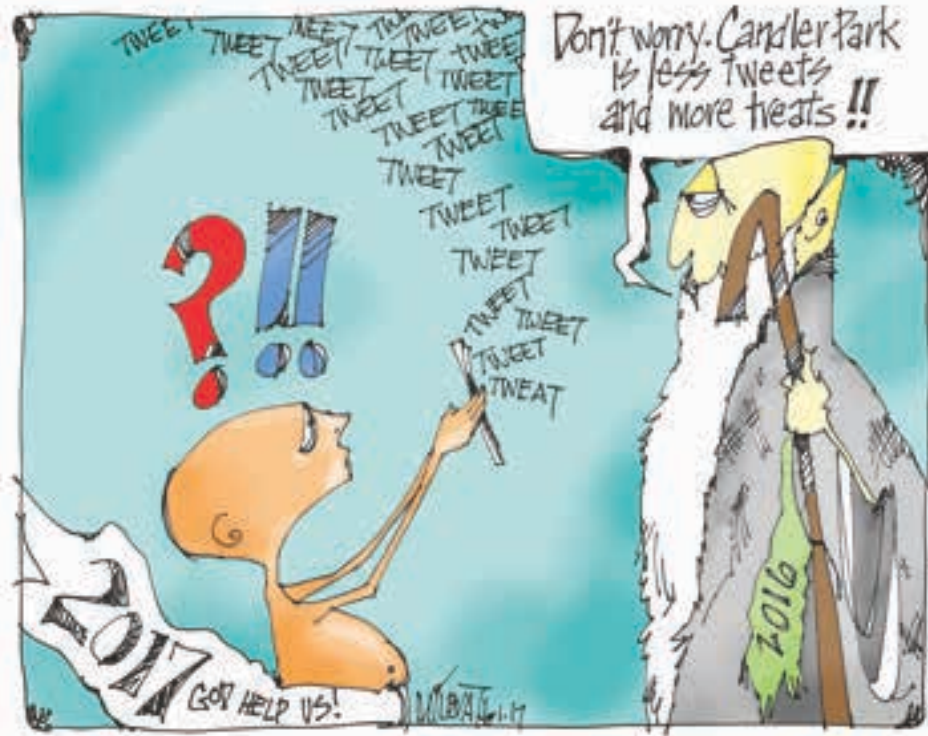


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Contributors and Writers Wanted!

By Susan Rose, editor@candlerpark.org

The Messenger is seeking volunteer staff 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.) If you want to help but lack ideas for content, I can provide you assignments for stories to research and write and/or photos to take. Attention Grady High School students: you may be able to earn community service hours by contributing to the Messenger. Please contact me at editor@candlerpark.org if you are interested in helping to make the Messenger a relevant, thoughtful, and interesting publication for Candler Park residents.



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THE MESSENGER

EDITOR

Susan Rose

editor@candlerpark.org

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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 by the 18th of the month prior to publication.

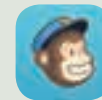
If you have a news tip or story idea, please email relevant information including contacts to editor@candlerpark.org or call the editor.

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. 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.

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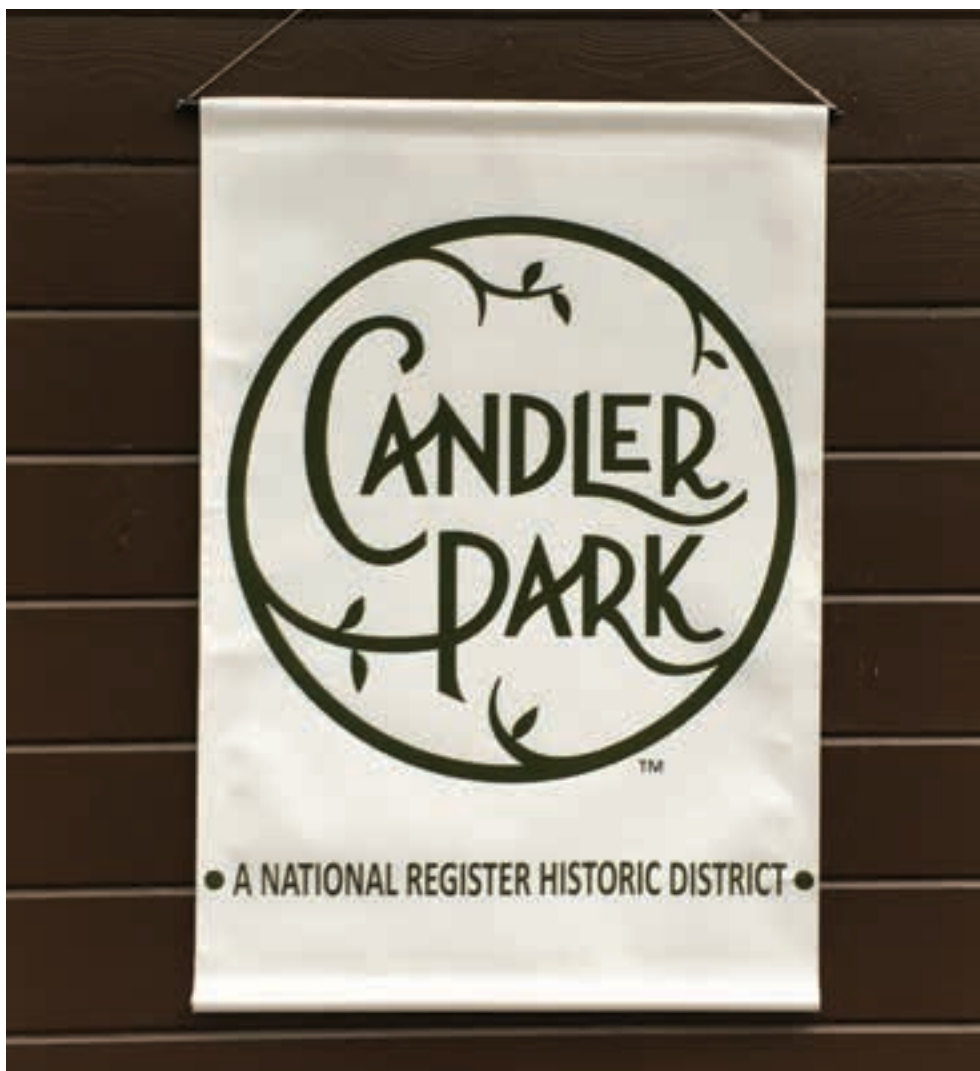
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DATES TO REMEMBER

JANUARY

- 4** CPNO Zoning Meeting, 7 pm, The New Church (formerly Epworth)
- 9** CPNO Board Meeting, 7 pm, The New Church (formerly Epworth)
- 16** CPNO Members Meeting, 7 pm, 1st Existentialist Church
- 18** Candler Park Conservancy Meeting, 7pm, Rush Center

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



Get Your CPNO Banner!

By Roger Bakeman, membership@candlerpark.org

CPNO banners are back. As requested by members in response to a survey last fall asking for alternative logo options, CPNO banners are now available to members—and at close to cost, \$33. The banners are the same size and material as the previous banners—24” by 30” vinyl—and were printed by the same company, one of whose owners is a long-time Candler Park resident.

Banners will be available at our monthly meetings or you can arrange for a pickup by emailing membership@candlerpark.org.

Welcome to New and Renewing Members

By Roger Bakeman, membership@candlerpark.org

CPNO welcomes new members:

Sarah Hersh
Korey and Kira McCabe
Welcome, Dave Babcock
Lauryn Yother
Andy Barnett

And thanks to new and renewing members for their contribution to CPNO:

Cole and Amy Wheeler
Blackmon/Bush household
Amanda Bolster
Amy Erwin
June Dean
Cecile Lahiri



Lake Claire Resident Produces Atlanta Variety Show: Good Gracious #8

"We just keep on sharing the love for great Southern artists in a way folks aren't used to seeing," says Good Gracious Show founder and Lake Claire resident Boyd Baker. "Where else could you go to see a talented Americana duo like THE ORMEWOODS and comedy from DAD'S GARAGE with poetry from the powerful JON GOODE all in one night? Nowhere but at GOOD GRACIOUS," he continues.

"The variety show is not really seen anymore. Folks know talk shows with a musical guest but they don't remember Ed Sullivan or Jack Parr who mixed music with talk with magic with whatever was fun. That's what we do," he shares. The goal of Good Gracious is to promote the wide variety of talent in the South and to bring community together as a family to connect with those artists.

What began as a Kickstarter campaign, has now gained an audience of believers in real, throwback entertainment. Baker continues, "This is the kind of show you just go to. You don't know what you'll get but you know you'll be moved and entertained.

You can't help but leave our show with a warm feeling. Guess that's why we've grown with such a multi-generational audience."

The lineup for the Saturday, January 21st show at The Plaza Theatre so far includes musical acts: The Ormewoods, Cleveland P. Jones, and Wasted Potential Brass Band. Also on the bill are poet Jon Goode and Dad's Garage Comedy players. "This is a labor of love that I put on with my friends every quarter to share with all of Atlanta. We're not making any money, just trying to connect Atlanta with the hotbed of creativity, talent, and community that is the South," says Baker. The show goes on at 7:30 pm on Saturday, Jan. 21, at The Plaza Theatre on Ponce de Leon. Tickets are \$15 but Family of 4 packages cost just \$40. More info can be found at www.GoodGraciousShow.com.

Submitted as press release from Boyd Baker, founder of the Good Gracious show.

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Meet the 2017 CPNO Board

By Susan Rose, editor@candlerpark.org

At the November 2016 CPNO membership meeting, the CPNO board was elected into office. The following summaries will help you understand each person's background, interests and priorities for the neighborhood in 2017

Zaid Duwayri – President

Zaid Duwayri and his family moved to Candler Park in 2012 from Winter Park, FL. Currently, he manages a sales team for an enterprise software company that specializes in supply change and warehousing software. Beginning his third year on the CPNO board, he became involved in the CPNO to meet more neighbors and to strengthen the connections within our community. For 2017, Zaid's goals are to increase the engagement of our neighbors in CPNO. Zaid says, "I plan on doing that by promoting the fact that our organization can strengthen the voice of our members and advocate for their interests." In addition, funding high-impact projects within the neighborhood is a top priority for 2017. Zaid and his wife Dina have three boys. He says, "I enjoy golfing and, luckily, we happen to live across the street from a golf course! If I can sneak out for a couple of hours, I enjoy playing the Candler Park golf course."

Roger Bakeman – Membership Officer

A resident of Candler Park since 1975, Roger Bakeman built his current house in 1978, and it was designed by long-time Candler Park resident Kelly Jordan. 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. Beginning his second year as Membership Officer, Roger "thinks it's important that the board reflect a mixture of old and new residents; and being retired, I have the time." He likes being Membership Officer because among other things it gives him a chance to use his computer skills. ("I first began programming in the 1960s.") Roger sees the biggest challenge for the CPNO in 2017 is determining how to spend CPNO funds wisely and in ways

that please as many members as possible. "With the Master Plan as a guide, this will take a few iterations of budget proposals, discussion at our monthly meetings and successive refinements." A fun fact about Roger is that he is somewhat obsessed with bamboo. The two small plots he planted in 1979 have grown into a forest that requires protection and controlling. If you want bamboo, contact Roger.

Rohini Kukreja – Treasurer

Rohini Kukreja moved to Candler Park in 2005 from Pittsburgh, PA. Formerly with PwC and SunTrust, she now runs her own business called Intown Bookkeeping and Accounting Solutions (www.intownaccounting.com). Rohini



says, "I am excited to serve on the CPNO Board because I love this neighborhood and it would be nice to be more involved and give back to the community." Her wish for Candler Park in 2017 is another "amazing" Fall Fest and better sidewalks. With a husband and two kids, Rohini lives a full life running her business, volunteering at school and finding time to fit in some exercise. Also, she loves to cook Indian food and share it with family and friends!

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. Her wishes for Candler Park in 2017 are safety and accessibility, in particular good sidewalks.

Bill Morris – Zoning Officer

Bill Morris has been a resident of Candler Park for 24 years. Retired from the State Environmental Protection Division, Watershed Protection office, Bill has served on the Zoning Committee and wants to continue his work with the committee and CPNO Board on issues that may impact the future quality of life for the neighborhood and help implement the goals of the master plan. Bill says, "I see the neighborhood continuing to improve and revitalize as new families move in. For everyone to enjoy all the amenities CP offers, pedestrian safety and walkability are critical issues." He also mentions speeding traffic on main streets as a major problem. As he and his wife are both retired, they enjoy home improvement and renovation projects that "preserve the original character of our 1925 bungalow." They are also growing and transplanting tree seedlings in their home landscape. If anyone needs Japanese maple seedling or hosta, contact Bill.

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. She wants to make our neighborhood safe, "especially for Seniors aging in place." This priority became clear in 2016 when her neighbor of 32 years died at home and was undiscovered for a week. "That shouldn't happen to anyone," Lexa says. 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 in 2017. "I would love to see us start on the amphitheater," she says. With a daughter and three grandchildren in Savannah, Lexa enjoys world travel, photography, gardening and entertaining.

Russell Miller – Communications Officer

Russell Miller became a resident of Candler Park in 2004. He works as the Regional Manager for Club Car Commercial Vehicles (like the Fall Fest

run-around vehicles.) Beginning his fifth year on the CPNO Board, Russell became interested in serving after living in Candler Park for seven years and “being the beneficiary of all the great things our neighborhood organization does,” he says. “I decided I wanted to give back in the form of volunteering and advocating for our organization.” Russell’s priority for 2017 is to continue to find more ways and opportunities to share pertinent information with the community. His wishes for Candler Park in 2017 are continued infrastructure improvements and for “our home grown events to get even better, like Movies in the Park, Fall Fest, and Page Ave Halloween!” His interests include photography, European vacations, The Walking Dead, and cooking.

Chris Fitzgerald – Fundraising Officer

As Treasurer for the CPNO Board in 2016, Chris Fitzgerald learned a lot about what it takes to financially support the

CPNO. She worked closely with the Fall Fest team and witnessed the “incredible amount of time and energy it takes to put on our #1 fundraiser (by far!),” she says. As the Fundraising Officer in 2017, she wants to relieve the pressure on the Fall Fest by generating additional sources of income for the CPNO while having some fun (and not necessarily in that order.) Chris wants to partner with local businesses to create a few low key events throughout the year that build community while making money for the neighborhood. She says, “The success of these events depends upon the help of neighbors like you so I hope you’ll consider volunteering your time, energy, talents, pick-up truck, etc. etc. If you have an idea, please email me at fundraising@candlerpark.org. Here’s to a fantastic 2017!”

Lindy Kerr – External Affairs Officer

A resident of Candler Park for just over six years, Lindy Kerr is an attorney and mediator, who works with her husband,

Jeff, at the legal technology company that he founded -- CaseFleet. As the immediate past Public Safety Officer, Lindy joined the CPNO board because of her love for the neighborhood and her interest in being involved in the conversations, planning and actions around protecting and improving our great neighborhood. For 2017, she wants sidewalk repair and more community involvement at neighborhood organization meetings. As the External Affairs Officer, she says her “priority is to be an effective representative of CPNO’s interests at our NPU (Neighborhood Planning Unit) meetings and to continue cultivating relationships with our surrounding neighborhoods and the City in order to advocate for our neighborhood and our Master Plan.” Originally from Rochester, NY, Lindy and her husband have two miniature schnauzers, Hans and Lu. With a special love for travel, Lindy has visited more than 25 countries, most recently Japan.

Candler Park Sidewalk Project Ahead Of Schedule

By Dana Fowle, Chair of the CPNO Infrastructure Committee

After a few hiccups, the city’s plan to repair sidewalks in Candler Park may begin as early as January or February. The Renew Atlanta Infrastructure Bond project calls for \$400,000 worth of sidewalk repairs along Oakdale Road and McClendon and Euclid avenues.

The Candler Park Neighborhood Association’s master plan provided the template that the city used to determine

where to focus its work. The original plan called for a wider scope of repairs, but rising construction costs required scaling back. CPNO board members, along with its infrastructure committee, met multiple times with city representatives in order to focus on the most urgent repairs along corridors with heavy pedestrian traffic.

This Renew Atlanta project is being paid for through discretionary funding

provided to multiple council districts. The Candler Park initiative is the first to progress beyond the planning stage because the community’s master plan had a helpful, ready-to-go priorities list.

CPNO is working with the city to explore additional funding options, such as MARTA, for future sidewalk projects.”



This Month in History: The Grand Vision for Candler Park 94 Years Ago

Published in *The Constitution*, Sunday, January 7, 1923 on page 7F and sourced from <https://www.newspaper.com/image/26927332>. Editor's note: Some of the words in the pdf image of the article were illegible. In these instances, the unknown words are represented by

Candler Park to Be Most Beautiful in All America According to Plans of City Engineer Kauffman

After accepting from Asa G. Candler a splendid tract of land in the beautiful Druid Hills section to be devoted to park purposes, the city government has caused the municipal engineer to draw the detailed plans for one of the most magnificent public amusement and recreation grounds that can perhaps be found in any city of the world.

These plans, which are presented in the drawing above, are now ready for the consideration of the city finance committee and the commissions of roads and revenues of DeKalb county, who are to provide funds for the full prosecution of the fine park program.

Not only do the plans drawn by City Engineer C. E. Kauffman contemplate one of the most beautiful park ideas ever presented

to the officials of any American city, but the details worked out by the engineer are so complete in ensemble and so perfect in every particular that they have caused much admiration and favorable comment from every one who has seen them

Golf. Tennis. Polo Grounds.

In preparing the plan for this park, declared City Engineer Kauffman, a review of the layout, conditions as they exist, and the proposed improvements should be taken thoroughly into consideration. And in the study he presented to the later park board, Mr. Kauffman not only worked out every minute detail concerning the roads, the avenues, walks, lakes and possible playgrounds and buildings, but he provided space and areas for golf courses, tennis grounds, polo grounds, baseball park, swimming pool and an immense stadium, seating many thousands of people.

In other words, Mr. Kauffman refused to plan for this park at random, as he claimed most public parks have been planned, but chose to adopt systematic methods for providing the various features he felt should be adopted in this fine pleasure ground.

In planning Candler Park Mr. Kauffman also took into consideration accessibility, topographical and climate conditions as well as the possible layout of the driveways and lakes. These considerations were for the purpose of enhancing the beauty of the fine tract as well as for utilizing every feature that could be taken advantage of.

Looks Into Future

From the studies made by the city engineer he makes the following conclusions: That the proposed park should be totally at variance with all other city parks; That it should be a pleasure ground in every way in keeping with what Atlanta will some day be



in the way of the south's greatest city; That it should be a park, equal to, if not surpassing in beauty and utility, every park in the world at present; That it should be a place not only where the eye could be delighted with the beauty of the surroundings, but where the mind could be impressed and educated by the classical features, where the body could be strengthened by clean and delightful sports, and where the atmosphere would be noble, inspiring and refined.

With an area of acres, the park grounds, said Mr. Kauffman, should be divided into the following parcels.

The park proper, 15 acres.

The playgrounds, about 7 acres.

Park bath grounds and pools, about 5 acres.

Golf links, about ... acres.

All of these features, be declared, should be given plenty of space.

Entrance on McLendon

The park proper should be located at the southern end of the grounds with the main entrance on McLendon avenue, in the axis

of Mell avenue, and opposite same should be the pedestrian entrance. West of this should be the drive entrance, near Mell avenue.

The pedestrian entrance should be upon a large plateau centered with a column and surrounded by railing. This plateau leads to two grand terraces, then down a wide avenue to the grounds and to the play grounds and other amenities.

An immense sunken garden will be one of the noble features of the park overlooked from the pavillion. There will be a fine amphitheater with terraces, gentle upward grades on both sides of the avenue with a mid-pavilion in the center of the rotunde. Flower beds, gorgeous budding shrubs, etc. will enhance the beauty of this portion of the park.

Children Playgrounds.

Children's playgrounds will be one of the finest features of Candler park and these have been wellnigh perfectly provided for by City Engineer Kauffman. The swimming pools will also be large and classically beautiful.

The golf courses will also be a splendid feature of Candler park and these have been laid out with the utmost care. These will be on the north end of the park where there will also be a clubhouse.

The driveways will allow several automobiles to drive abreast, and they will curve gracefully about the landscape park.

All the buildings will be classic in their simplicity, and each of them will be designed with an eye for beauty as well as utility.

Every detail of the fine park has been worked out by Mr. Kauffman who presents his conception to the city fathers. He does not lead any one to believe that the park he has in mind can be built within a short time, saying very frankly that time will be required to make it the thing of beauty it should be.

The matter of providing money for the prosecution of the work on this park will be placed before the city finance committee in a few days, and then, after favorable action from that body, it will go to the commissioners of roads and revenues of DeKalb county, because of the fact that it lies within that county.



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APS To Make Large Investments to Ease Grady Cluster Crowding

By Kate Sandhaus, CPNO Education Committee Chair

Candler Park and other neighborhoods in the Grady Cluster – those that feed into Grady High School – have been hot areas for a while, but in some ways have been victims of their own success. One not-so-great result of all the growth: over-crowded schools.

Mary Lin Elementary recently underwent a renovation and expansion to alleviate over-crowding there. For years, the entire 4th & 5th grades had been in portable trailers. The renovation included a new classroom wing which finally got all the students under one roof. There were also updates to the front office, gym, art room and other common spaces.

Meanwhile, Inman Middle School and Grady High School enrollments have continued to grow while communities and APS have debated what should be done about it. Many proposals have been floated over recent years, both during a contentious redistricting process and after it, with community feedback rounds following each one. Some proposals involved reassigning Grady cluster students to under-enrolled schools in other areas. Many parents opposed these proposals and they were ultimately rejected.

In September of 2015, APS Superintendent Meria Carstarphen held a community meeting at Inman Middle School to present the proposal that was eventually approved: expand the Grady High School campus, turn the closed Howard High School into a middle school, convert Inman into capacity for the growing elementary population, and build new sports practice fields on the former Walden Middle School campus. Morningside Elementary will also be renovated as it is in dire need of facility fixes and updates.

This plan represents more than \$100 million investment in and by the school system: \$52 million for Howard Middle School, \$33 million for the Grady High School renovation and expansion, \$20 million for the Morningside Elementary School renovation, and \$8 million for the Walden Athletic Complex.

The projects will be funded by a combination of 2012 and 2017 Special-Purpose Local-Option Sales Tax (SPLOST) funding. The 2017 SPLOST was approved at the polls last spring.

In a December 2 update to the Atlanta Board of Education, APS Chief Operating Officer Larry Hoskins presented a SPLOST program update that included the timelines below.

A Grady Cluster community meeting is scheduled for February 8, time and place TBD, during which “we will further explore the short-term and long-term solutions related to capacity challenges in the cluster,” said Carstarphen in a December 1 letter, in response to continued concerns from parents about capacity concerns.

Candler Park’s school board member, district 1 rep Leslie Grant, says “I cannot wait until we get started solving some long-standing capacity and sports facility issues for the Grady cluster, and am particularly excited about bringing the historic Howard building back online in the Old Fourth Ward. I also expect to have a more

concrete understanding, along with the community, about the process as it goes along so that we can work on our mission of establishing trust with the community.”

Please plan to attend the February 8 meeting and stay tuned for more updates.



Former Walden Middle School in Old Fourth Ward will become site for Walden Athletic Complex for Grady Cluster and APS. Photo credit: Susan Rose



David T. Howard school in Old Fourth Ward. Photo credit: Susan Rose



Martin Luther King Jr's former elementary school in the Old Fourth Ward will be renovated to become the middle school for the Grady Cluster. The school building was opened in 1923 on land donated by former slave and philanthropist David T. Howard. The school was closed in 1976. Photo credit: Susan Rose

Project	Design Start	Design Completed	Construction Start	Construction Completed
Howard MS	Feb 2017	June 2018	July 2018	July 2020
Grady HS	May 2018	Dec 2019	Jan 2020	Jul 2021
Walden Sports Complex	Jan 2017	Jun 2017	Oct 2017	Jun 2018

Amy Stout and Corey Anderson were among the volunteers planting at the Candler Park entrance December 17, 2016.
Photo credit: Ken Edelstein



Conservancy Upgrades Park Entrance

By Ken Edelstein, Candler Park Conservancy Board Member

Our neighborhood namesake enjoyed another improvement in early December, when Candler Park Conservancy volunteers completed a first round of plantings at the park entrance. It was the third phase in a four-phase upgrade to the entryway.

Earlier in 2016, the Conservancy engaged artisan Cash Barnes to design, fabricate and install solar-powered fixtures on the granite portals at either side of the entrance drive. The old lights hadn't worked for many years, and the wiring wasn't functional. The new lamps, which turn on automatically at dusk, are based on the old fixtures' art deco design.

Then, over the summer, Conservancy board member Dan Hanlon hooked Elise Cormier of Smart Landscapes into designing a hardscape and landscape for the entrance — as a donation to the park! The Conservancy hired workers to complete phase 2, which includes new footpaths through the gates and stone edging around the beds. The workers also prepped the soil for planting.

Water restrictions put in place because of our ongoing drought delayed the first round of planting. But finally on Dec. 17 — after a bit of rain — Hanlon rounded up Conservancy volunteers planted daffodil bulbs, yuccas and winterberry bushes.

"It turned out to be the perfect day to plant because it was cool, and the soil was nice and moist," Hanlon said.

Phase 4, a second round of planting, is planned for the spring.

That should complete the Conservancy's entryway improvements. But much more work remains to make the Candler Park into the natural place to play that we all know it can become.

More short-term projects are on the way. In addition to the spring planting, the Conservancy is planning two erosion control projects — one between the basketball courts and the parking lot, the other near tennis courts — as well as work days and social/educational events.

Those projects can have an immediate impact. Over the winter, however, we'll also be looking for more feedback on the Conservancy's long-term vision plan. Thanks to a generous pro bono effort by landscape architects at the firm Perkins + Will, the vision will further develop ideas that neighbors have advocated for years. Among them: improvements to the amphitheater, the field, the golf clubhouse, the playground and the pool, as well as protection of both the golf course and the wetlands in the heart of the park.

Keep an eye out for announcements in the Messenger and on Nextdoor to find out how you can help to improve your park. If you join the Conservancy, you'll be among the first to find out — via our email newsletter; just go to candlerparkconservancy.org and click "Join and Donate."

Volunteer to Improve Your Neighborhood

By Zaid Duwaryi, president@candlerpark.org

Our Organization's bylaws encourage wider participation of the membership in advancing the interests of our community and allow these committees to have the autonomy needed to achieve their intended goals. I provide a short description of each of the committees below to help you identify opportunities to volunteer with our neighborhood organization.

The standing committees listed in our bylaws are the following

(a) Fall Fest Committee. As one of our most active committees, it is charged with overseeing the organization and operation of our annual festival. Committee related activities tend to happen year-round, although it gets really active in the summer months leading up to the festival date. If you love our Fall Fest and would like to help organize the 2017 edition, please join this committee.

(b) Membership Committee. Chaired by the Membership Officer (Roger Bakeman), the committee is charged with expanding the CPNO membership within Candler Park. Members will work on ideas to hold social events and expand our membership base. If you like to meet and get to know more of your Candler Park neighbors, then this is a committee that could use your help!

(c) Zoning Committee. This is an established committee that is chaired by the Zoning Officer (Bill Morris) and meets regularly to review and make recommendations to the organization on land use and zoning issues. The zoning committee influences decisions on whether the organization should support certain zoning applications, so if you would like to be part of the team that helps shape the future Candler Park, please join this team.

(d) Public Safety Committee. This committee was inspired by the great work that a group of neighbors did to establish the security patrol in 2015. This team will be headed by the Public Safety Officer (Lexa King) and will administer the Neighborhood Watch program and coordinate with the broader group of Block Captains. This committee will also organize social events to promote safety concepts among neighbors. Please consider joining this team if you would like to promote safety and security in our neighborhood.

(e) Fundraising Committee. This committee that is chaired by the Fundraising Officer (Chris Fitzgerald) is tasked with coordinating the organization's fundraising activities. Members of this committee will propose and organize events, merchandise sales, and sponsorships to generate funds that will support the CPNO's mission. If you have ideas that CPNO could adopt to help fund future neighborhood projects, then we definitely need your assistance on this committee.

(f) Education Committee. This very important committee is active in reviewing education issues that directly –and indirectly– impacts our neighborhood. The education committee is responsible for informing the membership of education-related topics through active communications with APS and city officials as well as our elected representatives. Needless to say, if you are interested in the education matters that impact Candler Park and its residents, please volunteer to serve on this committee.

(g) Infrastructure Committee. This committee was

established to build on the momentum that led to the creation of our neighborhoods Master Plan. The team will lead the effort to recommend the prioritization of the Master Plan projects and help in driving the execution of these projects through active interaction with the neighborhood and the city. If you are passionate about improving Candler Park and would like to influence and drive high-impact projects, then this is the committee for you, and we definitely need your help.

In addition to the standing committees mentioned above, we have the flexibility of forming Special Committees to address areas that are not covered by the standing committees. These can be created by the CPNO Board as the needs arise.

I heard from several members that they're hesitant to join committees because of all the meetings that they would have to attend. Well, I'm happy to tell you all that committee members are not required to attend CPNO board meetings and that committee chairs can independently determine the cadence of their own committee meetings. So don't let meetings scare you away from helping us out.

I encourage you to participate in one or more of the committees above. Our neighborhood will greatly benefit from a wider participation of members and it will help our organization in taking on additional projects. Please feel free to reach out to me at president@candlerpark.org for more information about volunteering on these committees.



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CPNO Officer and Committee Reports for December

These reports were submitted by officer and committee chairs prior to the December Members Meeting

Membership - Roger Bakeman

As of December 11, we have 484 members. This is the second highest number since 2010, which is as far back as my records go (the highest was 513 for 2013). In response to a post on Nextdoor.com November 29 by a well-meaning member with the potentially alarming headline, "RENEW CPNO Membership Now -- only two days left...Membership@candlerpark.org," I received 22 emails requesting renewal. I emailed them back, explaining that renewal is usually done on our web-site. I also explained that membership is for the calendar year, and while it was fine to renew or join now in November for 2016, they would need to renew in 2017 for their 2017 membership. On the web site 5 new members joined; another 16 "renewed," all of whom were already members. The problem is that the current web site doesn't seem to have a way to let members who are renewing know they have already renewed—and so "just to be sure," members re-renew.

Freedom Park Conservancy-Carol Gregory

The Freedom Park Conservancy board said good-bye to 2 long term board members--Denise Bomberger and Stephanie Saxon. At the same time, we welcomed Harriett Lane representing Druid Hills, John Rose representing the Fourth Ward Alliance, and Naka Nathaniel representing Lake Claire Neighborhood. The December board meeting was very busy and included the following: The board heard about new art coming to the ice canopy and pedestrian bridge from Rob Witherspoon from the office of cultural affairs. There was a presentation about a new building on Angier Springs Road that fronts Freedom Park and the developer will come back again in January. Amy Stout presented a bicycle station for which she has a city grant. Amy and two members of the board will walk the park and find the best location for the station. Jay Sandhaus presented his picnic table installation again and reported that the park design committee was in favor of the four installations. Stephanie Wolfgang,

board member, reported that Perkins and Will has been approved to provide pro bono visioning with the board that will begin in 2017. carolagreg@gmail.com


Zoning Report-Seth Eisenberg

On December 7, 2016, Application No. Z-16-053 appeared for consideration by the Zoning Committee. The Zoning Committee members in attendance were Bill Morris, Mischa Uppelschoten, Randy Pimsler and Zoning Chair Seth Eisenberg. The Applicant originally filed this Application on June 28, 2016, and appeared at prior Zoning Committee meetings in August and October 2016.


The Applicant seeks to rezone 1625 McLendon Avenue from R-4 to PDMU zoning in order to bring into compliance an existing historic quad-plex building and add additional residential units on adjacent open land. The Applicant further seeks to condition the PDMU Zoning on the site plan that was filed on November 22, 2016 with the City of Atlanta which features two residential units in addition to the existing structure. The site plan contains an express condition as follows: "To limit the expansion of non-residential uses and subsequent parking demand, and to provide a permanent non-commercial buffer abutting the adjacent residential district, no commercial uses other than 'home occupation' as defined at 16.29.001(17) shall be permitted as a condition of Z-16-053 located at 1625 McLendon Avenue, Atlanta, Georgia 30307. Any future change in use would require the property to be rezoned for any such non-residential purposes". The express condition was the result of the Applicant meeting with the City of Atlanta zoning officials in response to concerns expressed from immediate neighbors on Brooks Avenue regarding potential future commercial use at the subject property. The Applicant explained that the City preferred the PDMU Zoning rather than PD-H and approved the condition language requiring the property to be rezoned for any non-residential purpose.

After the Applicant spoke on the proposed residential-only condition, Candler Park neighbors appeared in support and opposition of the subject Application. Neighbors appearing in opposition of the Application expressed concerns about the proposed rezoning being inconsistent with the Master Plan and Comprehensive Development Plan which stresses the preservation of single family residence zoning in Candler Park. Additionally, neighbors in opposition expressed concerns about the precedent this rezoning project could cause if Candler Park approves the rezoning of a single family R-4 to a higher density rezoning such as PDMU. Finally, concerns over parking on Brooks Avenue were raised since the two units would take away street parking. Neighbors appearing in support of the project stressed that the project is unique to this particular location which serves as a buffer between the commercial properties in Candler Park such as La Fonda and Fellinis. Additional comments in support included discussion on the street-friendly and pedestrian friendly design of the project which would eliminate the runoff and overgrowth nature currently existing on the property. Finally, several supporters spoke about the Master Plan stressing that when it was enacted it did not address every developmental opportunity, and that this property is unique in its location and this project is unique which eliminates the danger of precedent problems should developers try in the future to redevelop single family zoning to higher density issues.

After allowing all guests to speak who wished to be heard, the Zoning Committee passed a motion to go into Executive Session which ended the public portion of the discussion. The Zoning Committee members each shared their views on the project, and a motion to support the Application was made and seconded. The Zoning Committee voted 2-2 on the motion to support the Application, and therefore the motion did not carry. After further discussion, the Zoning Committee determined that it was at an impasse and therefore there is "no recommendation" for this project.



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December 19 CPNO Members Meeting — draft minutes

These draft minutes are presented for review. They may be amended before being considered for official adoption at the January 16 CPNO Members Meeting.

The meeting was called to order at 7:07 pm by Zaid Duwayri, President. Motion to adopt the agenda as displayed passed.

Guest Speaker: There was no representative from APD present.

Announcements:

- Thank you to Mercantile for dinner tonight.
- Amy Stout invited neighbors to admire the new plantings at the entrance of the Park.
- Ken Edelstein reminded people to join the Candler Park Conservancy.
- Lisa Miller encouraged people to buy the new CP banner priced at \$33 each.
- Susan Rose, Editor of the Messenger, needs articles for the Messenger.

Discussion:

Zoning: Walter Brown presented his application for a variance of 1625 McLendon Avenue. The motion “to support Application No. Z-16-053 for 1625 McLendon Avenue to rezone the property from R4 to PDMU zoning designation with the following express conditions: (1) that the project be built specific to the site plan filed with the City of Atlanta on November 22, 2016 limiting the project to two additional residential units and residential only use and (2) that the Applicant appear before the NPU in December before the Applicant appears before the ZRB on January 12, 2016” passed.

Movie Night: Peter Bluestone, representing Friends of Candler Park, requested up to \$2800 for movie licensing fees and bathrooms for Movie Night 2017. Motion to support Movie Night by donating up to \$2800 for licensing fees and bathrooms passed.

Infrastructure Update: The City will be able to repair the sidewalks along McLendon Avenue, Oakdale Road and Euclid Avenue for \$400,000. Work to start soon.

Treasurer’s Report:

Chris Fitzgerald reported sales from logo merchandise at \$2500; FallFest made \$61,000.

Motion to approve the November minutes as amended passed.

Motion to approve the Officer/Committee Report passed.

Meeting adjourned at 8:40 pm.

Submitted by
Bonnie Palter, Secretary
December 19, 2016

*Correction to the November 21 CPNO Members Meeting minutes:
The Paideia School Field Day is scheduled for March 31 on the soccer field in Candler Park.*

CPNO Membership Application

All who live in Candler Park, or own property or a business in Candler Park, are eligible to join. Mail this application or visit our website to join www.candlerpark.org register or renew. www.candlerpark.org/renew

Name: _____
Address: _____
Email: _____ Date: _____

Business applicants

Name of business: _____
Address of business: _____
Name of designated agent: _____
Agent’s Email: _____ Date: _____

Optional contributions

Membership in CPNO is free, but we welcome optional contributions. To contribute, please visit our website www.candlerpark.org/contribute or mail a check with this application. Typical contributions range from \$10 to \$100.

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