

THE Inman Park Advocator



Atlanta's Small Town Downtown News • Newsletter of the Inman Park Neighborhood Association
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December 2011
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President's Report

BY REGINA BREWER, PRESIDENT

It's the end of 2011, and by the time you read this we will have danced the night away at the IPNA Christmas Party.

We have some big things coming up for 2012 including **APS redistricting** and **a presentation on the 2010 census results and what they mean for Inman Park**.

We'll also have **the new IPNA website up and running in the spring**.

We have been through many changes this past year, and I know that some of you are feeling like it's just not the same IPNA. That's true.


We are an organization with a budget that exceeds many non-profits in Atlanta, and as such, we must comport our organization differently than many years ago, when Inman Park restoration first started.

IPNA has changed, but Inman Park neighbors, themselves, have not changed. We are all involved, committed, and care deeply for our neighborhood and each other.

In times of joy, we celebrate, and in times of sorrow, we comfort one another. Then, every April, we join together and throw the best party in the Southeast.

I am very grateful that I live in Inman Park, and that I am surrounded by such a diverse, intelligent, and

dynamic group of people. We may not always agree on issues, but we do agree that this is simply the best neighborhood in Atlanta.

To all of you, I wish the happiest of holidays and a healthy and prosperous new year. See you at The Marianna for our December IPNA meeting! 

A Note from the Editors


BY SUSANNA CAPELOUTO
& STEPHANIE TOBBEN, CO-EDITORS

In this edition of the *Advocator*, we would like to thank our dedicated distributors who deliver this paper to you each month. Our distribution team is headed up by **Angela Carrington** and **Whatley Fenlon**.

If you ask them how long they've been doing it, they can't really tell you. "My whole life it seems," says Angela, whose front porch is the official drop-off point for the printer.

Whatley had to consult his wife, Molly, who said he's been doing it for at least as long as they've been married: a mere 18 years.

What's sustained their commitment over the years? "I was just brought up that you do [good] for your community," says Angela. For Whatley it's "the one consistent thing I do to help the neighborhood."

So, hats off to Angela, Whatley and all of the distribution volunteers for their consistent dedication to the *Advocator*. 

Home Is Where the Heart Is

A UGA student reflects on her
fond memories of Inman Park

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12th Annual Inman Park Polar Bear Jump

January 1, 2012 • 10:00 a.m.
Inman Park Pool

Start the new year with a splash!

APS Redistricting

The latest information about
the APS redistricting process
and its impact on Inman Park

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The **Advocator** is the official newsletter of the Inman Park Neighborhood Association, Inc. (IPNA). In addition to the reports by the IPNA board of directors, officers, committee chairs, and the agenda for the current month's meeting, the *Advocator* publishes letters to the editor, press releases, articles deemed of interest to the community and paid advertising. Publishing of display advertisement, articles, letters, or notices, does not constitute an endorsement by IPNA, its Board of Directors and/or the *Advocator* and the *Advocator* staff. The content and opinions of a published article or letter represent the opinions of the author and not the opinion of IPNA, its Board of Directors and/or the *Advocator* and the *Advocator* staff unless it is expressly stated. IPNA reserves the right to edit all items submitted for publication and to reject any material or ads submitted for publication. Material submitted anonymously, including press releases, will not be published. By submitting materials and photos you acknowledge you have the right to do so and understand the *Advocator* is published online as well in print.

Advocator Deadlines: Articles & Advertising are due by the 25th of the month prior to the month of publication.

Minutes of the November 2011 IPNA Meeting

BY JACLYN MCDUGAL, SECRETARY

Please note that IPNA meeting minutes printed in the *Advocator* have been edited; for detailed minutes refer to the online edition of the *Advocator*.

Newcomers:

Nancy & Chris (last name unknown) live on Seminole Avenue.

Carri Gibbs & Tom Lobs live at Elizabeth Avenue and Waverly Way.

Minutes of the last meeting were amended to reflect accurate permit status for 178 Hurt Street; following the amendment, the minutes of the last meeting were approved.

Announcements:

Oreon Mann- Book Club will be hosting their Christmas Party on December 8 at the home of Jan Keith.

Pat Westrick (on behalf of **Richard Westrick**)- November 19 is a neighborhood work day with tree planting and mulching around the neighborhood. **Cam McCaa** will head up the Springvale Park tasks, **Amy Higgins** will oversee the Arboretum work, and **Richard Westrick** will coordinate with **Jim Abbot** and **Trees Atlanta** on the tree planting.

Amy Higgins- "Pictures with Santa" Fundraiser takes place at Springvale Park on Saturday, December 3, from 1:00 p.m. until 4:00 p.m. In case of rain, the fundraiser will take place at the McCaa residence, 156 Waverly Way (across the street from the park).

Susan Wade- Inman Park United Methodist Church (Sunday, December 4 at 5:00 p.m., and Friday, December 9 at 7:30 p.m.) presents "Elvis & Jesus." Admission is free, but donations to the church are graciously accepted.

Scott Lawton, owner, Barcelona Wine Bar- Thanked everyone for an awesome three weeks during their opening and apologized for any noise issues. They're working on improvements. If you are having noise issues, call their cell phones (which are on 24/7 and numbers can be found on their blog).

Police Officer Report:

Lt. Brent Schierbaum and **Officer John Chafee** were in attendance.

Lt. Schierbaum stated APD has been very busy with the Occupy Atlanta protest; the whole department was moved to 12 hour shifts, seven days a week, but they are back to normal now.

The challenging area has been North Highland Avenue to Ashland Avenue with bikes being stolen. Bike locks have been cut, and bikes have been taken from secured parking areas and even upper level balconies.

Many of these thefts are taking place in the early morning hours so if you are out walking, please call 911 if you see anything suspicious. Make sure to give a detailed description of the individual and the bike, and note specific street names, and the direction the potential perp is headed.

Car break-ins are up in the North Highland Avenue/BeltLine/Hurt Street areas with bags and laptops being taken. Please remove your items from sight so thieves cannot "window shop" while walking down the street.

The BeltLine is under construction so no one is supposed to be on it and criminals could be using this as their escape/hideout. If you see anyone on the BeltLine call 911.

If you have home surveillance equipment please take the time to review it if there has been a problem in your area. Additionally, APD will send a detective to review it, which has been very helpful in the past.

Call IP security patrol if you are a member and need vacation patrols during the Thanksgiving holiday. Also, please arrange to have picked up any packages that may be dropped off. We don't want to offer thieves "front porch shopping" opportunities. Intown Business Center will collect your packages for a small fee, or you might ask a neighbor.

The carjacking by the Carter Center was not a random act. The business owner was taking \$15 thousand to the bank when a car happened to have car trouble directly in front of his/her car. While the victim stopped because of the car in front of it, others came out and robbed the store owners.

Please use different routes when transporting large sums of money, use different cars, different times, different people, etc. Criminals knew the exact route and time when this occurred.

Continued on page 4

Minutes of the November 2011 IPNA Meeting • *Continued*

You can now connect your home surveillance to APD. Every private video feed can be integrated into APD—home or business. This feed will filter into the 911 call center when you call and/or your alarm goes off, and the center can pull up your feed and monitor it.

Elected Official Report:

No one was present to report.

IPNA Officers' Reports:

Regina Brewer, President

Regina introduced **Stacii Johnson, Director of Special Events from Mayor Kasim Reed's Office.**

Stacii Johnson read the email from Regina about the recent problems in Inman Park regarding filming and agrees with her concerns. Stacii noted there is legislation in the works to start a film office in Atlanta. The city cannot require the industry to pay impact fees.

Currently production companies are not required by law to notify the neighborhood, but with a potential new film office, the city will begin sending out notification letters which will also offer accountability.

A discussion ensued over whether a new office would need to be created by the city. Stacii Johnson argued that it would improve coordination between neighbors and the film industry.

Concern was stated that if Atlanta makes things difficult for the \$2.4 billion film industry they will begin to take their business elsewhere. It was suggested that the benefits outweigh the annoyance factor with regards to filming in the neighborhood, and that discouraging the film industry from driving business to Inman Park would be a poor decision in this economy.

Alan Travis, V.P Zoning

Amy Higgins presented background information on the "Wisteria block".

Sharon Gay from McKenna Long & Aldridge and team presented the site plan which will become the zoning map to rezone both the 465 (commercial building) parcel and the 479 (former house) parcel from RG-2 to NC-13. A discussion ensued and all concerns were addressed.

Three separate motions were made and approved regarding the "Wisteria block".

1. Approval of rezoning
2. Approval of an amendment to the Community Development Plan
3. Allowing the IPNA Board to enter into a private agreement with the owner to cover items not regulated by the NC ordinance

Regina Brewer, President

A Code of Ethics Policy will be created for IPNA officers by **Bill Hagan** and should be ready for adoption by early 2012. A code of Ethics is now required

Continued on page 5

On the Calendar

Dec.
20

Happy Hanukkah!

begins at sundown
through December 28

Dec.
20

Christmas Caroling

116 Elizabeth Street
7:30 p.m.

Dec.
21

IPNA Meeting

The Marianna,
located above
Wrecking Bar Brewpub
7:30 p.m.

Dec.
25

Merry Christmas!

Jan.
01

It's 2012... Happy New Year!

Jan.
12

Inman Park Festival Volunteer Meeting

211 Hurt Street
7:30 p.m.

Jan.
16

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

Jan.
18

IPNA Meeting

The Marianna,
located above
Wrecking Bar Brewpub
7:30 p.m.

Apr.
27

Inman Park Festival through April 29

signup to volunteer!

Minutes of the November 2011 IPNA Meeting • Continued

for non-profits by the IRS.

Two locations made it through the filter as suitable venues for the Inman Park neighborhood meetings: Inman Park Methodist Church Annex and The Marianna. Both spaces are free to use for IPNA meetings.

A motion was made to support moving the monthly IP meetings to The Marianna, seconded, and carried.

David Laube, V.P. Planning

David reported that there is nothing new from the City about North Highland Avenue traffic calming plan.

Megan Holder, NPU Report

The toilet rebates are expiring so time is running out if you want one. Letters from Sewer Line Companies of America are not junk mail, but real. It is insurance on your lines, as once the lines cross onto your property, you are responsible for their maintenance.

Johnathan Miller, Beltline Minute

December 3 is the BeltLine 10k run to raise money. The northernmost part of Historic Fourth Ward Park will hopefully be completed by year's end, and the Westside trail will hopefully be completed by spring.

A grant from LCI (Livable Centers Initiative) will help fund a bridge to connect Glen Iris to Ponce Place. The NPU-N meeting was changed to Tuesday, November 22 because of Thanksgiving.

Erin Kane, V.P. Historic Preservation

Nothing to report.

Leigh Hays, V.P. Communications

Leigh Hays was not in attendance.

In Leigh's absence, **Regina Brewer** introduced the new *Advocator* Editors, **Stephanie Tobben** and **Susanna Capelouto** who stated that the deadline for the *Advocator* is the 25th of the month, but late submissions will be considered if there is space on a case-by-case basis.

Greg Scott, V.P. Public Safety

Greg thanked everyone for their support with the beer festival. Special thanks to **Karen Heim**, **Mary Fiorello**, **Katie Morgan**, in addition to all of the volunteers, sponsors and participants.

APD is doing a clean car campaign with the recent increase of cars being broken into surrounding the BeltLine. These seem to be "survivalist crimes" where

they take whatever they can get. They ask everyone to please keep their car cleaned out.

Carolyn McLaughlin, Treasurer

IPNA Budgeted Expenses \$ 14,734.04

Unbudgeted Funds for Beer Festival \$ 4,936.85

Unbudgeted Funds (Board Approval) \$ 3,140.85

Jaclyn McDougal, Secretary

Nothing to report.

Old Business: There was no old business.

New Business: Candler Park Dog Park— the discussion was postponed until the December meeting.

Motion to Adjourn

The next IPNA meeting is December 21 at 7:30 p.m.

There was a motion to adjourn. **Regina Brewer** adjourned the meeting at 9:20 p.m. **M**



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Inman Park MARTA station*

Home Is Where the Heart Is

BY EMILY STARNES EMSHOFF,
UGA STUDENT & INMAN PARK RESIDENT

When I first went to the University of Georgia in Athens and met new people, one of the first things they would ask is where I was from. I'd respond, "Atlanta, Georgia."

"What part of Atlanta?" was the question that typically followed my answer.

I didn't know how to respond at first. I later realized that when people were asking me what part of Atlanta I lived in, they were really asking what suburb I lived in. But, I didn't live in a suburb – I lived in Atlanta, just Atlanta, inside the perimeter. I saw the skyline from my bedroom window, Atlanta.


I also saw that same skyline view every morning when I was driving to Grady High School, which was such a tease. I came over a certain hill on Virginia Avenue at the same time every morning before school. The sun was rising at a perfect angle in the sky causing it to shine on all the buildings and reflect off the windows.

Another aspect of home, that I can't quite find the equivalent to in Athens, is the sense of neighborhood. My neighborhood in Atlanta, Inman Park, played a significant role throughout my childhood and still does today.

The sense of closeness was always prevalent up and down the streets of Inman Park. Riding my bike down Elizabeth Street to visit my friend for a play date, or walking down Waverly Way, or waving to neighbors was always a comforting feeling.

One of the fondest memories I have from my childhood was the annual Inman Park Festival - the biggest neighborhood festival in the Southeast. Unlike most festivals, our festival is entirely put on by the people who live in the neighborhood. All of the Inman Park residents band together as volunteers to work at the festival, and it is a success every year. It's this sense of community that draws me back to the city.

My sense of pride in Atlanta has never been greater than it is now that I am at school in Athens. While some of my friends consider Athens a big city compared to what they are used to, I miss the real metropolis. I miss the skyline – it was a comfortable sight.

Wherever I go after college, wherever I live, and whatever my profession, the city and my neighborhood have prepared me for whatever comes next. The view of the Atlanta skyline, as I drive in on the highway, will always mean one thing for me – I'm home. 

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Montessori InTown is an AMI Montessori School

www.montessoriintown.com



Get the New Year started right with Condition Kettlebell Gym's 6 Week FOOD FIGHT!

What: 6 week Fat Loss Challenge

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We provide classes, support meetings,
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body fat testing – and cash prizes for the winners!

Go to gymcondition.com/foodfight for more
info or to register!

APS Redistricting Troubles

BY SUSANNA CAPELOUTO, CO-EDITOR

Atlanta Public Schools (APS) hired demographers to project growth trends in the district, because some schools are overcrowded while others have low student enrollment. According to school officials, the demographers only considered capacity and cost.

Initially, demographers proposed four options and then officials wanted feedback from the community about their preferences and concerns.

"We need you for this process," says Mikkal Hart Marunga, community liaison with APS. "Give us concrete and constructive feedback because we need a scenario we can all live with."

Intown residents quickly raised red flags and voiced their frustrations to APS officials in online forums and at numerous neighborhood meetings. Each option seemed to have potentially negative implications on at least one of the neighborhoods that currently feed into an already crowded Grady High School.

"If you do not like any of the scenarios, say so; however, if there are scenarios or parts of a scenario that you like, let us know that also," wrote Superintendent Erroll Davis in a letter to residents.

There is a substantial amount of information available online, including the newest capacity study community presentation, district-wide option summaries, feedback forms, enrollment forecasts and district-wide option maps, at <http://atlantapublicschools.us/Page/413>.

APS representatives urge everyone to complete the feedback survey to ensure their voice is heard. "Tell us what constitutes your neighborhood, embrace your school," says Hart Marunga.

As the district makes a final decision about school zones, officials say they will consider five additional variables: academic impact, community input, school capacity, as well as cost and policy implications.

"The final maps likely will not resemble any of the currently published draft scenarios," Davis assured parents.

A group of intown residents met in Inman Park and decided to reject all four originally proposed options. Instead they have drafted a position paper which they presented to Superintendent Davis. (See Neighborhood Position Statement on APS Rezoning on page 9.)

APS reminds us that the redistricting process is in the beginning stages, and they realize that this arduous

undertaking requires community feedback and resident buy-in. At present, APS emphasizes that no decisions have been made about the scenarios posted, and that a final decision will not be made before March 2012.

APS has had a tough year with a cheating scandal and a threat to its accreditation. This is why, according to Marunga, "we know we have to get this right."

Questions regarding the Atlanta Public School's demographic and capacity studies should be directed to apsdemographicstudy@atlantapublicschools.us. **M**



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2011 December Public Safety News/ November Crime Report

BY GREG SCOTT, V.P. PUBLIC SAFETY

As we gear up for the busy holiday season, now is a good time for some tips to help keep yourself and your property safe.

First, thieves know that many of us will be receiving packages and that we may not necessarily be home to accept them. In order to keep your parcels safe, arrange to have them delivered to your office, ask a neighbor who will be home to accept or pick them up for you, or contact Intown Business Center – they have a great package acceptance program that is convenient and reasonable.

Second, remember to stay alert and aware of your surroundings. Criminals prey on distracted people returning home with purchases. As you are coming home

from shopping, scan your street before you park. See something or someone suspicious? Drive around the block, call 911 first and then call the Inman Park Patrol to check it out.

Finally, if you are traveling during the holidays, remember to take advantage of the Security Patrol's Vacation Patrol Program. If you are a Silver or Gold Level Member this service is complimentary; if you are a Bronze Level member, it is worth the \$50 upgrade to Silver to have this helpful service at your disposal and peace of mind while you are away this holiday season.

We had nine Thefts from Auto reported during Weeks 44-47. Items taken were an iPod, GPS, purses, wallets, a laptop, lunchbox, flashlight, binoculars, two briefcases, several gym bags, cash and worst of all, a handgun.

I know I sound like a broken record, but **do NOT leave anything in your car. Ever. Period.** Once again, the majority of these crimes occurred near commercial areas where people were visiting our neighborhood businesses.

We had a rash of bicycle thefts during the first part of the month, centered in the Ashland Avenue/Lake Avenue area, with five bikes being taken. Remember that the only thing a bike lock buys you is time. The only way to keep a bike 100% safe is to keep it inside your residence. As we unfortunately found out last month, even keeping it locked in a parking garage is not enough.

Two cars were reported stolen, one on Dixie Avenue and one on North Highland Avenue. It is interesting to note that they were both Honda Accords. These cars are popular with thieves who are looking to chop them down for parts. If you have an Accord, it would be worth the investment to go retro and buy a locking device such as The Club in order to make your vehicle less tempting to criminals.

There was one Residential Burglary reported on Montag Circle in an apartment building. It is believed that the criminal knew that the resident was not home because a delivery service notification had been left on the apartment door. Again, if you are expecting a delivery please try to make arrangements to have it delivered elsewhere if you can't be there for delivery.

If you are interested in more detailed reports concerning the dates and locations of these incidents, the APD web site has a very easy to use crime mapping tool at <http://www.atlantapd.org/zone6.aspx>.

Until next month, be safe! 



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The Stove Works • Variety Playhouse
Victory Sandwich Bar • WAX

DOOR PRIZES

The Albert • Barcelona Wine Bar
Beer Connoisseur Magazine • Candler Park Market
Dad's Garage • Highland Cigar Company
The Icebox Cool Stuff • Intown Animal Hospital
Little Five Points Chiropractic • King of Pops

Neighborhood Position Statement on APS Rezoning

Please note this is a summary of the official neighborhood position statement submitted to Superintendent Davis and the Atlanta Board of Education (ABOE). Updates on APS rezoning can be found online at www.inmanpark.org; the official position statement, in its entirety, is available in the online edition of the *Advocator*, see page 21.

We are committed to staying united with the communities with whom we have a history of shared SRT-3* and Grady High School Cluster focus: Inman Park, Candler Park, and Lake Claire.

The Neighborhood feels strongly that a slower, more deliberate process is required. Such a process would allow our communities to work together to find a common solution that benefits all children in SRT-3 and the Grady Cluster.

The current December 16 feedback survey and tight deadline are both inadequate vehicles to bring community collaborations to bear in a meaningful way. We propose extending the community input phase of the process at this point by adding the following action through our SRT-3 Local School Councils:

- Combine our SRT's Local School Councils with the initial SRT-3 Focus Group to create a single task force charged with ensuring all community and stakeholder proposals are heard and included in the rezoning process.
- Dispatch this task force, under Local School Council bylaws, to engage appropriately with APS, demographers, and the ABOE, to arrive at one or two new SRT-3 rezoning proposals to submit to demographers, APS, and the ABOE for actual rezoning consideration.
- Use this task force, under Local School Council bylaws, to build community trust through constructive parent and community stakeholder engagement across neighborhoods. Ensure that all voices and options relevant to this SRT and high school cluster are shared and clearly communicated from demographic process, to Superintendent recommendations, to final ABOE decisions.

*SRT stands for School Reform Team. APS is divided into four SRTs. 

A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO KRISTINE & BOB SANDAGE FOR MOST GENEROUSLY DONATING THE PERFECT VENUE FOR THIS YEAR'S IPNA HOLIDAY PARTY.



Congratulations:

Patricia Pillett-Arrington & Rudy Arrington
welcome granddaughter Khloe
Edgewood Avenue

Newlyweds Erica Scott & Bo Young
Austin Avenue

FESTIVAL MEETINGS

7:30 p.m. • 211 Hurt Street
January 12, February 9
March 8, April 12

Piano: Tuning, repairs, rebuilding.
Piano for sale. Please call: 404-378-8310

Inman Park Security Patrol

Public Safety Report for November 2011

BY LT. BRENT SCHIERBAUM

Directed Patrol:381
Drop Ins/Park and Walks: 293
Association Member Contacts:10

Incidents

Suspicious Person	19
Alarm Activation	16
Theft.....	6
Parking Complaint.....	4
Open Window/Door	3
Fire.....	3
Noise Complaint	2
Theft of Auto	2
Burglary	2
Robbery	2
Disturbance	1
Street/Sidewalk Obstruction.....	1
Auto Accident.....	1
Intoxicated Person	1
Damage to Property	1
Recovered Stolen Vehicle	1

Our Sympathy & Condolences:

Mike Mongeon (DeGress Avenue)
for the loss of his aunt

Lacey Goodwin & Thom Gonyeau (Alta Avenue)
for the loss of their son, Grant

Advocator Article & Editorial Submission Guidelines

BY SUSANNA CAPELOUTO & STEPHANIE TOBBEN, CO-EDITORS

The *Advocator* is your neighborhood paper, and as such we would like to include articles and editorials submitted by Inman Park residents. The following guidelines apply to all submissions for publication in the *Advocator*:

- 1) All articles/editorials are due on the 25th of the month prior to the month of publication. Late submissions will be considered on a case-by-case basis by the editors.
- 2) Articles/editorials shall not exceed 400 words. Longer articles/editorials will be considered, but space is limited and we want everyone to be able to contribute.
- 3) Articles/editorials may be edited or held for future publication due to space limitations.
- 4) Articles/editorials may not include any potentially libelous or slanderous content or references.
- 5) Articles/editorials must be limited strictly to issues and stories that may be of interest to the neighborhood; no personal grievances with individuals will be published.
- 6) Articles/editorials regarding potentially controversial issues will run side-by-side with an article/editorial of the opposing view, whenever reasonably possible.
- 7) Articles/editorials must be submitted under a full name and include a publishable email address. No editorial content will be published without these items.
- 8) Editors reserve the right to edit for grammar, clarity, or length. The editors also reserve the right to not publish any submission without a stated reason.

The *Advocator* is a publication of the IPNA, and while we do include standard Board content every month, we make decisions independent of the Board with regards to which supplementary articles and editorials will and will not be published.

Make your voice heard; send us your articles and editorials. We look forward to hearing from you! 



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Atlanta Urban Design Commission (AUDC) Update

BY ERIN KANE, V.P. HISTORIC PRESERVATION

PLEASE NOTE:

If you wish to perform any construction work (beyond routine maintenance) on the exterior of a site, home, or building in the Inman Park Historic District, you must contact the AUDC to begin their review/approval process.

Please contact me at historic.preservation@inmanpark.org as early in the project as possible to schedule meetings and be placed on the monthly IPNA meeting agenda, or for any questions related to the historic regulations or approval process.

	Application Deadline	AUDC Hearing Date
Upcoming	December 21	January 12
Application	January 4	January 26
Deadlines	January 18	February 9

Recent AUDC Actions on Applications for Certificates Of Appropriateness:

October 26

1. Review and comment on (RC-11-202) a text amendment (Z-11-21) on a revision to the Inman Park Historic District Regulations. Staff Recommendation: Send a letter of support. Commission Voted: Send a letter of support.
2. **830 Virgil Street** – Application for a Type II Certificate of Appropriateness (LD-11-204) to allow replacement windows. Approved.

November 9

1. **197 Hale Street** – Application for a Type IV Certificate of Appropriateness (HD-11-209) to allow the demolition of a single-family residence. Deferred from the meeting of November 9, 2011 at the Staff's request.
2. **197 Hale Street** – Application for a Type III Certificate of Appropriateness (HD-11-208) to allow construction of a new single-family residence. Deferred from the meeting of November 9, 2011 at the Staff's request.

November 28

1. **197 Hale Street** – Application for a Type IV Certificate of Appropriateness (HD-11-209) to allow the demolition of a single-family residence due to the threat of public health and safety. Approved.

2. **197 Hale Street** – Application for a Type III Certificate of Appropriateness (HD-11-208) to allow construction of a new single-family residence. Approved with conditions.

Applications scheduled for AUDC:

December 14

1. **850 Virgil Street** – Application for a Type III Certificate of Appropriateness (HD-11-217) to allow a partial demolition, a rear addition and other renovations.

Please see the agenda on the back cover for this month's applications. 

AUDC Contact Information:

www.atlantaga.gov/government/urbandesign.aspx

55 Trinity Avenue, Suite 3350
Atlanta GA 30335-0331
Phone 404-330-330-6145
Fax: 404-658-6734

ANOTHER GREAT IPNA HOLIDAY PARTY!

SPECIAL THANKS TO:

Ray Harbour
party planner extraordinaire

Mary While
and her team of delivery volunteers

Steve Ray
décor

Kristine & Bob Sandage
*owners of Wrecking Bar Brewpub
& The Marianna*

Regina Brewer • Erin Kane
and the many IPNA volunteers



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Items of interest around town

A Season of Magic

Now through Sunday, January 1
Piedmont Park

Season of Magic in Piedmont Park features horse-drawn carriage rides for the first time in the Park! Enjoy the seasonal lights, illuminating throughout the historic park under the beautiful Atlanta skyline. Holiday horse-drawn carriage rides are the perfect opportunity for couples and families to celebrate the season & make lasting holiday memories. Proceeds benefit the Piedmont Park Conservancy.

12th Annual Polar Bear Jump & Arctic Triathlon

Sunday, January 1 • 10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.,
Inman Park Pool (Edgewood Avenue & Delta Place)

Rain, sleet or snow...we jump! Bring your bike and running shoes to participate in the triathlon or just wear your bathing suit to join in on the icy plunge. Or just come watch and cheer on your friends & neighbors. Free warm drinks for everyone who attends or BYOB. Commemorative t-shirts may be purchased. No fee to participate. For info contact John Dwyer at 404.229.3807 or George Gary at 404.308.1696.

“Abominable Sideshow”

*a concert benefitting the Seed & Feed
Marching Abominable Endowment, Inc.*

Saturday, January 21 • 7:00 p.m. – 11:00 p.m.,
First Existentialist Congregation, Candler Park

Featuring internationally known blues singer Francine Reed & friends as well as notable local musicians. Seating is on a first-come-first-serve basis. Beer, wine & light snacks will be available. Tax-deductible ticket price is \$20.

SANTA IN THE PARK

a fundraiser for the Springvale Park Playground



*Thank you to everyone who had their picture taken
with Santa & donated – more than **\$2000** raised!*

SPECIAL THANKS TO:

Nat Emmett, NatEmmett.com

Jim “Frosty” Frost

Cathy Hoffman-Young, Intown Business Center

Inman Park United Methodist Church

Steph & Cam McCaa

Welcome New Neighbors:

Chris Furqueron
Alta Avenue

Chris & Barrett Blackburn
Alta Avenue

Sloane O'Neal
Ashland Avenue

Book Club Calendar

The Book Club meets on the 4th Wednesday of every month unless otherwise noted. All meetings are at 7:00 p.m.

Please bring a covered dish to share.

No meetings in November - Enjoy Thanksgiving or April - Volunteer for Festival!

For more information, contact Jan Keith, 404.688.7330

**Jan
25**

Emperor of All Maladies
by Siddhartha Mukherjee
hosted by Oreon Mann
877 Edgewood Avenue

**Feb
22**

Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks
by Rebecca Skloot
hosted by Jan Keith
889 Edgewood Avenue



Happy Holidays to Our Neighbors in Inman Park!

- The McCaa Family -

∞

Steph, Cam, Schuyler, Ainsley & Millie woof

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Agenda

December 21, 2011 Meeting

IPNA Meeting • 7:30 p.m. • Babysitting Available
The Marianna, 292 Moreland Ave • Above Wrecking Bar Brewpub

- I. Welcome & Introduction of Newcomers
 - II. Minutes of Last Meeting
 - III. Announcements
 - IV. Police Officers' Reports
 - V. Elected Officials' Reports
 - VI. IPNA Officers' Reports:
 - A. President
 - 1. Vote to Hold Festival 2012
 - B. Planning
 - 1. City Council Redistricting
 - 2. NPU Report
 - a. New NPU Representative
 - b. Beltline Minute
 - C. Zoning
 - 1. Liquor License – Dad's Garage
 - D. Historic Preservation
 - 1. 996 Carmel Avenue
 - 2. 10 Krog Street
 - E. Communications
 - F. Public Safety
 - 1. Patrol Car Committee
 - G. Treasurer
 - 1. Report of Regular Expenditures
 - F. Secretary
 - VII. Old Business
 - VIII. New Business
 - A. Candler Park Dog Park
 - IX. Adjourn
-



IPNA Membership: Open to everyone, including non-residents. Membership year is May 1-April 30, though you are welcome & encouraged to join or renew at anytime. First year is free. Membership has its rewards: allows you to vote (see bylaws online for details) and is your invitation to the Holiday Party & other events. Pay online or send a check to the address on the front page. Online applications are available.

Inman Park Security Patrol (IPP): The Security Patrol membership runs from May 1 – April 30; however you are welcomed & encouraged to join or renew at anytime.

Websites

InmanPark.org
InmanParkFestival.org
Facebook.com/InmanPark

Report All Crimes: Call 911

IP Security Patrol: 404-414-7802
L5P Mini-Precinct: 404-658-6782

L5P Business Association

Bob Sandage, President 678-523-5214

Want to be a part of next month's *Advocator*?

Articles & advertising are due by the 25th of the month prior to the month of publication. Don't miss out on this great way to reach your neighbors!

Send article submissions to:
Susanna Capelouto &
Stephanie Tobben
advocator@inmanpark.org



Send ad requests to:
Leigh Hays
ads@inmanpark.org

Online Supplement: Detailed Minutes of the November 2011 IPNA Meeting

BY JACLYN MCDUGAL, SECRETARY

Please note that IPNA meeting minutes printed in the Advocate have been edited; detailed minutes below are available online only.

Welcome and Introduction of Newcomers:

Regina Brewer welcomed the group and asked any newcomers to introduce themselves and the following did:

Nancy & Chris (last name unknown)
Seminole Avenue

Kari Gibbs & Tom Lobs
Elizabeth Avenue & Waverly Way

Minutes of the Last Meeting

A motion to approve the minutes from the last meeting was made, but denied because of 178 Hurt Street. The previous owners did have permits but the work was not done properly nor completed. A motion to approve the amended minutes was made, seconded and carried.

Announcements

Oreon Mann announced that Book Club will be hosting their Christmas Party on December 8 at the home of Jan Keith 889 Edgewood Avenue at 7 p.m. Please bring a book wrapped in holiday paper for a book exchange and a covered dish.

Pat Westrick announced that Saturday, November 19 is neighborhood work day. We will be planting trees, working on the Neighborhood Arboretum, and mulching paths in Springvale Park. Cam McCaa will be heading up the Springvale Park effort, Amy Higgins the Arboretum work, and Richard Westrick will be working with Jim Abbot and Trees Atlanta on the Tree Planting. Please join us Saturday at 9:00am at Richard & Pat Westrick's house, 177 Elizabeth Street, for coffee and donuts (generously provided by Cam's company - *Your Intown Home Property Management.*). We'll split into teams and spread out from there. We'll have shovels from Trees Atlanta, but please bring a wheelbarrow for the mulch if you have one and want to work on that project.

Amy Higgins- Saturday, December 3 please join us in Springvale Park for pictures with Santa from 1:00pm – 4:00pm. This is a fundraiser for the park and a \$10 donation is suggested to have your kids, family and/or pets picture taken with Santa. If it rains pictures will be taken at Stephanie and Cam McCaa's house- 156 Waverly Way (across from Springvale Park).

Susan Wade- Come to Inman Park United Methodist Church Sunday, December 4 at 5:00pm or Friday, December 9 at 7:30pm for their production of Elvis & Jesus. Admission is free, but donations to the church are happily accepted.

Barcelona Wine Bar Noise- Owner Scott Lawton thanked everyone for an awesome three weeks during their opening and apologized for any noise issues. He wants the neighborhood to know they are working on it daily. They have changed their stereo, disconnected anything with bass, eliminated the outside radio and are working on door close time. An acoustic engineering company is coming to see what else can be done. The interior is hardwood and steel so sound bounces around a lot, but they are trying other things to soften the noise. There has been 300 – 400 people showing up daily- majority from IP, which is good for business, but it will not be as quiet as it once was. If you are having noise issues, their cells are on 24/7 (numbers can be found on their blog) and Herman will walk to your door to hear the noise for himself.

There was a question about 2 tier doors, but there is not much they can do other than making sure they stay closed. They are posting signs asking patrons to be respectful to the neighbors, but people like to sit outside by the fireplace. The vampire diaries crew was there late Saturday and they tried to usher them in as it got late.

Police Officers' Report

Lt. Brent Schierbaum and Officer John Chafee were in attendance; Major Dalton was unable to attend. Lt. Schierbaum stated APD has been very busy with the Occupy Atlanta protest, which is a drain to officers patrolling because the whole department was moved to 12 hour shifts 7 days a week, but they are back to normal now.

Challenging area has been North Highland Avenue to Ashland Avenue with bikes being stolen. Bike post have been cut, bikes have been taken from secured parking areas and even upper balconies. Many of these thefts are taking place in early morning hours so if you are out walking, etc please call 911 if you see anything. Make sure to give detail description of individual, bike, street names and direction they are going.

Car break-ins are up in the North Highland Avenue/ BeltLine/Hurt Street areas with bags, laptops being taken. Please remove your items from site so thieves cannot "window shop" while walking down street.

The beltline is under construction so no one is supposed to be on it and criminals could be using this as their escape/hideout. If you see anyone on the BeltLine call 911.

Online Supplement:

Detailed Minutes of the November 2011 IPNA Meeting • Continued

If you have home surveillance equipment please take to the time to review it if there has been a problem in your area. APD will send a detective to review it and this has been very helpful in the past.

Call IP security patrol if you are a member and need vacation patrols during the Thanksgiving holiday. Also, please arrange to have any packages that may be dropped off picked up. We don't want to offer thieves "front porch shopping" opportunities as well. Intown Business Center will collect your packages for a small fee or ask a neighbor.

The carjacking by the Carter Center was not a random act. The business owner was taking \$15k to bank when a car happened to have car trouble directly in front of their car. While the victim stopped because of the car in front of it others came out and robbed the store owners. Please use different routes when transporting large sums of money, use different cars, different times, different people, etc. Criminals knew the exact route and time when this occurred.

You can now connect your home surveillance to APD- every private video feed can be integrated into APD- home or business. This feed will filter into the 911 call center when you call and/ or your alarm goes off and the center can pull up your feed and monitor it.

Elected Officials' Report

No one was preset to report

IPNA Officers' Report

Regina Brewer, President

Regina introduced Stacii Johnson, Director of Special Events from Mayor Kasim Reed's Office.

Stacii Johnson read the email from Regina about the problems lately in Inman Park regarding filming and agrees with her concerns. Stacii noted there is legislation in the works to start a film office in Atlanta. The City cannot require the industry to pay impact fees.

Currently production companies are not required by law to notify the neighborhood, but with a potential new film office, the city will begin sending out notification letters which will also offer accountability.

A discussion ensued over whether a new office would need to be created by the city. Stacii Johnson argued that it would improve coordination between neighbors and the film industry.

What is the notification process for filming?

Because the City of Atlanta does not have a film office, it can feel like it is a very quick process for a film to shot, but it is not. With the film office, they can lead the company to take the best steps, be involved in the process and keep the neighborhood updated about the whole process. Usually these productions are planned two years ahead of time and the company knows what neighborhood they will be filming in 3-4 months ahead of time.

When creating this office it is possible to make sure other special events are coordinated with the filming, because sometimes neighborhoods/streets are overwhelmed with events and filming.

The outdoor ordinance is set up so the streets are owned by everyone, so special events will always happen, but maybe with the film office the filming can be scheduled better.

Do production companies have to go through Georgia Department of Filming to lease out property and get permits in order to get tax credit?

The only thing they have to do is file later to get the tax credit.

Aren't the location scouts/ producers the ones who notify residents?

They usually are the first line of defense and knock on doors, but it does not always work. If the production companies call the state film office, the state film office will offer free scouting.

Does the events office issue permits?

Currently there is one person in the City of Atlanta who issues every permit for Atlanta, so it is easy for things to fall through the cracks.

If the new film office is created, it would be a one-stop shop and issue permits. The film industry is a \$2.4 billion industry for the state.

Concern was stated if Atlanta makes things difficult for film industry will they begin to take their business elsewhere. Should we really focus on this one annoyance and discourage any business in this economy?

Alan Travis, V.P Zoning

Amy Higgins presented background information on Wisteria- The commercial building was constructed in 1930. It served as a grocery store during the mid 20th century. During this time period, the grocery store owner, Mr. Harvey, lived in the home (now burned) at

Online Supplement: Detailed Minutes of the November 2011 IPNA Meeting • *Continued*

479 North Highland Avenue. He operated a restaurant in a railroad dining car in the rear of the 479 lot. During the 1970s Mr. Harvey sold the grocery and the building was converted to restaurant and retail use.

In 1982 the current zoning code was adopted and the parcels containing the commercial building and the house were designated as RG-2 (residential general). The commercial use of the building was allowed to continue as a legal non-conforming use. However, the storefronts all had to remain in use to maintain their “grandfathered” status. The empty storefront has been vacant for over a year and, as a result, has lost its eligibility to be used as a commercial space. Currently, it can only be used as a residence.

Sharon Gay from McKenna Long & Aldridge and team presented the site plan which will become the zoning map to rezone both the 465 (commercial building) parcel and the 479 (former house) parcel from RG-2 to NC-13. (NC is Neighborhood Commercial, 13 simply notes that this district will be the 13th in Atlanta to be created and adopted into the zoning code). Rezoning will allow the empty storefront to be used as a commercial space again and will allow commercial parking on the 479 parcel. The zoning code requires one parking space for every 100 square foot of floor area for restaurant use. The commercial building consists of 7587 s.f. of floor area.

The immediate neighbors make it clear that they did not want to see a reduction in required parking. So, by combining the parcels into a neighborhood commercial district, we gain enough space to parking 76 cars in the lot and meet the 1 per 100 code requirement. It also leaves enough room for a 6' landscape buffer along the north and east sides of the property. Better storm water management was also addressed in the new NC district site plan. Gutters and downspouts will collect water from the Wisteria and North Highland Pub portion of the roof and direct it into a grassy area adjacent to Wisteria.

Underneath the grass will be a retention tank that will absorb the water and then slowly release it into the existing storm water drain in the parking lot. The dumpsters will be relocated and fenced in. The loading zone will be on the street, but they will not be able to load during school hours because of the bus stop. The on street parking was increased, which does not count for required parking allowing two spaces to be used at night as a taxi stand.

A discussion ensued and all concerns were addressed.

Three votes are needed:

1. Approval of rezoning
2. Community development plan
3. Term sheet- private agreement

A motion was made to support the approval of rezoning, seconded and carried

A motion was made to support the community development plan, seconded and carried

Term sheet- private agreement- questions if individual neighbors would be on hook. Regina Brewer stated IPNA should take over all these issues together because private homeowners could feel different than neighborhood as a whole, individuals could move away from area so next owner would be on hook and it is cleaner for an organization to speak with one unified voice.

It was noted that all future owners of the property would have to abide by rezoning rules and that is written out.

A motion was made to support the term sheet- private agreement, seconded and carried.

Regina Brewer, President

A Code of Ethics Policy will be created for IPNA officers by Bill Hagan, a neighbor and attorney, who specializes in this kind of policy creation and should be ready for adoption by early 2012. The code of Ethics was not required for non-profits until 2008 when the IRS revised the Form 990, which now requires that non-profit agencies have a) Conflict of Interest Policy, including whistleblower policy and b) Document Retention and Destruction Policy.

IP Neighbor Monthly Meeting Venue Change Vote

Two locations made it through the filter- Inman Park Methodist Church Annex and the Marianna- both spaces are free for IP meetings so it is a win win either way. The Trolley Barn was not interested and the Community Center does not have enough parking, heat, AC, light.

A motion was made to support moving the monthly IP meetings to the Marianna, seconded and carried.

Davide Laube, V.P. Planning

David reported that there is nothing new from city about North Highland.

Online Supplement: Detailed Minutes of the November 2011 IPNA Meeting • *Continued*

Megan Holder, NPU-N Representative

The toilet rebates are expiring so if you have not taken advantage time is running out.

If you have gotten mail from Sewer Line Companies of America this is not junk mail, but real. It will allow you to buy insurance on your lines once the city stops paying. The insurance is for repair only and not replacement.

Beltline Minute- Jonathan Miller

December 3 is the Beltline 10k run to raise money

The northern most part of Historic Fourth Ward Park will hopefully be completed by end of year and the west side trail hopefully completed by spring.

LCI (Livable Centers Initiative) grant will connect Glen Iris to Ponce Place via a bridge. Hopefully will know more soon about Low Water Creek Bridge.

NPU meeting is Tuesday, November 22 this month instead of Thursday because of Thanksgiving at 7pm at the Little Five Points Community Center

Erin Kane, V.P. Historic Preservation

Erin Kane nothing to report

Adam Stillman reported about the Zoning ordinance - the legislation to make minor revisions to our historic zoning has received unanimous support from NPU-N, the AUDC, and the ZRB. It should be voted on by city council and signed into law by Mayor Reed in December.

Leigh Hays, V.P. Communications

Leigh Hays was not in attendance

Regina Brewer introduced the new Advocator Editors, Stephanie Tobben and Susanna Capelouto who stated that the deadline for the advocator is the 25th of the month, although if you submit something late, and there is space available, it will be considered.

Greg Scott, V.P. Public Safety

Greg thanked everyone for their support with the beer festival. They are still working on the final results and will report those soon.

This has the potential to be a big successful annual event and this year's event went wonderfully and he has gotten a lot of positive feedback.

Special thanks to Karen Heim, Mary Fiorello, Katie Morgan, volunteers, sponsors and participants.

APD is doing a clean car campaign with the recent

increase of cars being broken into surrounding the BeltLine they ask everyone to please keep their car cleaned out. These seem to be "survivalist crimes" where they take whatever they can get.

Carolyn McLaughlin, Treasurer

IPNA Budgeted Expenses

Advocator (two months)	\$ 2465.00
Security Patrol Officers	\$ 8433.75
Security Patrol Expenses	\$ 720.53
Beautification	\$ 695.00
Legal Expenses	\$ 2272.50
Misc.	\$ 147.26
Total	\$14,734.04

Unbudgeted Funds (Approved in October for Beer Fest)

Black Tie Events	\$ 200.00
Icebox	\$ 3,097.35
Intown Business Center	\$ 149.66
John L. Phillips	\$ 225.00
Karen Heim	\$ 19.99
MW Periscope, Inc.	\$ 1,244.85
Total	\$ 4,936.85

Unbudgeted Funds by Approval of Board

Katie Morgan	\$ 2,414.65
Greg Scott	\$ 575.00
IFO Signs	\$ 151.20
Total	\$ 3,140.85

Jaclyn McDougal, Secretary

Nothing to report.

Old Business

There was no old business.

New Business

Candler Park dog park: discussion postponed until December meeting.

Motion to Adjourn

The next IPNA meeting is December 21 at 7:30 pm. There was a motion to adjourn. Regina Brewer adjourned the meeting at 9:20 p.m.

Neighborhood Position Statement



Atlanta Public Schools Rezoning Process

What is expressed herein reflects the discussion in one single meeting called for the special purpose of reviewing the 4 initial APS rezoning proposals. Given the limited forum, it does not address many of the more detailed issues important to Inman Park, SRT-3 & the Grady Cluster that we may have included given a different forum.

We are committed to staying united with the communities with whom we have a history of shared SRT-3 and Grady High School Cluster focus: Inman Park, Candler Park, and Lake Claire. We include all other SRT-3 neighbors in this partnership.

The Neighborhood feels strongly that a slower, more deliberate process is required. Such a process would allow our communities to work together to find a common solution that benefits all children in SRT-3 and the Grady Cluster.

The neighborhoods in SRT-3 and the Grady Cluster have a LONG history of working in collaboration to solve very difficult problems. The current December 16th feedback survey and tight deadline are both inadequate vehicles to bring community collaborations to bear in a meaningful way.

We propose extending the community input phase of the process at this point by adding the following action through our SRT-3 Local School Councils:

- Combine our SRT's Local School Councils with the initial SRT-3 Focus Group to create a single task force charged with ensuring all community and stakeholder proposals are heard and included in the rezoning process.
- Dispatch this task force, under Local School Council bylaws, to engage appropriately with APS, demographers, and the ABOE to arrive at one to two new SRT-3 rezoning proposals to submit to demographers, APS, and the ABOE for actual rezoning consideration.
- Use this task force, under Local School Council bylaws, to build community trust through constructive parent and community stakeholder engagement across neighborhoods. Ensure that all voices and options relevant to this SRT and high school cluster are shared and clearly communicated from demographic process, to Superintendent recommendations, to final ABOE decisions.

We are open to the concept of alternative grade configurations, particularly the concept of a 6th grade academy (or 5th and 6th) within our geographic cluster.

These alternative grade configurations are currently used in other SRTs in Atlanta, in Decatur and in highly urban districts such as Chicago. Marietta currently has a 6th grade academy and a 5/6 Intermediate School model was implemented in Athens, AL several years ago.

Important criteria Inman Park feels would lead to the potential development of productive alternative scenarios:

- **Accessibility and Transportation Issues: We are a walkable, bikable community.**
The Freedom Park PATH now physically unites many of us. Soon the Beltline trail and transit will complete our ability to move freely between our neighborhoods and schools without getting in a car. Commuter and traffic pattern impact, as well as dollar cost incurred by feeder pattern changes, need to be factored in rezoning plans.
- **Need to communicate additional assets not yet considered:**
 - *Taxpayer investment in Georgia PATH and the Beltline:* These two assets plan for easy access to Grady and Inman from the three neighborhoods currently at Lin and the Old Fourth Ward. We would like our community school feeder pattern to sensibly fuse with current and future green investments planned to benefit student access to these schools with far less vehicular transportation.
 - *Vacant APS properties/assets* need to be utilized rather than purchasing new lands. The David Howard High School building and the Walden Middle School building are available and easily accessed by the Georgia PATH.

***We require greater confidence in the data being used to arrive at initial decisions.
More information is needed both in Inman Park and in our SRT as a whole:***

- Questionable data and erroneous assumptions used to make decisions about capital expenditures over the past two decades have contributed to the current problem.
- Without an audit and full understanding of out-of-zone attendance issues in our overcrowded schools, speculation on their impact will not be settled. This will make it difficult to build consensus in these communities.
- More understanding of the impact of charter school factors and how they are calculated is needed. It is important for this SRT to understand their current and future impact on under-utilization of some facilities.