

THE Inman Park Advocator



Atlanta's Small Town Downtown News • Newsletter of the Inman Park Neighborhood Association
advocator@inmanpark.org • inmanpark.org • 245 North Highland Ave. NE • Suite 230-401 • Atlanta 30307

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Vol. 40 • Issue 1

President's Report

The State of the Neighborhood

BY REGINA BREWER, PRESIDENT

The new year has arrived and I thought it would be appropriate to review the last year, examine where we are, and look towards the future.

This last year was filled with many accomplishments and many challenges; and while we may not always reach consensus on the best courses of action, I know that we all share the desire to improve our neighborhood and preserve what makes Inman Park such a special place to live.

This was the first year for our newly established **Communications** position. **Leigh Hays** brought her marketing and business acumen to the job and the result is a beautifully, redesigned *Advocator*. Advertisements help offset the cost of production, as we hope to make the *Advocator* a 100% self-sufficient publication moving forward.

Leigh was able to have an electronic template designed that also allowed us to keep the ads in the online version. We learned that most of the residents in the condominiums and apartments only read the online version so including ads and enhancing the online version became one of our top priorities. **Susanna Capelouto and Stephanie Tobben** stepped up as Co-Editors and have a fantastic staff of volunteers which make the monthly publication of the *Advocator* a much more manageable task.

We are also going to roll out the new website. Hopefully, by the time you are reading this article, the new website will be live. The website will be managed and updated by IPNA volunteers and will have a blog/notification system for all official IPNA business. Additionally, the Inman Park Facebook page is refreshed often with important information and fun announcements. Look for that to really take off in the next year.


Continued on page 13

A Note from the Editors

BY SUSANNA CAPELOUTO
& STEPHANIE TOBBEN, CO-EDITORS

January is the best month of the year, because it is filled with nothing but optimism and possibility.

We love January because this is the month that makes the previous year history and gives us a fresh start to make the new year better than the last. So as neighbors, let's start 2012 in this spirit. Try to put aside the challenges of 2011, and think about how we can all work together to make 2012 the best year in Inman Park's history.

To be sure, 2012 will present challenges that we will need to face as a neighborhood, including the highly contested APS redistricting. But as these challenges arise, let's rise to the occasion with grace and work together to find solutions that maintain a positive tone and outlook. Together, we can make Inman Park shine, even in the face of adversity. Here's to a great 2012! 

**New Inman Park
Website Coming Soon**

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Inman Park Festival
April 27 – 29, 2012

SIGN UP TO VOLUNTEER!

**Inman Park Wins
Coveted Fake Trophy**

Page 5



Inman Park
Neighborhood Association

OFFICERS

President, Regina Brewer
404-588-0202
president@inmanpark.org

VP • Planning, David Laube
404-586-9265
planning@inmanpark.org

VP • Zoning, Alan Travis
404-713-1384
zoning@inmanpark.org

VP • Historic Preservation, Erin Kane
404-275-9759
historic.preservation@inmanpark.org

VP • Public Safety, Greg Scott
404-597-8065
Public.Safety@inmanpark.org

VP • Communications, Leigh Hays
404-402-4554
communications@inmanpark.org

Treasurer, Carolyn McLaughlin
404-688-7900
treasurer@inmanpark.org

Secretary, Jaclyn McDougal
404-683-3934
secretary@inmanpark.org

ADVOCATOR STAFF

**Co- Editors: Susanna Capelouto
& Stephanie Tobben**

Staff: Janet Berry, Randy Bailey,
Andy Coffman, Lori Feig-Sandoval

Submissions:
advocator@inmanpark.org
ads@inmanpark.org

Delivery Management
Angela Carrington
404-577-6594 • angela.carrington@comcast.net
Whatley Fenlon
404-522-5606 • fenlons@bellsouth.net

Chairs & Coordinators

Adopt the Beltline:

Amy Mook..... amook@centergygroup.com • 678-481-8326

Archives: Teresa Burk tburkus@gmail.com • 404-449-3000

Beautification & Sidewalks:

Millie Astin mcastin@bellsouth.net • 404-589-9021

Directory: Judy Clements judyclements@bellsouth.net • 404-523-9922

Education: Paula Kupersmith rdhdbnrns@hotmail.com • 404-577-5319

Festival 2012:

Melissa Miller & Thom Abelew mmremax@bellsouth.net • 404-276-7736

Freedom Park Conservancy:

David Hamilton dhamilton@praxis3.com • 404-663-5151

Graffiti: Josh Green jgnvienna@hotmail.com • 404-567-9908

Hospitality:

Lori Millard lmillard_att.net@att.net • 404-827-0405

Christina Moraitis christinamoraitis@hotmail.com • 404-577-9330

Patsy Fisher abby1@mindspring.com • 404-614-0032

NPU-N Representative:

Megan Holder megan.holder@hok.com • 832-563-5662

Porch Parties:

Pat & Richard Westrick patwestrick@realtor.com • 404-523-4801

SOCIAL:

Holiday Party, Ray Harbour tharbrou@mindspring.com • 404-547-7111

July 4th, Carrington Moore carringtonmoore@gmail.com • 678-641-7923

Springvale Park:

Stephanie & Cameron McCaa cammccaa@gmail.com • 404-414-2496

Master Plan, Amy Higgins AHigginsAIA@gmail.com • 404-593-8253

Playground: Eric Goldberg ericgold@mindspring.com • 678-467-2096

Traffic: Danny Feig-Sandoval danny@smallcarpenters.com • 404-521-1949

Tree Watch: Richard Westrick richard.westrick@gmail.com • 404-523-4801

Website: Doug McLaughlin dmclaughlin@mindspring.com • 404-688-7900

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 December 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:

Melanie Hall and her family reside on Lake Avenue.

Announcements:

Oreon Mann- no Book Club in December; book club resumes on January 25 at 7:00 p.m. Oreon is the host.

Angela Carrington- fundraiser on January 21 for the Feed and Seed Marching Band. The Abominable Sideshow is from 7:00 p.m. – 11:00 p.m. at the First Existentialist Congregation in Candler Park, featuring Francine Reed & Friends as well as other notable local musicians. Seating is on a first-come first-serve basis. Beer, wine and light snacks will be available. Tax-deductible tickets are \$20 at the church.

Police Officer Report:

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

Lt. Schierbaum reminded everyone to keep an eye out for your neighbors if they are out of town and please make arrangements to have packages picked up if they are being delivered to your home. Also, keep an eye out for people dressed as gas/ power workers since robbers have dressed in these uniforms before to rob homes.

There was a robbery at the park adjacent to the Marta station. The police are monitoring this area more, but be careful because robbers see people in this area as easy targets. Lt. Schierbaum likes the IPNA idea of trying to get grants for more lights in the area.

A neighbor saw someone trying to break in around Dixie Avenue and Druid Circle, called the police and officer Walton responded.

Lt. Schierbaum reminded everyone to always take everything out of your car, get packages picked up and write down/ report serial numbers of your products. Only 5% of products with serial numbers are returned and 95% are sold at police auctions.

There has been a beat realignment with APD. Car bumpers used to say 604 (old zone) and now say 602 (new zone). We shrunk as a zone, which is good. Our zone now extends into the Boulevard area, making it easier to connect the dots and report activity over police radios in these “hotspot” areas.

Be careful this time of year with fire safety since circuits

can become overloaded and remember to clean out your fireplace flue.

Elected Official Report:

No one was present to report.

IPNA Officers' Reports:

Regina Brewer, President

Melissa Miller- requested an official vote to hold the 2012 Inman Park Festival on April 27 – 29. Festival planning meetings will be January 12, February 9, March 8 and April 12 at 7:30 p.m. at 211 Hurt Street. A volunteer website will be up soon. Please volunteer for house sitting, trash pickup, beer pouring, etc. A motion to approve was made, seconded and carried.

Regina was pleased to say that Inman Park neighbors have been very involved in Atlanta Public School rezoning plans. Candler Park is putting up yards signs and asked if they could include Inman Park's name on the sign. Inman Park would like to leave our name off the signs for now, but if needed we will do anything and everything to fight this battle. The motion was made to keep Inman Park off the Candler Park yard signs, seconded and carried.

There will be a meeting for parents of young kids and for those who do not yet have kids to discuss the APS issue on January 7 at IPUMC. Parents can ask any questions they may have and share information.

David Laube, V.P. Planning

David announced that he will make a presentation at the January meeting about the 2010 census results and what they mean for Inman Park.

Johnathan Miller, NPU Update/Beltline Minute

The NPU meeting this month is December 22 at 7:00 p.m. at the Little Five Points Community Center and they will be discussing two rezoning issues: “Wisteria Block” and Sommerset Terrace (Poncey-Highlands). A hearing on Krog Street and the 420 Festival is also on agenda as well as electing officers for next year. City Council adopted our new regulations, and they are now law.

Historic Fourth Ward Conservancy will be holding a tour of the newest section of the BeltLine, which is very nice and can be accessed from the Masquerade.

Alan Travis, V.P. Zoning

Dad's Garage is asking for a change of agent for their liquor license. An immediate neighbors meeting was held and they voted to support. A motion was made to support, seconded and carried.

Continued on page 4

Minutes of the December 2011 IPNA Meeting • *Continued*

Erin Kane, V.P. Historic Preservation

996 Carmel Avenue: **Adam Stillman** is serving as applicant for a new house to be built on an empty lot. He did not design the house, but he has been consulting with the architect and builder. The lot is zoned SPI-5, which means it was part of the DOT right-of-way for "the road". There are three non-historic houses on the block. When they were built, Elizabeth Street was used for comparisons of style and materials. This house will also use Elizabeth Street for comparison, but since this house is closer to Sinclair Avenue, it is a simpler American Foursquare design rather than Victorian.

There are no variances requested and the house meets all setback requirements for both SPI-5 and historic zoning. An Immediate Neighbors Meeting was held with five neighbors all voting to support the application. A motion was made, seconded, and passed to support the vote of the Immediate Neighbors.

10 Krog Street: Did not present.

Leigh Hays, V.P. Communications

Nothing to report.

Greg Scott, V.P. Public Safety

Greg is going to create a car committee to find and buy a new patrol car. The current car is not going to last much longer. The committee will discuss types of cars, but they are thinking about another Crown Victoria so all the equipment in the current car can be transferred over and it looks like a cop car.

Greg is still working on the final numbers surrounding the Beer Festival, and he will report those as soon as they are available.

Carolyn McLaughlin, Treasurer

<u>Public Safety</u>	\$ 19,269.16
<u>Social</u>	\$ 6,095.00
<u>Legal</u>	\$ 3,082.50
<u>Other</u>	\$ 2,581.27
<u>Total Expenses</u>	\$ 31,055.79

Jaclyn McDougal, Secretary

Nothing to report.

Old Business: There was no old business.

New Business: There was no new business.

Motion to Adjourn

The next IPNA meeting is January 18 at 7:30 p.m.

There was a motion to adjourn. **Regina Brewer** adjourned the meeting at 8:32 p.m. 

On the Calendar

Jan.

16

*Martin Luther
King, Jr. Day*

Jan.

18

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

Jan.

23

*Neighborhood
Appreciation Week*

Wrecking Bar Brewpub
through January 26

Jan.

25

*Advocator
Submission Deadline*

Feb.

09

*Inman Park Festival
Volunteer Meeting*

211 Hurt Street
7:30 p.m.

Feb.

14

Valentine's Day

Feb.

15

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

Mar.

08

*Inman Park Festival
Volunteer Meeting*

211 Hurt Street
7:30 p.m.

Apr.

27

*Inman Park Festival
through April 29*

signup to volunteer!

12th Annual Polar Bear Jump Draws Record Numbers

BY SUSANNA CAPELOUTO

The temperature was way above freezing (though far from ideal pool weather), but that didn't keep 52 brave Inman Park neighbors from starting 2012 with a plunge into the icy waters of the Inman Park Pool on New Year's Day.

Despite the unseasonably warm temperatures, most polar bear jumpers got out just as quickly as they had hopped into the pool, screaming and shivering (and reaching for a celebratory cocktail!)

It is said that those who do the lap will have an exceptionally good year ahead. A few brave souls completed the full lap, but no one could keep up with neighbor Karen Heim, who brought her flippers and showed everyone how it's done.

Happy New Year Inman Park! 🦋



Photograph by Carolyn Capelouto

Are you planning a neighborhood event in 2012?

If you have an IPNA related event coming up in the next 12 months, let us know!

**email the details of the event to
communications@inmanpark.org**

Inman Park Wins Coveted Fake Trophy

BY STEPHANIE TOBBEN

The fact that Inman Park is the best neighborhood in Atlanta probably seems obvious to anyone who lives in Inman Park, but now this is a reality that everyone in Atlanta must come to accept.

According to Curbed.com, "the mobilization of the Inman Park hordes in the voting process is a pretty great testament to the strength of the community that exists within the neighborhood. And whether you're a history buff, aesthete, foodie, walker or fan of festivals, one must admit Inman Park is irreplaceable."

From the beginning of the Curbed Cup 2011 tournament, Inman Park residents were determined to win. On the first day of competition – deemed a "day of infamy" by some – Inman Park "mobilized its legions and delivered one of the biggest beat-downs ever seen on a Curbed site poll anywhere" to defeat Decatur, say polling officials at Curbed.com.

From there, Inman Park went on to defeat Virginia Highland with 61.8% of the votes in the semifinals, in another day of record voting. And over the holidays, Inman Park handily beat Midtown West for the championship title.

Throughout the tournament, Inman Park rallied loyalists far and wide to trigger a series of landslide victories. Just another example of why one should never underestimate how much Inman Park residents love their neighborhood, and their ability to successfully implement a grassroots effort...even for a fake trophy. 🦋



Abominable Sideshow

BY BRENDA FINDLEY

brendamfindley1017@hotmail.com

Celebrate Mardi Gras early this year in true Inman Park style! The "Abominable Sideshow," featuring internationally known blues singer Francine Reed, is scheduled for Saturday, January 21, 2012, 7:00 p.m. at the First Existentialist Congregation in Candler Park, with all proceeds benefitting The Seed and Feed Marching Abominable Endowment, Inc.

Other notable local musicians on the program include the Big Peach Little Big Band featuring Tony Winston on piano and vocals, Berné Poliakoff (a.k.a. "Frenchy" of Cowboy Envy), the Wasted Potential Brass Band, and Candler Park resident, Dale Mann's "My Imaginary Band."

Seating is on a first-come, first-serve basis; beer, wine and light snacks will be available. Mardi Gras costumes are encouraged and appreciated. Tax-deductible ticket price is \$20, with all proceeds benefitting The Seed and Feed Marching Abominable Endowment, Inc., a charitable corporation formed 12 years ago to educate the public, particularly aspiring musicians, in the art of marching band music.

Since 1974, The Seed and Feed Marching Abominables have shocked, thrilled, and surprised audiences with their zany costumes, wild antics and frequently fabulous musicianship. The Seed and Feed Marching Abominable group leads the Inman Park Festival parade every year and has played at venues as varied as the Governor's Mansion, Philips Arena and Turner Field. Additionally, the group loves to perform at so-called "charity gigs," raising funds for a host of worthy causes.

For tickets, email larrycsmith@gmail.com or brendamfindley1017@hotmail.com. PayPal and credit cards accepted. 🦋



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What Makes a Perfect Neighborhood?

BY DIANE FLOYD

floydjohnbdiane@gmail.com

The issue of fairness is as an important principle in my feelings about Inman Park. I discovered an interesting article published in *Good* magazine: "You Are Where You Live: What Makes a Perfect Neighborhood?" based on an interview with Richard Florida, an urban theorist.

According to Mr. Florida, "When the Gallup Organization looked at what gives you a high degree of emotional attachment to your neighborhood, the answers were pretty surprising. Obviously, having a low crime rate and great schools . . . are important, but there were two other factors that were really critical.

The first was a community that treats all of its residents fairly . . . (*my emphasis*). And then the most important factor was what I call the quality of the neighborhood itself. . . does it have some kind of physical beauty? . . ."

He also said: "in neighborhoods that are more diverse, where everyone feels accepted and welcome, there's a much higher rate of emotional attachment."

I am particularly struck by the emphasis on diversity, fairness and acceptance, something that Inman Park has been having a problem with lately in my opinion.


The Yahoo! Group is technically a private group moderated by the person who started it; however, it is currently the *de facto* main means of communication for the neighborhood between *Advocator* issues and the monthly meetings.

While the Yahoo! Group has become vital to sharing of information and concerns, from the holiday schedule for trash pick-up to breaking news about crimes, it is still a private group. Shouldn't all neighbors have access to a communication source if they want it?

The *Advocator* is limited in what it can print because of a monthly publication schedule, and only a small number of people attend the IPNA meetings relative to the population of the neighborhood. By default, the private Yahoo! Group has filled a large gap in communication between these two forums and it should not remain a private online group.

Just as the *Advocator* must be edited, the Yahoo! Group also needs to be moderated. However, that job is too much for one person. I propose that the existing Yahoo! Group be adopted as an official discussion forum for

IPNA, and that a three person committee, appointed by the membership, is established to moderate the group.

Alternatively, IPNA can establish a new non-private online group to serve that purpose. Just as the *Advocator* co-editors struggle with deciding what should be published to ensure accuracy and balance as well as a free discussion of issues, given the limits of a monthly publication, this group of moderators will also need to balance these same needs within the limits of an online email forum. 



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January Public Safety News/ December Crime Report

BY GREG SCOTT, V.P. PUBLIC SAFETY

2011 had its ups and downs regarding crime in Inman Park; however, I am pleased to report that – despite the relatively mild weather we have had so far this winter – Inman Park made it through the holiday season with an actual decrease in criminal activity.

While the Inman Park Security Patrol can take most of the credit, it must be pointed out that the residents and businesses in our neighborhood also deserve a “pat on the back” for their contributions. By contributions, I don’t just mean financial (although, we are kicking off our 2012 fundraising for the Inman Park Security Patrol very soon!), but also the good safety habits, vigilance and communication everyone has developed and practiced this past year.

Let’s continue this trend into the new year. Remember to keep nothing of value in your vehicle, be aware of your surroundings, and if you see something suspicious, call 911 and then the Inman Park Security Patrol. Let’s make 2012 our safest year yet!

Thefts from vehicles and bicycle thefts still seem to be our biggest challenge. We had six car break-ins reported during weeks 48-51 on Dixie Avenue, Montag Circle, North Highland Avenue, Elizabeth Avenue and Edgewood Avenue, with a total loss of a license plate, a camera, a laptop, a duffel bag, a purse and an MP3 player.

In the incident on Dixie Avenue, alert citizens called 911 when they saw the perpetrator in the vehicle. He was apprehended a short time later by our own Officer Walters in the IPSP Car and the victim’s property was recovered.

Bikes were stolen on North Highland Avenue, Lake Avenue, Seminole Avenue and Elizabeth Avenue. A laptop was snatched from a patron at a coffee shop on North Highland Avenue.

There were two robberies reported: one on November 21 on Virgil Street, which is still under investigation; and one on November 25 in the Poplar Circle section of Freedom Park. As a general rule, avoid walking through the park at night and to stick to areas that are better lit and less isolated.

If you are interested in more detailed reports concerning the dates and locations of these incidents, the Atlanta Police Department 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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Springvale Park Alley

BY JANE MILLER
getdusty@att.net

Folks, just a reminder to those who may not be aware that the little, beat up alley-like road going along Springvale Park is not primarily a path to get access to the park. Its primary use was intended to provide access to the the houses that back up to the park. This was a condition that the city agreed to in exchange for Mr. Hurt's gift of the land for the park.

Nobody seems to know anymore just who, exactly, is in charge of the alley. Nevertheless, those of us whose properties back up to the park use the alley every day, and we need to ensure easy access.

Furthermore, we have tenants who live in our apartment on the lower level of our house who come and go. If, for some reason, you must park your car in the alleyway, please do so in such a way that does not block access to our houses. We greatly appreciate your cooperation in maintaining access to the back of our homes.

One other thing to note about the park area is to pay attention to your speed when going down Waverly Way. Please exert extreme caution on Waverly Way and SLOW DOWN. Children play and run and ride bikes along the alley, and often when on a bike, the children will ride full speed out onto Waverly Way, never looking right or left to check on an oncoming car.

So, please, SLOW DOWN. We could really us a sign to that effect, or even a speed bump along there. **M**

Neighborhood Appreciation Month

Dine out to help keep the neighborhood safe!

Little Five Points Police Mini Precinct

January 9 - 12

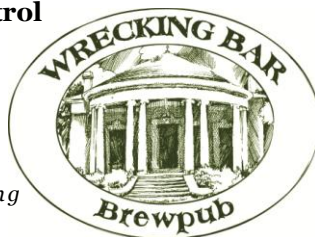
Candler Park Neighborhood Association

January 16 - 19

Inman Park Security Patrol

January 23 - 26

A portion of proceeds over the specified dates will be donated to the corresponding neighborhood organization.



Springvale Park Playground Needs YOU!

The Inman Park Playground Committee is looking for a neighborhood volunteer to help research grant opportunities to fund the new Springvale Park Playground.

No fundraising or grant research experience is necessary, just a desire to serve the neighborhood, and an interest in providing the children of Inman Park a safe, creative, and fun place to play.

Contact Eric Goldberg, Playground Chair, at ericgold@mindspring.com to learn more about volunteer opportunities.

Inman Park Security Patrol

Public Safety Report for December 2011

BY LT. BRENT SCHIERBAUM

Directed Patrol:481
Drop Ins/Park and Walks: 298
Association Member Contacts: 11

Incidents

Alarm Activation27
Suspicious Person 20
Suspicious Vehicle 3
Theft..... 3
Street/Sidewalk Obstruction..... 2
Disturbance/Fight 2
Open Window/Door 2
Abandoned Auto 2
Wanted Person.....1
Stolen Vehicle.....1
Pedestrian Robbery.....1
Snatch Theft1
Noise Complaint1
Parking Complaint.....1
Illegal Drugs1
Person Stabbed1
Entering Auto in Progress1
Hit and Run.....1
Found Property1
Arrest (Entering Automobile)1
Vehicle Impound.....1

Launch of the New Inman Park Website

BY LEIGH HAYS, V.P. COMMUNICATIONS

The new website will be live this month! The hope is that as you are reading this, the new website will already be up and running (www.inmanpark.org). In light of the recent APS discussions and the need to share information in real time with everyone in the neighborhood, the Board decided that it would be a great idea to fast track the launch of the new website.

One of the features in the new Wordpress-designed website is the “Headline” feature. The “Headline” feature will fill a huge gap we presently have in the neighborhood in delivering information to ALL people in an efficient and timely manner.

Once the new website is live, please take a few minutes and subscribe to the website. (If you subscribed to the previous website, please sign up again as we are unsure of the transfer of subscribers in the changeover.) If you choose to subscribe, you will be notified via email as soon as a new “Headline” is posted to the website.


Please note, you are not required to subscribe; however, if you do not subscribe, you will not receive an email when a new “Headline” is posted. If you choose not to subscribe, you still can log into the website at any time to check for new “Headline” posts.

The website will not require login and as such, all information posted on the website will be available to ANYONE in the public domain. ***The list of subscribers will remain confidential and will not be used for any other purposes.***

With the fast tracking of the website, we will be continuing to add content after we are live. Please be patient. The benefits of having the “Headline” feature available now clearly outweighs the fact that not all features and content of the new website will go live simultaneously.

As we transition between web hosts, please bear with us, as minor delays and challenges are likely. But rest assured, we have a solid transition plan in place, and we are confident that the new website will bring a much needed means of real time communication to the neighborhood.

We hope you will like the new design and find it easy to navigate. If you have information about upcoming events, etc. that you would like to share with your neighbors, please email me at communications@inmanpark.org. I will be talking more about the new website’s features at the January IPNA meeting.

CHEERS to 2012! 

NPU Update

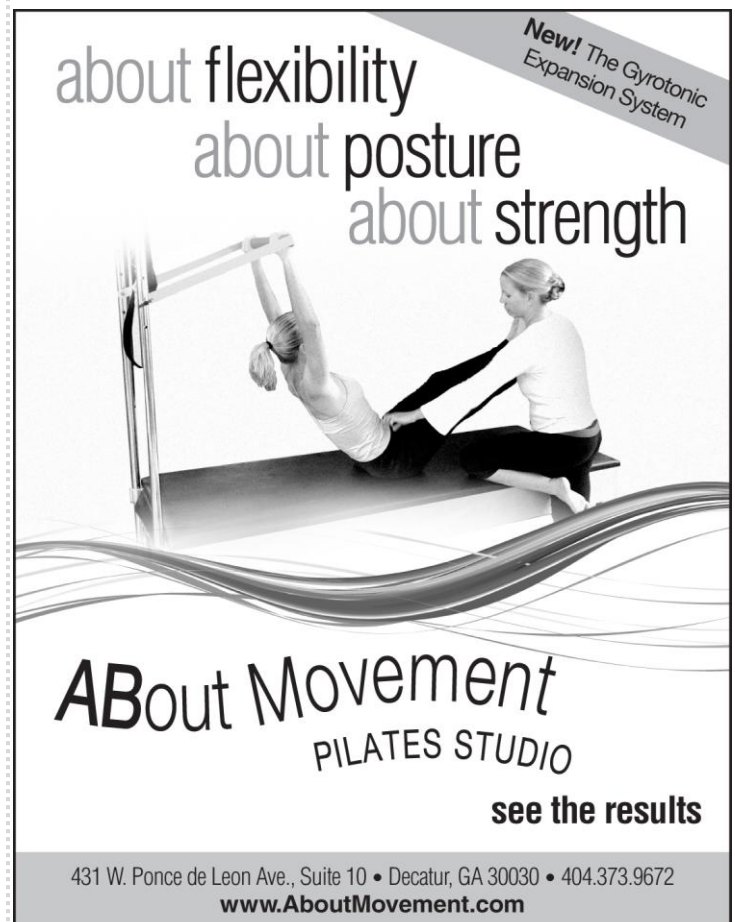
BY MEGAN HOLDER, NPU – N REPRESENTATIVE

For almost four years now I have had the honor of serving as the IPNA representative for NPU-N. It has been a great way to meet more of you, as well as others in the NPU-N family of neighborhoods.

It has been an exciting four years, but it is time for me to pass the torch to someone else. My responsibilities at my day-job are changing and it will likely mean more travel adventures, and less time to fill the role of NPU-N representative.

I am looking for a volunteer who is passionate about Inman Park and would like to represent our collective voice to take my place on the NPU-N board. If you are interested in finding out more about the responsibilities, please send me an email at megan.holder@hok.com. I will continue to fill the role until we find the right replacement.

Again, thank you for the privilege of representing Inman Park in this capacity. 



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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	January 4	January 26
Application	January 18	February 9
Deadlines	January 31	February 22

Recent AUDC Actions on Applications for Certificates Of Appropriateness:


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. Approved with revised conditions.

Applications scheduled for AUDC:

January 11

1. **966 Carmel Avenue** – Application for a Type III Certificate of Appropriateness (HD-11-234) to allow a new single-family residence. Property is zoned Inman Park Historic District (Subarea 1)/ SPI-5 (SA3) - Inman Park Special Public Interest District, Subarea 3.
2. **465, 467, 469, 471 & 479 North Highland Avenue** – Review and Comment (RC-11-235) on a rezoning application (Z-11-035) from RG-2/HC 16-20L:SA 1 to NC-13 Inman Park/ HC 16-20L:SA 1. Properties are zoned RG-2/ Inman Park Historic District (Subarea 1).

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
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Our Sympathy & Condolences:

Rob Craig (Euclid Avenue)
for the loss of two dear friends

Karen Kelly (Haralson Avenue)
for the loss of her aunt

Yvonne Merkel (North Highland Avenue)
for the loss of her aunt

FESTIVAL MEETINGS

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





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President's Report

The State of the Neighborhood • Continued

This was the year that **Zoning** addressed one of our unresolved issues of the Wisteria restaurant/commercial node. Zoned RG-2 in the 1980's, the empty storefront and the lot next door were a source of uncertainty for the immediate neighbors, and were a cause of frustration for the building owners. Using the successful Mead site process of collaborating with all the stakeholders (IPNA, the neighbors, and the owners), the commercial strip along with the vacant lot will be combined to create a new Neighborhood Commercial District.

There will sufficient parking as required by the zoning ordinance and no outdoor dining which was the number one priority for the immediate neighbors. The proposed rezoning was approved by IPNA in November and is winding its way through the city channels. The great news is that **Jason Hill, owner/chef of Wisteria**, is looking at the empty space for a new restaurant concept. This is a great win for everyone and BIG kudos to **Amy Higgins, the former V.P. Zoning**, who continued to work on this project. Her expertise and professionalism made everyone at the table confident of the results.

Planning has been a bit quiet this year although 2012 will definitely pick up, as the census data is revealed in its entirety and the new council districts are approved. This January, **David Laube, V.P. Planning** will give a presentation at the IPNA meeting on what Census 2010 tells us about Inman Park and what it means for our future.

David has also been working on a traffic study and calming plan for North Highland Avenue with a focus on the Elizabeth Street intersection. Our friends in the Old Fourth Ward have joined in this as they are also experiencing issues at the Sampson intersection. Unfortunately, there has been little movement in Public Works with the information we provided. Jay Tribby has been dogging the Commissioner to meet with all of us, but there is such a back log in that office that we can't seem to make any progress. It's definitely on the "to-do list" for 2012.

Historic Preservation has also had a relatively quiet year. The best news is that the City Council approved the changes to our ordinance that clarified the language to allow for an easier process. The most important change was that all Type II changes can be approved by the staff and the applicant does not have to go in front of the commission. This can shave up to a month off of the current process. We still need to revise the ordinance to address other issues and to take a look at our

transitional areas. That will be on the 2012 "to-do" list.

Public Safety has had the challenging task of making sure our neighborhood is guarded by our security patrol with a much leaner budget. **Greg Scott** initiated the new Beer Chase/Beer Tasting Event and for its first year, it was a solid success. Next year's goal is to grow the event and bring on more sponsors. 2012 will be the year we buy a new patrol car and Greg is assembling a team of neighbors to identify and outfit the car.

At the end of the day, the most important way we can all contribute is to join the patrol. If you are not a member, join. If you are at bronze, upgrade to silver and so on. Our security patrol is the best tool we have to keeping our neighborhood safe. Renewals are coming up in the next month or so. Join/renew early and make 2012 our best year ever.

The budget, under the **Treasurer**, has been the elephant in the room that we finally dealt with this year. We had such a surplus of cash over the last five years that everyone became accustomed to funding nearly every request at 100%. The surplus cash has funded outstanding initiatives including sidewalk replacement, additional patrol hours, beautifying our parks, and traffic calming measures. Now, we have implemented our austerity measures and the budget is balanced. Some of you may be disappointed that your requests were not funded (or not fully funded), but these were actions that had to be taken to ensure fiscal responsibility.

The next year's biggest challenge, without a doubt, is the Atlanta Public School rezoning. We are committed to staying at our schools but must come to the realization that change is coming. Our schools, because of their success, are overcrowded. Even planned additions will not address the number of students arriving in the next 20 years. There are hard choices to be made and I am asking everyone to keep in mind that we want a great education for all of Atlanta's children, not just ours.

Inman Park is working with all of the other neighborhoods that feed into the Grady cluster to ensure that we have a role in deciding where the boundaries are drawn. No matter what the outcome, if people do not buy into the process, they will never support the conclusion. We are hopeful that the new Superintendent agrees and allows the neighborhoods to work with the demographers as they reshape our school boundaries.

As always, I am very grateful to serve as the President of IPNA. We are a better neighborhood than before, but we must always look to the future to make sure we are making the right choices for the next generation.

See you at the January meeting at The Marianna. 

etcetera

Items of interest around town

“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. Mardi Gras themed costumes encouraged & appreciated.

The Real State of the Union

Friday, February 10 • 7:30 p.m.
7 Stages Theater

Hear AJC columnist, and Inman Park resident, Jay Bookman's 10th annual take on the state of American politics. Local writer Andisheh Nouraei will respond before Bookman opens the floor to the audience for a Q & A. Admission is free, but donations to benefit Georgia WAND are greatly appreciated. Complimentary pre-show reception at 7:00 p.m. For more information email Bobbie Paul, bobbie@wand.org.

Winter Beer Carnival

Saturday, February 11 • 3:00 p.m.
Atlantic Station

The 3rd annual Winter Beer Carnival is being expanded to offer more beers and the games you love. Sample more than 100 beers including traditional favorites, premium craft beers and an assortment of the best winter brews - try them all and discover your favorite! And while you're at it, step right up and try your hand at a variety of new and classic carnival games. Unlimited games are included in the ticket price!

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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

Feb 22

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

Mar 28

Moonflower Vine
by Jetta Carleton
hosted by Marnie McMurry
466 North Highland Avenue



2012 Resolutions

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- ✓ Get Organized...
- ✓ Join Gym...
- ✓ Hire Property Mgr



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Agenda

January 18, 2012 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
 - B. Planning
 - 1. Census Presentation
 - 2. NPU Report
 - 3. Beltline Minute
 - C. Zoning
 - D. Historic Preservation
 - 1. Historic District Regulations Revisions Update
 - E. Communications
 - 1. New Inman Park Website
 - F. Public Safety
 - G. Treasurer
 - 1. Report of Regular Expenditures
 - F. Secretary
- VII. Committee Reports
 - A. Education Committee
 - 1. APS Update
- VIII. Old Business
- IX. New Business
- X. Adjourn



Good to Know

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.

IPNA meetings are held at 7:30 p.m. on the 3rd Wednesday of each month at The Marianna (above Wrecking Bar Brewpub).

Inman Park Security Patrol (IPSP):

The IPSP 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 December 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.

Newcomers:

Melanie Hall moved onto Lake Avenue.

Announcements:

Oreon Mann - no Book Club in December but there will be in January on January 25 at 7:00pm. The book is *Emperor of All Maladies* by Siddhartha Mukherjee. Oreon is the host.

Angela Carrington announced a fundraiser on January 21 for the Feed and Seed Marching Band. The Abominable Sideshow is from 7:00 p.m. – 11:00 p.m. at First Existentialist Congregation in Candler Park featuring Francine Reed & Friends as well as other notable local musicians. Seating is on a first-come first-serve basis. Beer, wine and light snacks will be available. Tax-deductible tickets are \$20 at the church.

Police Officer's Report

Lt. Brent Schierbaum and **Officer John Chafee** were in attendance; Major Dalton was unable to attend.

Lt. Schierbaum reminded everyone to keep an eye out for your neighbors if they are out of town and please make arrangements to have packages picked up if they are being delivered to your home. Also, keep an eye out for people dressed as gas/ power workers since robbers have dressed in these uniforms before to rob people.

There was a robbery at the park beside the Marta station. The police are monitoring here more, but be careful because robbers see people in this area as easy targets and he likes IPNA idea of trying to get grants for more lights in the area.

A neighbor saw someone trying to break in around Dixie Avenue and Druid Circle call the police and officer Walton responded.

Reminded everyone to all ways take everything out of your car, get packages picked up and write down/ report serial numbers of your products. Only 5% of products

with serial numbers are returned and 95% are sold at police auctions.

There has been a beat realignment with APD. Car bumpers used to say 604 and now say 602. We shrunk as a zone, which is good as well as the fact that our zone extends into the Boulevard area making easier to connect the dots and report activity over police radios.

Be careful this time of year with fire safety since circuits can become overloaded and clean out your fireplace flue.

Have a safe holiday.

Elected Official report

No one was preset to report

IPNA Officer's Reports

Regina Brewer, President

Melissa Miller requested an official vote to hold the 2012 Inman Park Festival on April 27 – 29. Festival planning meetings will be January 12, February 9, March 8 and April 12 at 7:30 at 211 Hurt Street. A volunteer website will be up soon. Please volunteer for house sitting, trash pickup, beer pouring, etc.

Motion was made, seconded and carried.

Inman Park neighbors have been very involved in Atlanta Public School rezoning plans. Candler Park is putting up yards signs and asked if they could include Inman Park on the sign. Inman Park would like to leave our name off the signs for now, but if needed we will do anything and everything to fight this battle. The motion was made to keep Inman Park off the Chandler Park yard signs seconded and carried.

There will be a meeting for parents of young kids and for those who do not yet have kids to discuss the APS issue on January 7 at IPUMC. Parents can ask any question they may have and share information.

David Laube, V.P. Planning

David announced that he will make a presentation at the January meeting about the 2010 census results and what they mean for Inman Park.

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

Jonathan Miller, NPU/Beltline

The NPU meeting this month is December 22 at 7:00pm at the Community Center because of the Holidays and they will be discussing two rezoning issues- "Wisteria Block" and Sommerset Terrace (Poncey-Highlands). Hearing on Krog Street and 420 Festival are on agenda, as well as officer elections for next year.

City Council adopted our new regulations and it is now law.

Beltline- Historic Fourth Ward Conservancy will be holding a tour of the newest section, which is very nice and can be accessed from the Masquerade.

Alan Travis, V.P. Zoning

Dad's Garage is asking for a change of agent for their liquor license. An immediate neighbors meeting was held and they voted to support.

Motion was made to support, seconded and carried.

Erin Kane, V.P. Historic Preservation

996 Carmel Avenue - **Adam Stillman** is serving as applicant for a new house to be built on an empty lot. He did not design the house but has been consulting with the architect and builder. The lot is zoned SPI-5, which means it was part of the DOT right-of-way for "the road". There are three non-historic houses on the block. When they were built, Elizabeth Street was used for comparisons of style and materials. This house will also use Elizabeth Street for comparison, but since this house is closer to Sinclair Avenue, it is a simpler American Foursquare design rather than Victorian. There are no variances requested and the house meets all setback requirements for both SPI-5 and historic zoning. An Immediate Neighbors Meeting was held with five neighbors all voting to support the application. A motion was made, seconded, and passed to support the vote of the Immediate Neighbors.

10 Krog Street – not presenting

Leigh Hays, V.P. Communications

Nothing to report.

Greg Scott, V.P. Public Safety

Greg is going to create a car committee to find and buy a new patrol car. The current car is not going to last much longer. The committee will discuss types of cars, but they are thinking about another Crown Victoria so all the equipment in the current car can be transferred over and it looks like a cop car.

Still working on results of beer festival and will report those as soon as they are available.

Carolyn McLaughlin, Treasurer

<u>Public Safety</u>	\$ 19,269.16
<u>Social</u>	\$ 6,095.00
<u>Legal</u>	\$ 3,082.50
<u>Other</u>	\$ 2,581.27
<u>Total Expenses</u>	\$ 31,055.79

Jaclyn McDougal, Secretary

Nothing to report.

Old Business

There was no old business.

New Business

There was no new business

Motion to Adjourn

The next IPNA meeting is January 18th at 7:30 pm.

There was a motion to adjourn. **Regina Brewer** adjourned the meeting at 8:32 p.m..