

THE Inman Park Advocator



Atlanta's Small Town Downtown News • Newsletter of Inman Park Neighborhood Association

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President's Message

Inman Park's Arboretum

By Amy Higgins • President@inmanpark.org

As we swelter through the August heat and humidity, I am grateful for the shade of our neighborhood's canopy trees. They are beautiful in the spring and fall but it's summer when their presence feels the most significant to me. For all their worth though, trees are easy to take for granted. For many of us they simply fade into an homogenous blob of background greenery. However, if we want to keep them, we need to be mindful of them. Like all living things, of course, they have a finite life span and our urban canopy needs to be constantly replenished. Fortunately, Tree Watch has been working for more than 20 years planting new trees so as the old trees come down a new generation of trees can take their place. Part of keeping our canopy healthy involves planting a wide variety of different types of trees so that a particular disease or insect doesn't wipe out a large swath of our canopy. To that end, Tree Watch has selected dozens of different species for our neighborhood plantings. As part of the drive to get people to stop, notice, and appreciate our trees, Tree Watch partnered with Trees Atlanta a few years ago to create an arboretum. An arboretum can be thought of as an outdoor museum of trees. Selected trees are identified with a granite marker bearing their common name, Latin name, and an interesting tidbit about the tree. Have you noticed these markers around the neighborhood? Did you know we have 86 trees marked?

Jim Abbot and I helped get the arboretum established. We selected trees with guidance from Trees Atlanta and created a brochure and map of the collection. Oreon Mann tended to it for a few years before his passing in 2018. Now it's time to pass the torch to a new arboretum chairperson. You don't really need to know anything about trees to get started (I didn't). All you need is an interest in serving the neighborhood and getting to know more of your neighbors. It's a great volunteering opportunity for a family. During my days working on the arboretum, my kids enjoyed learning about trees. They made some charming observations such as the fact that tulip popular tree leaves look like owl faces. They also started referring to redbuds as Valentine's trees because of the purply-red, heart shaped leaves.



If you'd like to learn more about caring for our arboretum, please reach out to me at ahigginsaia@gmail.com. I'd love to tell you more about it.

Memories of
Bill McMurry

Page 6

Thank you
John Lewis

Page 9

Speak for the
Trees

Page 10

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We'd like to meet our new neighbors!

If you are new to Inman Park, welcome!
We're so glad you're here.

Please contact the IPNA hospitality chair at
hospitality@inmanpark.org

Also, if you have personal news or a life event to share, the Hospitality Committee would love to hear about it and recognize you in the Advocate.
Get in touch!

2020 Inman Park Book Club

Meets at 7:00 pm on the last Tuesday of most months.
Most book selections are available at our neighborhood bookstore:

A Cappella Books

208 Haralson Ave, Inman Park
10% Discount! Shop local!

August 25

"Next Year in Havana"
by Chanel Cleeton

Host: Fiona Havers, 102
Druid Circle

Sept 29

"The Beekeeper of Aleppo"

by Christy Lefteri
Host: Frank Koch, 941 Austin
Ave.,

Sympathy to Tim Black,
Euclid Avenue, on the death
of his father, Reuben Black



Get your Butterfly flags
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Inman Park Security Patrol Activity • June 2020

Directed Patrols • 66
Drop Ins • 35

Alarm • 1
Association Member Contract • 1
Information for Officer re: Vandalism during protests • 1
Suspicious Person • 1

Springvale Park Update: Fallen Trees and Indigenous Names

By Beau Weidman • g.weidman@comcast.net

There has been trouble among Atlanta's trees as well as its residents. Another huge tree has fallen at a time when we see diverse race differences among our people. Edgewood Av. is the location of some large trees, but there is now one less along south Park Ln. It blocks a stairway entrance but others are available and the area is less than wheelchair accessible anyway. The City is planning to address this issue and we have already experienced the lengthy time frame involved.

Several Springvale plants bear the names of previous natives. Today's Atlanta residents are largely the descendants of Africans along with a significant population of Europeans and others. They were preceded by two native groups commemorated in our plants: Creeks and Cherokees.

The Harjoe family was of the Creek nation, Muscogee tribe. Their ancestral home was the Athens to Macon area. A type of Oconee azalea is named for Brave Snake "Harjoe" who made a persuasive speech to the US Senate and was instrumental in passing a Constitutional amendment. Let's hope modern people fare better, as the two nations often went to war with battle sites at Ball Ground and Blood Mountain, named to commemorate those killed.

It is an environment of the purple rhododendron (Festival bloomtime), a minority since most in Georgia are white. The Cherokee rose (Festival bloomtime) is the state flower. The Cherokee Nation lived in our Appalachian counties.

"Mooshatanio" (Festival bloomtime) is a Florida Flame azalea named for a native woman. It is the fictional, or not so fictional, sad story of her unworkable love with an Anglo trader.

The plants of Springvale can tell us about people who lived here long ago.

Announcing Shout-Outs!

Celebrate birthdays and anniversaries in the Advocator!

Each month a limited number of SHOUT-OUTS will be available for publication. Space will be available for only two 1/8-page SHOUT-OUTS (\$150) and one 1/4-page SHOUT-OUT (\$300). The 1/4-page can include a photo! The deadline for purchase is the 20th day of the month prior to the month of publication.

Go to inmanpark.org and use the "Buy a SHOUT-OUT" pulldown menu to let the Advocator help you surprise that special someone!

IPNA Calendar

Aug 19

IPNA Meeting

Zoom
7:30 p.m.

Aug 25

Book Club

See page 4
for details

Aug 27

NPU-N Meeting

LSP Community Center
7:00 p.m.

Sep 16

IPNA Meeting

Zoom
7:30 p.m.

Sep 24

NPU-N Meeting

LSP Community Center
7:00 p.m.

Sep 29

Book Club

See page 4
for details



Bill McMurry: Farewell to a Beloved Neighbor

William Edward McMurry, 80, passed away on June 29th, 2020, at home surrounded by his loving family.

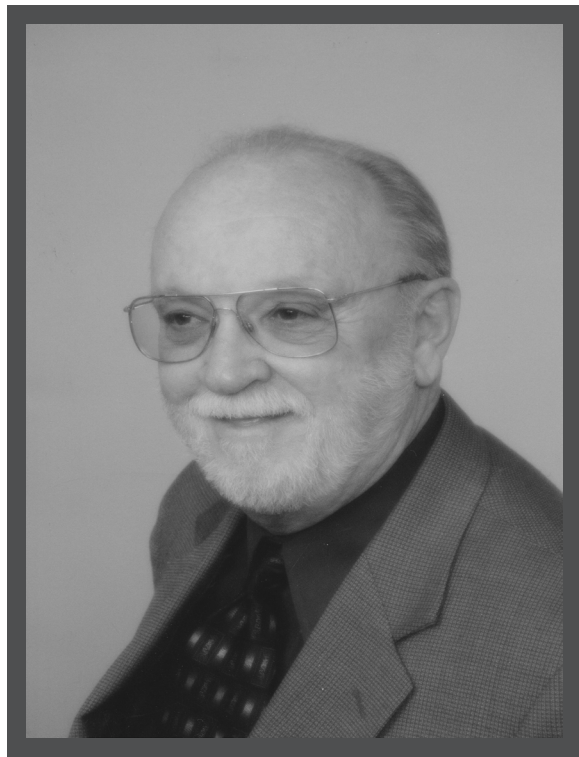
Bill purchased his first Inman Park home in 1971. The quintessential Inman Park neighbor, he helped expand the neighborhood boundaries to their current footprint and served as president of the neighborhood association and chairman of the Inman Park Spring Festival and Tour of Homes, while also providing leadership on many committees for the neighborhood and the BOND Credit Union. He started an unofficial gourmet club in Inman Park that endures to this day. Bill and Marnie fought to prevent the destruction of the intown community when the Georgia Department of Transportation planned to build expressways directly through the historic neighborhood the McMurrys cared so much about.

Bill was born on August 18th, 1939, in Jackson, Mississippi. He received a B.A. in Political Science and a Master of Public Administration from Georgia State University. After graduating, he worked for the Georgia Municipal Association, the Public Service Department within the School of Urban Life at GSU, and the State of Georgia Office of Housing, and he served as the first director of Neighborhood Housing Services in Grant Park. While working at GSU, he met and married Margaret "Marnie" Crandall. In 1977 Bill obtained his real estate license, and in 1981 he began his long, illustrious career in real estate. In 1985 he and Marnie began a sales partnership at 14 West, which they continued at Remax Intown, Dwellings, and Harry Norman, becoming the premier husband-and-wife team selling intown properties. Travel in Central America led them to buy a vacation home above the beaches of Nicaragua and a partnership in El Peten, a 250-acre organic coffee farm in northern Nicaragua.

In addition to Marnie, Bill is survived by his sister Patricia (McMurry) Ward, sons Austin W. McMurry and Chad H. McMurry, daughters-in-law Claudia (Artola) McMurry and Susanne (Carlson) McMurry, granddaughter Amaya M. McMurry, and many cherished nieces, nephews, cousins and dear friends.

The family will gather to celebrate his life at a later time. In lieu of flowers, please donate to <https://www.lifelineanimal.org/> or Friends of Inman Park (207 Hurt St NE, Atlanta GA 30307).

Bill's complete obituary is available at: Memorials on the IPNA website
<https://ipna.memberclicks.net/assets/Memorials/BillMcMurry/Obit.pdf>



Neighbors Remember Bill McMurry

Bill was loved by so many Inman Parkers. We are publishing a few of the comments provided by Bill's neighbors and friends.

Bob Bodimer:

I had lunch with Bill a few days before he went into the hospital. He told me, "I am surrounded by many good friends and loving family. I'm ready." After 45 years of friendship and many discussions about what it meant to get and to be ready, he summed it up this way "I've done most everything I wanted to do and I did most of it on my own terms. I've had a 'great' life."

Bill loved Inman Park and, more importantly, he loved the idea of Inman Park: the friendship, fellowship, camaraderie, and more than a few kerfuffles. He loved it all. His fingerprints are on everything that has come to pass on this great urban adventure. IP owes Bill a huge debt of gratitude for his tireless efforts on behalf of building a successful community.

He may have been ready, but I am not. I miss him.

I came to Inman Park because of Bill McMurry. On the 1976 house tour, Bill and Marnie had their house on Alta on tour. Front room beautifully done. Peek through a pocket door to a parlor without a floor! I thought, if these people can do this, so can I. A few months later I bought my first house—didn't even own a skill saw! With Bill's instruction, encouragement, advice, and counsel, I made the transition from Suburbanite to Inman Parker. Thank you!

Bill and I started a long and storied friendship. We renovated houses and encouraged each other through IRS audits, child problems, passing of parents, career upheavals, health issues, divorces, birth of grandchildren, and many other life changes. We celebrated birthdays, business successes, international travel, fine dining, and countless laughs.

This could only happen to Bill: he brought his brand-new car directly from the dealer over to my house to show off. We went for a new car spin. Going down Page Ave. in Candler Park, we hit a small bump and saw a tire rolling down the street in front of us. A front wheel literally fell off. Someone at the dealer had failed to tighten lug nuts! Only one of us was laughing that day.

I don't know where Bill is now; I'm sure he has organized a committee and started generating enthusiasm for some changes that need to be made.

Bill had a "great" life. I was privileged to be part of it.

Karen Heim:

Twenty-five years ago, my dog, Stella Blue, and I used to walk around the neighborhood before daylight while no one else was out. One morning while we were on Hurt Street, Bill, still sleepy, opened his front door and picked up his newspaper off his front porch. A full "moon" was seen at dawn—Bill was buck naked! I didn't say a word and just kept walking. . . .

In the mid-1990s, when I was organizing Butterfly Ball, committee-member Bill wanted to shake things up. His idea was the Moth Ball. (Sorry, Candler Park, Bill thought of it first.) In those days we did most of the work ourselves. I put a call out to borrow a pick-up truck for the trip to Tower Liquor Store. Bill offered his blue Ford F150. In fact, he offered to sell it to me for \$1,000—well worth it, but I was short on funds and passed. I will never forget the last hour of Festival, when I was picking up trash at the corner of Elizabeth and Euclid. Bill pulled up in front of me in a golf cart and said, "I talked to Marnie. We're gonna give you the truck." I burst into tears, overcome with gratitude at this kindness!

Bill knew how much I envied him that he got to pull a trailer with a Bo Bradshaw tractor in the Parades. About 15 years ago, I was in front of Variety Playhouse, watching the LSP Halloween Parade. As Bill came by, he waved at me and motioned, "C'mon!" I jumped up on that tractor and drove it down Euclid to Moreland. Bill even suggested I turn onto Moreland, but don't worry, Bo, I didn't!

Bill McMurry, you were the epitome of what this neighborhood is about—your kindness, your generosity, and your sense of humor. We will truly miss you. Rest easy, my friend.

Jan Keith:

When you look at one of our yellow Inman Park street markers, think of Bill McMurry. He jumped in, championed the idea, and got it done.

Cathy Bradshaw:

Bill was a rock. Bill was the definition of "good neighbor." Bill was the role model for volunteer service. If a job needed doing, Bill was usually first on the scene to get it done. Trash on the street, an emergency at someone's home, a meeting that needed a crowd, a report that needed writing, a meal for a sick friend, a patrol through the neighborhood late at night to curb crime, ice for Festival vendors, a committee chair to resolve a zoning issue, clean-up after Festival. The list is too long to remember everything Bill, usually with Marnie by his side, did for our neighborhood.

Bill had a great sense of humor. Halloween was a favorite holiday for scaring the daylights out of neighborhood kids. Many young adults must still have nightmares about the scary trip up the sidewalk on Hurt Street to collect Halloween candy. One year Bill dressed in coveralls and sat stone still in a rocking chair with a flashlight on his face. Just as the trick-or-treater got close enough to grab a piece of candy, Bill gave out a haunting "Boo." Some kids probably never returned to that house.

Having children within months of each other, our families shared many good times together, starting with the babysitting co-op. We had little money and less free time, so sharing babysitting duties created lasting friendships for parents and children. As my friend and neighbor, I could always count on Bill to listen, offer advice, and provide support.

Another IP Pioneer is gone. Needless to say, I will miss my friend.

Bo Bradshaw:

Of all my good memories of Bill over the 40 years I knew him, one highlight would have to be the time he helped me tear down the old hot-air furnace in the house that became Java Vino. I wanted the furnace's innermost casting for its artistic shape, and Bill agreed to help me get it out of there. It turned out to be a huge, nasty, filthy job, that tried us to no end, because all the ductwork, outer furnace shell, plumbing, etc. had to be removed to get to this one cast-iron piece I longed for. We were both completely covered in carbon and soot after four hours of sweat and toil. After the cast-iron piece was on my truck, Bill exclaimed that he must be a true friend to have persevered through such a nasty ordeal—and for a prize few would cherish!

Sally Dorn:

I first met Bill in 1978 when he was the listing agent for the first house we bought in Inman Park. We knew very little about renovating an old house, and Bill was a valuable resource for us. He quickly became a dear friend whom we could rely on for advice, help, and good times. Bill was the kindest and most generous man I have ever known. In 1991, after I suffered a traumatic brain injury, I was unable to walk alone. I would get lost and often fall. Three times per week for nine months Bill walked with me around the neighborhood. So much of my recovery I attribute to this gift of time, patience, and love. Thank you, Bill, for over 40 years of friendship. You lived a good life.

(continued page 9)



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Memories of Bill McMurry, continued

Pat Westrick:

Bill was smart and funny, and his humorous instincts were always spot on. In the mid-'70s, Bill and Marnie briefly lived on the block of Sinclair between Seminole and Colquitt. It felt a bit like the wild frontier in those days, around the corner from Little 5 Points and the infamous Redwood Lounge. One memorable evening—I believe beer was (as usual) involved—Richard and I, along with fellow Sinclairians Wayne Maddux, Vicki Parsons, and Janet and Carl Sepcich, joined the McMurrys on their porch high above the alley that ran behind the houses on Colquitt from the L5P parking lot to Sinclair. Along came two revelers, stumbling down the alley. One of them decided to relieve himself against the wall directly below the porch. It was Bill who stood up and started applauding—and of course we all joined in.

Bill's was the most disreputable truck at Festival Clean-up every year, and everyone wanted to ride in it; our kids knew they were growing up when they were actually allowed to accompany Bill in the front seat. He was Festival Chair the year Theatre Night was created (and I think it was his idea). In the days before we had an honest-to-God Security Patrol, he insisted on cruising the neighborhood late at night (frequently recruiting Richard to ride along) to make sure nothing nefarious was occurring. And he loved this neighborhood fiercely.

He and Marnie were responsible for bringing some of our favorite neighbors to Inman Park, and my personal debt to him for talking me into getting my real estate license and guiding me through those difficult first years can never be repaid. He emphasized ethics and personal service, and those values characterized everything he did, every day.

Rest in Peace, dear friend. You are sorely missed.

Susan Crawley:

Bill and Marnie are so entangled with Inman Park in my memory that it's impossible to separate them. Bill was wise and funny and generous and caring. And how he loved this neighborhood!

After being my friends for over a decade and my landlords for several years, in 1990, Bill and Marnie sold my fiancé and me my first house here. I doubt I was always the easiest client, but the McMurrys were patient and sympathetic, and I'll always be grateful. Bill gave me some advice that benefited me at his expense. "Don't do what we did," he said. "Don't buy so much house you can't afford to furnish it!" As always, I took his sage advice—and we at least had furniture in every room.

The Monday after the first Festival I co-chaired, Bill said he would come by and pick me up (in his truck, of course) to survey the neighborhood. As we rode around looking for messes, he said, "I do this every year after Festival to see whether we've missed anything that needs cleaning up." Well, of course he did.

To say Inman Park won't be the same without him doesn't begin to express it.

Thank You, John Lewis

By Ruth Wall and Cathy Bradshaw

I first met John Lewis in 1980 and that meeting led to deep friendship with John, his wife, Lillian, and their son, John Miles. I fell in love with John Lewis and all he stood for and he would become an important part of my life, an important friend of Inman Park, intown neighborhoods, the City, the State, and the country.

When John ran for a city-wide seat on the Atlanta City Council in 1981, we hosted several campaign parties at our Hurt Street house to help John's campaign and introduce him to neighbors. We were thrilled that John won and would represent Inman Park.

As our city councilperson, John supported the neighborhoods during the 10-year battle against construction of the parkway that would have destroyed intown historic neighborhoods. John was not swayed by pressure from former president Jimmy Carter or Mayor Andy Young. John always supported his friends and constituents and fought for what was right.

In 1986, John was elected to the US House of Representatives and we all took the train to Washington DC to witness John's swearing in. Forty people took over the train and the club car, ate homemade Jambalaya (made by my husband, Wayne Wall), and had an all-night party. After being sworn into Congress, John was appointed to the Appropriations Committee. John asked Inman Park to host a brunch for the Chairman of the Appropriations Committee to be held at our house on Hurt Street. John invited the Commissioner of GA DOT and top officials in GA and Atlanta to attend.

(continued page 11)



Speak for the Trees: Inman Park Treevia

By Jim Abbot • abbot.jim@gmail.com

In 2014, Inman Park's tree canopy was measured at 31%, compared to 48% for the city as a whole.

Joel Hurt is said to have planted 180 live oaks —not a species adapted to the Piedmont region, as I've mentioned before — in his new garden suburb

The 'Cathedral' live oaks planted several years ago along the west side of Spruce Street are genetically identical. Their parent tree grew in Penney Farms, Florida, near Jacksonville.

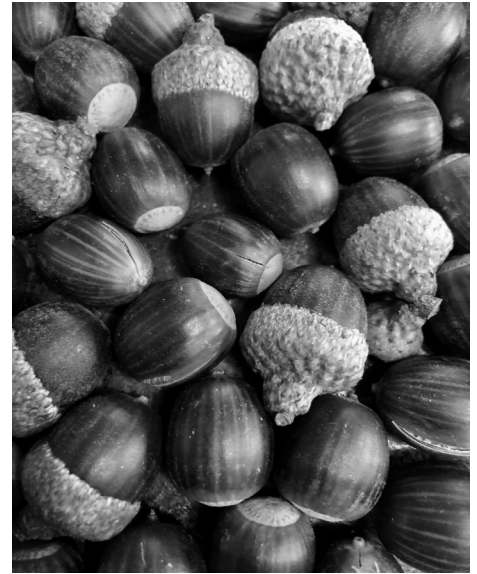
The short stretch of Euclid Avenue between Elizabeth Street and the eastern boundary of the Hurt Mansion lot features six oak species: northern red, Shumard, water, chinquapin, swamp white, and white.

The oaks growing on the hillside in front of Bass Lofts, which are now 35-40 feet tall, were planted by Inman Park volunteers not even 20 years ago.

Each of our largest trees in Inman Park exhales up to 40,000 gallons of water annually — that's more water than would be needed to fill a swimming pool 20 feet wide, 40 feet long, and 6 feet deep.

Shortly after the turn of the century, Joel Hurt hired the renowned landscape architecture firm, The Olmsted Brothers, of Brookline, Massachusetts, to improve the plantings in Springvale Park.

Tree Heroes in Inman Park include, but are not limited to, Ann and Bill Moore at 213 Elizabeth Street, who have had nine trees planted in the last two decades, including a northern red oak, American linden, and two blackgums; Diane and John Floyd, at 116 Elizabeth, with two serviceberries, a fabulous overcup oak, and multiple trees in the back yard; and Gray and Marge Crouse at 876 Euclid Avenue, with an American linden, a blackgum, a gingko, and several others.



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Bloody Mary's accompanied the discussion of one topic -stopping the road through our intown neighborhoods. John taught us how to "get in good trouble".

John was so thrilled at the parties that Inman Park threw for him that he asked us to fly to Washington DC and throw a party at the Democratic headquarters. We jumped on a plane, along with Deacon Burton, his well-seasoned cast iron skillet, pot and pans, and the ingredients for a "Southern Fried Chicken and Mint Julep Party" for all the Congressional Democrats. This was so successful, we returned for parties over the next three years.

During the 1988 Democratic Convention in Atlanta, John asked me to organize and host an event in Inman Park. We called it "Victorian Nights - Victorious Days". Forty members of Congress and a multitude of friends attended. We closed Elizabeth Street, had homes on tour, served Mint Juleps and hors d'oeuvres, held a Victorian Parade with two bands as neighbors and children were adorned in Victorian attire. Our famous chef, Deacon Burton, drove a horse and carriage with Honorable John and Lillian Lewis smiling and waving to all. Press attending were CBS Dan Rather, NBC Harry Smith, 60 Minutes Ed Bradley, AJC, Washington Post and USA Today. There was also a brunch for all the dignitaries at our house on Hurt Street with my husband, Wayne Wall, once again serving his famous Jambalaya and Bloody Mary's.

Every year at the Inman Park Festival, John, Lillian, and their son, John Miles parked at our Hurt Street house to attend the annual festival parade party where they would meet with elected officials, old friends, neighbors, and many of his constituents. Often, John would be in the parade laughing, waving, shaking hands, and hugging everyone along the parade route.

We all have favorite memories of John, the gentle warrior, the extraordinary human being, our Hero. No other like him shall we encounter through our journey on earth. We so loved him. As John said at the 50th Anniversary of the Road Fight and again at the taping of his story at the Atlanta History Center, "I love Inman Park and Inman Park loves me".

When John died, part of Inman Park died. Certainly, a huge part of me died. I will miss my early morning phone conversations with John, just like I miss my friendship with Lillian Lewis since her death in 2012. They are both gone but live on in the hearts of Inman Park.

Voter Registration Information

The IPNA Diversity and Inclusivity Committee would like to remind everyone to be prepared to vote in the November 3 election! Here is a link to check your current voter registration status: [Georgia Online Voter Registration](#)

If you are not currently a registered voter, here is a link to register to vote: [Georgia Online Voter Registration](#) The registration deadline is October 5 in order to be eligible to vote on November 3.

Here is a link to request your absentee ballots for the November 3 election! The State of Georgia will NOT be mailing requests for absentee ballots.

<https://sos.ga.gov/admin/files/Absentee%20Ballot%20fillable%20form2020.pdf>

Absentee ballot applications can be returned by mail or in person (see below for the address); faxed to (404) 612-3697; or emailed (as an attachment) to elections.voterregistration@fultoncountyga.gov

Please note that you should make your request early to allow enough time for the ballot to be mailed to you, voted, and be received back at the county registrar office before the close of polls on Election Day. A ballot must be received by the county registrar no later than the close of polls on Election Day. Delivery can be either U.S. first class mail or hand delivered by the voter. If mailing, you must affix postage to the ballot envelope. Ballots received after the polls close cannot be counted.

And here is the mailing address for sending your ballot:

FULTON County Chief Registrar
RALPH M JONES
130 PEACHTREE ST SW SUITE 2186
ATLANTA, GA 30303-3460
Telephone: (404) 612-3816
Fax: (404) 612-3697

Email: elections.voterregistration@fultoncountyga.gov

Here is a link for any questions about voting absentee:
https://sos.ga.gov/admin/uploads/Absentee_Voting_Guide_20142.pdf

IPNA Meeting Minutes: July 15, 2020 (Fourth Zoom meeting)

President Amy Higgins called the IPNA meeting to order at 7:31 p.m. [Note: between 7:31 and 9:34, the number of participants varied, beginning with 30 people at the start of the meeting, and with a high of around 51 people logged on at 7:50.]

Welcome and Introduction of Newcomers: Jen Nascimento (Battery Place) and Jane & Jesse Caudill (Alta Avenue).

Motion to approve June Meeting Minutes. Seconded. Approved.

Elected Officials' Reports

Councilmember Amir Farokhi, Atlanta City Council District 2 thanked the neighborhood for the opportunity to speak, reminded everyone to stay safe and wear masks, and gave an update of current city matters:

1. Recent events have prompted more than 15 hours of public comment and thousands of phone calls to the City Council regarding public safety and discussions of what reform for public safety should look like.

2. Mentioned recent large gatherings near Edgewood (drag racing, shootings) and efforts of APD and DOT to calm and reduce these events.

Q (Estrup): Some of us are having trouble with homeless folks hanging out in our yards; can you tell us more about the Atlanta/Fulton County Pre-Arrest Diversion Initiative?

Q (Lawson): And is it possible to reallocate funds so 911 does not have to be the first point of contact?

A: Please feel free to email either Amir (arfarokhi@atlantaga.gov) or Jay (jctribby@atlantaga.gov) with specific questions/issues. More info about the program here:

<https://citycouncil.atlantaga.gov/Home/ShowDocument?id=210>

Q (Caproni): Can you give us an update on the Findley Plaza improvements (and two other projects) that were stalled by the city in May?

A: Those are all currently in "Procurement" and there's nothing to do but wait.

Q (Alphan): Why do all (even non-emergency) calls go through 911? And is there more/new information about how local (city) officials and state officials are communicating or coordinating on recent issues?

A: There seems to be less communication and coordination than before. More info about how 911 works:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Enhanced_9-1-1

Q (Robbins): Is property tax tied to community services? Can we input opinions re: usage?

A: Property tax = 25% to Fulton Co., 50% to school system and remaining 25% to City. Regarding public health/other services, City often fills in gaps where County fails.

Q: Could we invite the County rep to these meetings?

A: We will, and feel free to reach out to Fulton County Commissioner of District 4 Natalie Hall (natalie.hall@fultoncountygga.gov) and Chairman of Fulton County Board of Commissioners Robb Pitts (robb.pitts@fultoncountygga.gov) with questions.

Q (Leach): Dekalb Avenue improvements update? Last we heard, bid was supposed to be finished, with paving/construction starting in Sept.

A: Everyone is still waiting and hoping for movement.

Q (Leonel): What is the progress of the legislation attempting to take the burden of sidewalk repair/maintenance off the homeowner (esp prescient since IPNA budget was curtailed due to lack of Festival and planned sidewalk improvement expenditures were nixed).

A: Assessment is complete and now estimate for cost is needed.

Announcements

IPNA Diversity & Inclusivity Sub-Committee - Cristy Lenz thanked neighbors for input and ideas, and read the final draft of the IPNA Proposed Black Lives Matter Statement:

"Inman Park Stands with Black Lives Matter

The time is overdue to end the

systemic racism that has prevailed through the history of our nation. While progress has been made, racism remains pervasive in our institutions. It is unjust and we will work to end it. It harms us all. Black Lives Matter."

Ro Lawson reported that, unfortunately, the July Pop-Up for Stop the Road history/education will have to be postponed because of Covid-19. We hope to engage via Zoom meetings soon.

Q: Can people join this Sub-Committee if interested?

A: The purpose of the D&I is to get more volunteers involved and active in IPNA, so we encourage interested folks to find a Committee to serve on (and eventually join the Board if possible): <https://www.inmanpark.org/>

Joseph Drolet, IPNA Tax Reform Committee reported that property tax increases are widespread throughout the neighborhood and the time to appeal is now. Updated materials for 2020 will be on website soon: <https://ipna.memberclicks.net/2019-inman-park-property-tax-information>

Al Caproni and Chris Curley gave an update for Little 5 Points Alliance, including the recent hiring of Cristy Lenz as Executive Consultant. Cristy hit the ground running, helping to organize and advertise the 2nd Annual L5P Halloween Photo Contest Call for Entries (deadline for submission August 15): <https://l5pa.com/photo-contest>

In June the community voted for 6 artists to transform 6 graffiti covered traffic signal boxes into signature pieces of local art that tell the story of Little 5 Points, and 4 signal boxes have been completed. See the winners here: <https://l5pa.com/winners>

IPNA officers' reports

President Amy Higgins gave updates on several topics:

1. Summary of Joel Award renaming process and final vote for new award name: after last month's discussion on this

topic, 26 new name suggestions were submitted to the IPNA and voted on. The two submissions that received the most votes were "The Butterfly Award (63 votes/36%) and "The Sweet Award" (26 votes/15%). After brief discussion and various opinions expressed, membership present voted 37 to 4 to change the name of "The Joel Award" to "The Butterfly Award."

2. Neighborhood review process for UDC Type III applications during pandemic: Amy Higgins reported that the Urban Design Commission is backed up because of Covid-19 delays and recommends that we as a neighborhood move forward in the reviewing process for salient individual cases (even if the UDC hasn't seen them yet). Sara Wittich (VP of Historic Preservation) promises to be as helpful as she can in this process.

3. Update on Trolley Barn status and reopening "The Trolley Barn has considered its options for re-opening, but those options are complicated by Atlanta being advised to move back to Phase 1. We're following the news and the mayor's statements and hope that the virus cases recede soon so that we can safely welcome IPNA and other guests back. In the meantime, we've allowed the Barn to be used for two Red Cross Blood drives, with a third scheduled for the end of the month, and are exploring whether we're a suitable venue for COVID testing."

4. The Graffiti Committee has a new member; thank you to Nelson Ray for joining.

Q: Is there a neighborhood pressure washer hidden in someone's basement?

A: Might be in the possession of Bruce MacLachlan? Will ask.

VP for Planning - Patrick Pontius would like neighbors to email him regarding ideas/what we think is a priority in Planning: planning@inmanpark.org Q (Ford): Can we get some speed bumps on Euclid? A: Pat will confer with Janice Darling (Transportation Chair) and follow up.

VP for Zoning - Regina Brewer reported that Jason Hill (owner of Wisteria) is interested in pursuing block outdoor dining, and the immediate neighbors meeting provided support for this idea, but she suspects that the official process will take too long to achieve.

VP of Historic Preservation - Sara Wittich reported that, as the UDC was still shut down, there has nothing new to report.

VP of Public Safety - Kevin Curry reported Sgt. Soukup is ill and therefore unable to join us for an update. In general, crime numbers are still down but that there were a few car thefts and break-ins in the neighborhood again this month. Kevin stressed that the IPSP (7 officers) is not an "on call" police force. Their purpose is added visibility, an extra layer of protection and vacation home checks (with level of membership.) Q: Does Inman Park Security Patrol have standard/regular patrol hours?

A: No, the hours are random on purpose and also due to individual officers' work schedules.

VP for Communications - Melissa Miller reported that she was working on a new Memorials page on the IPNA website

Treasurer - Kay Kirsche was absent; no report

Secretary - Julie Noble is working on creating new IPNA merchandise for sale. A cache of (previously thought lost) IPNA flags has been found, and will be for sale at Intown Business center. Look for other exciting items to be available soon.

Neil Kinkopf, NPU-N gave an update on the current state of the Atlanta Citizens Review Board (ACRB – <http://www.apabatlanta.org/> description on website says "APAB serves to advise the City on city-wide issues, goals and objectives relative, but not limited to the Comprehensive Development Plan, land use, zoning transportation, environmental quality, license review, parks and open spaces. APAB also advises the City on matters relating to citizen organizations and participation in the planning process"). The APAB has, in Neil's opinion, usurped a lot of the power from NPUs [<https://www.atlantaga.gov/government/departments/city-planning/office-of-zoning-development/neighborhood-planning-unit-npu> or <http://npunatlanta.org/>] and is appointing new members without consulting NPUs. Our NPU (N, which includes Cabbagetown, Candler Park, Druid Hills, Inman Park, Lake Claire, Little 5 Points Business Association, Little 5 Points Center for Arts and Community, Poncey-Highland, and Reynoldstown) may appoint 1 person to the APAB, but has not been offered the chance to do so. In addition, the Atlanta Citizen Review Board <https://acrbgov.org/> (which has not had a lot of power or been effective) needs to, in light of recent events, be more active and engaged and determine what role it should play in the city. If you are interested in knowing more about related volunteer opportunities, please contact Neil at npu.n@inmanpark.org.

Committee reports none

Old Business none

New Business none

President Amy Higgins motioned to adjourn the meeting at 9:34 p.m. Seconded. Approved

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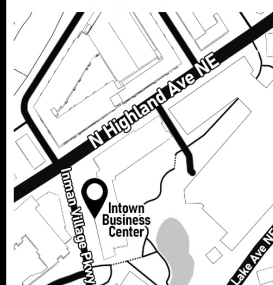
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Agenda

August 19, 2020

IPNA Meeting • 7:30 p.m.

Location: Zoom

- I. Welcome & Introduction of Newcomers
- II. Police Officers' Reports
- III. Minutes of Last Meeting
- IV. Announcements
- V. Elected Officials' Reports
- VI. IPNA Officers' Reports
 - A. President
 - B. Planning
 - C. Zoning
 - D. Historic Preservation
 - E. Public Safety
 - F. Communications
 - G. Treasurer
 - H. Secretary
- VII. Committee Reports
- VIII. Old Business
- IX. New Business
- X. Adjourn

Check inmanpark.org the day of the meeting for any agenda updates

Want to be a part of next month's Advocate?

If you have news to share with your neighbors in the July issue of the Advocate, please send your submissions to advocator@inmanpark.org before August 20.



Good to Know

Inman Park Neighborhood Association (IPNA) membership:

Inman Park Neighborhood Association (IPNA) membership: Available to those who live within or own property within the boundaries of Inman Park. Membership is \$5 with online registration at inmanpark.org. Membership allows you to vote (see bylaws online for details), gives you access to the directory and makes you eligible for special neighborhood events. In addition to being a member of IPNA, you may register for the Inman Park Security Patrol (IPSP) which staffs off-duty Atlanta Police officers to patrol our neighborhood. There are four levels of commitment beginning at \$50 per year. IPNA meetings are held at 7:30 p.m. on the 3rd Wednesday of each month at the Trolley Barn. IPSP membership is based upon a rolling annual membership term. Your renewal date is one year from your membership date and again every year after that.

Websites

InmanPark.org
InmanParkFestival.org
Facebook.com/InmanPark
Instagram: @inmanpark

Report All Crimes: Call 911

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

L5P Business Association

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The Trolley Barn

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The Trolley Barn, circa 1889, is located two miles east of downtown Atlanta in historic Inman Park and features a main hall with hardwood floors, warming kitchen, outdoor bar, patio and gardens.

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Booking Information

Contact Lisa Milko at 404-521-2308, or visit us online
at www.thetrolleybarn.com.

