

THE Inman Park Advocator



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

January 2021
Volume 49 • Issue 1

President's Message

Progress on the Atlanta Tree Ordinance

By Amy Higgins • President@inmanpark.org

As you know, Inman Park is prized for its tree cover. For over 20 years our neighborhood Tree Watch group has partnered with Trees Atlanta to protect, preserve and plant new trees across the neighborhood. We also value the diversity of our housing stock which includes studio apartments, classic shotgun houses, townhomes, Victorian mansions and everything in between. While many intown neighborhoods are comprised almost exclusively of low-density single family residential zoning, we have commercial, industrial, residential-light commercial, duplex, and mixed-use zones all within our boundaries.

This diversity of housing stock and density gives us the opportunity to offer housing to folks from a range of ages and income levels. Frequently though, our commitments to both housing diversity and tree conservation conflict. The Atlanta Tree Ordinance was created to guide development in a way that is mindful of trees while still recognizing the needs of Atlanta's growing population. Of course, like many first editions, it has (arguably) fallen short of its goals it is in need of review and revision. Atlanta began careful consideration of a revised ordinance a couple of years ago and is expected to release a final draft of the new ordinance this spring. When this happens, I will invite our friends from Trees Atlanta to visit an IPNA meeting and bring us up to date.

I've been following the proposed changes to the Tree Ordinance and I'm encouraged by what I'm seeing in the current draft. In my dual role as both architect and tree hugger, I'm often frustrated by the lack of nuance in the current ordinance. For example, trees near the edge of a property (in the setbacks) are given much higher priority than trees near the center regardless of size or species. This can lead to sacrificing a large oak, hickory, or beech in order to save a small dogwood based on their relative location on the property – clearly not the outcome any arborist would want. In the revised ordinance, trees will be classified into Non-priority, Priority, and Heritage depending on their size and species. As you would expect, trees classified as Heritage trees will qualify for more protection and there will be more flexibility in removing Non-priority trees to allow construction.

The city has also recognized that the current minimum number of trees required on lots after development is too low to ensure



the regeneration of the tree canopy. To address this, the revised ordinance introduces the concept of site tree density which quantifies the number of trees that must be growing on the site at the end of a construction project. This includes both existing trees preserved and new trees planted on a site. For commercial

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Speak for the
Trees

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New Mural on
Lake Ave.

Page 9

How Very
Virgil

Page 11

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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.

Details

225 seated Up to 400 cocktail style • Free self parking • BYOB
Non-profit discounts

Booking Information

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





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July Fourth: Carol Mitchell • carol@the-mitchells.org •
404-659-2579

Holiday Party: Cristy Lenz • 404-822-3884

Porch Parties: Pat & Richard Westrick • patwestrick@realtor.com
• 404-388-6466

Special Events

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Springvale Park

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2021 Inman Park Book Club

Meets at 7:00 pm on the last Tuesday of most months.
All meetings to be held on Zoom.
Most book selections are available at our neighborhood bookstore:

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

Jan 26

“This Tender Land”
by William Kent Krueger

Feb 23

*“Furious Hours: Murder,
Fraud, and the Last
Trial of Harper Lee”*
by Casey Cep

Get your Butterfly flags
(2 sizes!) and Historic Inman
Park (HIP) stickers at
Intown Business Center



Condolences to the Brewer-Castellano family on Elizabeth St.
Bill Brewer passed away on December 24, 2020. He was 90 years old.

Condolences to the friends and family of Gene Bales of Lake Ave.
Gene was born in Inman Park in 1937 and lived in his family home until his passing.

Condolences to the Dwyers on Delta Place in the passing of Kris' mother.



Upcoming Zorch Parties!
Friday, January 15th at 7:30 pm.
Friday, February 19th at 7:30 pm.

Zoom details will be posted on the IPNA website and emailed the week of the Zorch.

We believe especially during these difficult times we need to keep connected in our community. The Zorch Party will give you a chance to catch up with old friends and meet new friends.

If you have questions, please contact Stephanie Sherman at ssherma@emory.edu.

Edward Farish celebrated his 100th birthday on December 22, 2020

WWII veteran and
Grandfather to Kassi & Burt
Buchtinec on Delta Place

Congratulations to Rebecca and Brian Canning and big brother Julian on Edgewood Ave. on the birth of little brother Cole Riley on December 3.

Double congratulations to Frank and Carter O'Brien on Virgil St. on the birth of TWINS Henry and Ellery on December 17.



Springvale Park Update: Our Rhododendrons

By Beau Weidman • g.weidman@comcast.net

A clock has been installed in Springvale thanks to the work of Eli and Rosie Stern. Sundial is more like it. Walk along the iron fence on the north side of Euclid and stop near the black sign. When the large tree's shadow covers a rhododendron, listen for the church chime. It is at 1:00 pm during this season. Albert, Campbell and Emmaline Tate joined the Mountain Volunteers with their contribution. VinoTeca's



Leland Rice shoveled in an azalea. While the hillside is a bit rough on senior citizens, unless you have armed forces special ops experience, the children had fun there including a mountain laurel. A fickle plant in Atlanta, this is the south end of the rhododendron's range. One volunteer, a few years back, lamented that it is amazing Springvale has four of them (all there were at the time) when every single one he had planted in his yard died. The rhododendron 2005 is one of our landmark shrubs, now damaged by tree shoots and vines. The majority of them in Georgia bloom white. An environment of purples exists on Blood Mountain.

A new idea from neighbor Alison Gordon:

If you are interested in an unique experience with your family, text Beau Wiedman at (770) 715-3403 to arrange a shrub or tree planting in Springvale Park.

He will volunteer to take care of the digging and tools and get a native plant from the store. You simply pay Beau back for the plant - it can be as big or as small as you want and Beau will help you select something. My girls now have "their" special rhododendrons in the park that they can watch grow through the years.

We will hopefully be expanding this to Memorial Trees in the near future as well. You can text Beau if this fits your family's needs as well.

IPNA Calendar

Jan 20

IPNA Meeting

Zoom
7:30 p.m.

Jan 15

Zoom Porch Party

See page 4
for details

Jan 26

Book Club

See page 4
for details

Jan 28

NPU-N Meeting

Zoom
7:00 p.m.

Feb 17

IPNA Meeting

Zoom
7:30 p.m.

Feb 19

Zoom Porch Party

See page 4
for details



President's Message, continued

and other non-residential construction projects, the required tree density can be met through a combination of plantings on site, planting in the adjacent right of way (street trees) and installation of green roofs. If you are not familiar with green roofs, you can learn more by visiting www.greenroofs.org. As the population of Atlanta continues to grow, I expect some of our tree canopy will be expanded upward to the rooftops.

Speak for the Trees: Trees in Winter

By Jim Abbot • abbot.jim@gmail.com

Winter is one of my four favorite seasons to admire Inman Park's trees.



There's the elm in the park down the street from me. Its bare branches rise, bend gracefully, and dip back toward the ground. The shabby elegance of that elm — age and gravity have robbed it of two limbs in recent years — appeals to me.

Then there are the beech trees here and there in the neighborhood. Those crinkly, golden leaves they clutch all winter long? I think, "Good for you, beeches. These other trees drop their leaves as soon as they're not useful any longer. I admire your loyalty!"

After playing second fiddle to spring flowers and autumn foliage, bark comes into its own in winter. Some species in particular are worth your attention. White oaks are so regal with their long, thin plates of silvery bark. Paperbark maple is aptly named, and so is muscledwood. Blotches of tan, green, and white mark the trunk of Persian ironwood. Even the humble hackberry has a place in my heart. Yes, you might say that its warty bark is just ugly, but few of our species surpass hackberry for providing food and shelter for wildlife. So I have affection for it.



And where would our hollies be without winter? Winter is their season of glory. Those dark-green leaves! Those red berries!

In the winter twilight, the branches of our largest trees are black against the sky. They make a kind of fretwork. I love to stand and look. Our trees, it appears to me, are waiting patiently until the return of spring. They endure, because they have to. They endure, because they can.

Arts All Around

By Carolyn Stine McLaughlin • movementartsatl@gmail.com

Public art is an important part of the built environment. Here in the 'hood we are within walking distance of many sculptures and murals. For January, I invite you to bundle up, get some fresh air, and visit three works that are connected with Freedom Park. The journey from first to last of these works is a little over two miles.

Homage to King (1996) by Barcelona artist Xavier Medina-Campeny, at Boulevard and Freedom Parkway is a personal favorite of mine. I enjoy its simplicity and the way that it changes with the light and the viewing angle. There is also, at least for an Atlantan, no doubt about who the figure is and the strength of gesture represented in the sculpture.

Traveling east, next, there is ELDER (2020), by Atlanta artist Masud Olufani, at John Wesley Dobbs Avenue NE and Howell Street NE. This semi-permanent work combines a 100+ year old tree which was removed during the renovation of the David T. Howard Middle School with casting of alumni's hands from the school's time as an elementary school. It is a new work created from the school's past in celebration of its future.

Continue the far east of Freedom Park, for a Tree of Life & Kaan (2001) by Yvonne Domenger at North Avenue NE at Oakdale Road NE. These three sculptures were originally part of a larger solo exhibition, Interconnected, presented in Millennium Park, which is in Chicago, Illinois. Intended to be viewed together, the poetic description from the City of Atlanta, Mayor's Office of Cultural Affairs' website is: "The tree symbolizes life's energy, and the seeds scattered beneath represent the beauty and fragility of new life."

Zoning Violations Enforcement Steps Up

By Sara Wittich • historicpreservation@inmanpark.org

The Department of City Planning is concerned about the increase in the violations of the City's zoning, building code, and historic preservation regulations due to working without a permit, exceeding the scope of an issued permit, or just changing the details of a project after a permit has been issued. These violations are particularly concerning within the City's Historic and Landmark communities because of the unique physical qualities that these areas have and the long-lasting commitment made by the neighbors to keep that special character.

In response to these concerns, the Department of City Planning is renewing its efforts to enforce its current historic preservation and design regulations. The Department of City Planning is implementing a centralized point of contact for the reporting of all building permit, zoning, and historic preservation violations.

From this point forward, please report potential violations to the following email address and phone number: CodeBustersDCP@atlantaga.gov or 404-865-8550. When reporting potential violations, it is important to include: an accurate street address, the date you first observed the potential violation, and as much detail as you can about the potential violation (what element(s)/part(s) of the house, what appears wrong, etc.). When reporting your concern please also copy the general email inbox at historicpreservation@atlantaga.gov.

Give Them a Shout-Out!

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!

HAWK Crossing Lands in L5P!

By Cristy Lenz • cristylenz@foodtoursatlanta.com

The HAWK has officially landed. Little Five Points celebrated the HAWK Signal that will make crossing Moreland Avenue easier. Craig Pendergrast, Little 5 Points CID Chair welcomed a small group of folks at a December 14th ribbon cutting ceremony to celebrate the new crossing. Attendees, including City Councilman Amir Farokhi, Al Caproni (Little 5 Points Alliance), ADOT Commissioner Josh Rowan, Stacey Key (GDOT State Transportation Board) and Scott Pendergrast (Little 5 Points Business Association) and many others. Once the



ribbon was cut the all-percussion Seed and Feed Stampede hit the drums and played everyone across. Krampus, a folklore character who scares misbehaving children during Christmas, followed.

A H.A.W.K. Signal, (High-Intensity Activated crossWalk

beacon), is a traffic control device that stops traffic for pedestrians to cross on-demand. Once pedestrians push the



crossing button, lights will flash red alerting drivers to stop. Once traffic has come to a stop, pedestrians can cross safely. If you haven't seen it in person head down to L5P. The HAWK signal can be found in front of Junkman's Daughter.

Little 5 Points is long known as Atlanta's home for eclectic vibes and independent mindset. L5P is home to several art and music venues, locally owned restaurants, and sustainable fashion. To learn more about the Little Five Points Alliance go to l5pa.com.

The Trolley Barn Board Seeks Nominations

The Trolley Barn (Atlanta & Edgewood Street Railway Co.) is seeking nominations for those interested in serving on the Board of Directors. Those interested in serving must, at the time of their nomination and election to the Board, reside in or own and operate a business within the Inman Park Neighborhood. Board members are elected to serve for a 3 year term. While the Board will consider nominees with all skill and experience levels, we are currently seeking nominees with backgrounds in one or more of the following areas: law, finance/accounting, non-profit management or facilities management. The Trolley Barn is a 501(c)(3) corporation that is operated primarily for the following charitable and educational purposes:

- To lease, preserve, restore, rehabilitate, recondition, and protect the Atlanta & Edgewood Street Railway Company Trolley Car Barn;
- To provide meeting places for charitable, civic, and community organizations and groups; and
- To establish a facility in which to display memorabilia and artifacts of the City of Atlanta and of the area of Inman Park and of the Atlanta & Edgewood Street Railway Company and building.
- To contribute to the historic Inman Park neighborhood.

Anyone interested in serving on the Board should submit the names of their nominees to Thom Abelew at abelewt@bellsouth.net by February 1, 2021. Any questions or inquiries should also be submitted to abelewt@bellsouth.net. Final voting on board membership will take place at the Trolley Barn Annual meeting in March, 2021.

Inman Park Gets a New Mural

By Jan Keith · janetbkeith@gmail.com

Have you met GFB3 (also known as George F. Baker III)? You know, the muralist whose work is featured on the “Best of Atlanta” cover of Atlanta magazine this month. The friendly guy whose work on Lake Avenue “Paint it Blue” is drawing rave reviews from the art community. Many of you have met him already, but there is more to George than his fun colorful murals and rapid rise in the Atlanta street art community.



As George says “Atlanta wasn’t where I was born. But it’s been the city that’s shaped me.” George’s hometowns have included Omaha, Detroit, and now, Atlanta. His ability to connect with different people in different places is one of his greatest skills. He thinks of himself as a conversation creator. “I make things that have some sort of message that people can take with them.” Bright colors and engaging forms litter his work to help inspire others to see life from a different perspective.

In January George will be bringing another installation to the same location in Inman

Park. This one is entitled “Take Others with You.” The message is inspired by a belief that we must do our best to let our success lead others to their success. We rise by lifting others.

Please stop and welcome George to our neighborhood if you see him out painting. And be inspired by another strong conversation starter.



Atlanta COVID-19 Emergency Assistance

United Way of Greater Atlanta COVID-19 Emergency Housing Assistance Program: <https://relief.uwga.org/>

The City of Atlanta COVID-19 Emergency Housing Assistance Program is available to City of Atlanta residents ONLY. Funds may be used to cover past due rent, utilities, mortgage and security deposits as a result of impending eviction. relief.uwga.org.

Neighbor to Neighbor

Inman Park neighbor volunteers are ready to assist anyone needing short-term help. For example:

- Getting to medical appointments
- Preparing meals or help with pets while recovering from illness
- Managing daily activities

Visit www.inmanpark.org/lifelonginmanpark
Contact Linda Gross (404-545-5222) or Jackie Lawrence (404-272-0024)



Please consider advertising in the Inman Park *Advocator*. This publication has been a fixture of our neighborhood for over 40 years.

Each month, the *Advocator* is mailed directly to 2000 homes in Inman Park, emailed directly to 1000 IPNA members, and posted on our web site and on NextDoor to all of our surrounding neighborhoods. Several hundred copies are also distributed to neighborhood businesses. The *Advocator* provides a great way to advertise to your immediate neighbors.

Please see our ad rates below. We also offer design services for an additional \$30 fee per ad design.

To purchase ads, go to inmanpark.org and click on the "Advocator Ad Sales" link at the top of the home page.

Prices are per month. To keep costs low, the *Advocator* is printed in black and white, so please submit your ad or business card in black and white if possible.

Deadline for submission is the 20th of each month for publication in the following month's *Advocator*.

	BASE RATE	10% DISCOUNT	15% DISCOUNT	20% DISCOUNT
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We Had Ourselves a Very Virgil Xmas

By Yr. Editrix • advocator@inmanpark.org

The triangle formed by Virgil/Hale/Ashland streets has seen a massive baby boom over the last eight years or so. That meant we had a whole lot of kiddos who needed to talk to Santa. But since no one was going to the malls in the year of COVID, that meant Santa had to come to us! Enter some good elves, an old Ford truck, and one very sporting neighbor in a big red suit. We decorated, donned our festive apparel/masks, and waited for him to roll on up to the joy of our babies, human and dog alike. It was so much fun we think we might just make it a tradition. No one really misses the mall anyway, right?



Everyone knows elves love to decorate and drive Fords



Santa magic and a restored clutch



All these kids are nice

Doggo
the
Month:

Rufus



Who's a good boy???????

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!

IPNA Meeting Minutes: December 16, 2020

President Amy Higgins called the IPNA meeting to order at 7:32 p.m.

[Note: between 7:32 and 8:56, the number of participants varied, beginning with 27 people at the start of the meeting, and with a high of around 41 people logged on at 8:22.]

Welcome/Introduction of newcomers: none

Police officers' report - Sgt Moody reported that, overall, crime was down in Zone 6 by 21%. He reminded us that, although in general auto thefts are lower lately, we should be aware of leaving keys or even key fobs in cars, which makes them easier to steal, and never leave a weapon in your car. Q: What's the latest on curbing street racing? A: They continue to monitor this, and are engaging more in social media (via homeland security and ACE Units) to be aware of events before they start. Q: What is the new camera on Irvin near the Beltline for? A: Investigation purposes, and he is not allowed to divulge exactly for what.

Minutes of last meeting Motion to approve November Meeting Minutes as amended. Seconded. Approved.

Announcements

L5P Alliance reports that the Hawk signal on Moreland (near the post office) has been installed.

There will be another Zorch (Zoom Porch) Party on Friday Dec 18th at 7:30. The link will come via Memberclicks email.

It was announced that Mr. Gene Bales (863 Lake) who born in 1937 and who lived in Inman Park his whole life had passed away. The Hospitality Committee will send condolences.

Elected officials' reports Today is Amir's birthday! Neither he nor Jay Tribby were present.

IPNA officers' reports

President Amy Higgins reported on the results of

Home for the Holidays fundraiser, which raised a total of more than \$55k and will net nearly \$48k. That's pretty spectacular for a first-year event! The committee has been working on this fundraiser since August and would like to thank the entire neighborhood for its support.

VP of Planning – Patrick Pontius continued his updates on the Freedom Park Master Plan, including a review and discussion of latest presentation from SWA. Among other ideas, they hope to open the width of the pathway near MARTA, provide more wayfinding signage and more historic/contextual information along the Path. With regard to the Inman Park sections specifically, there should be no major changes to the green space at Poplar Circle, although there may be some improvements made to the playground adjacent (known as Urban Nirvana). Q: What is this "pavilion" shown in the MARTA parking lot? A: Some kind of covered facility, but specifics are unknown; will report back. Q: What about this (smaller than originally presented) bridge over Moreland at Freedom Parkway? Is the plan as presented ADA compliant? A: More study is needed. Amy described some proposed changes to the road on the south side of the Carter Center (making it a bike path only, changing the road on the north side to east/west car traffic) and stressed that these changes were still being discussed and would be put into effect over a matter of many years.

Pat also gave a brief update on the Lake Avenue safety improvements – presentation, discussion, and vote on proposed stop signs and crosswalks. The DOT would prefer stop signs (which are mutable) over speed tables to slow traffic in this area. They looked at 4 intersections on Lake: Waddell, Ashland, Hale and Montag Circle, and settled on adding stop signs to 3 (all but Ashland). Q: Have all the immediate neighbors along Lake been informed of this plan and asked their opinion? A: Yes, there have been multiple meetings over the course of the last several years and most Lake Avenue neighbors are eager for this change.

There was discussion about signage and the process of getting everyone used to the new stop signs, which

typically takes a while. DOT will decide if there is additional information (warning) signage provided, but we can ask for it. Amir would like the neighborhood to vote

to support this measure before he introduces legislation. Motion to approve the plan as presented. 26 votes in favor, 2 in opposition.

VP for Zoning - Regina Brewer was absent, so Amy introduced the prospective purchaser of 80 Waddell (Corina) who hopes to use the existing home as a Bed and Breakfast. This former home of Kathy Day would have 5 bedrooms to host guests and has 5 existing parking spaces on site. Discussion ensued regarding traffic on Waddell, parking, paperwork, zoning and existing B&Bs (as well as AirB&Bs) in Inman Park. Membership voted on the concept of using 80 Waddell as a B&B. 23 voted YES support, and 1 vote NO.

Amy also described a Special Administrative Permit allowing outdoor dining at Wisteria Restaurant due to Covid 19. Q: Could this continue as a permanent structure/situation? A: No, this is for a 90 day period only.

Delbar has postponed their request for a liquor license/change of agent until the new year.

VP of Historic Preservation - Sara Wittich was absent; nothing to report

VP of Public Safety – Kevin Curry – nothing to report

Treasurer - Kay Kirsche was absent; nothing to report

VP for Communications - Melissa Miller – reported that she is aware that there were some inconsistencies in getting out the link to tonight's meeting via Memberclicks. There seem to be problems with folks who have Gmail accounts. She will investigate.

Secretary - Julie Noble - nothing to report

Neil Kinkopf, NPU-N – was absent; nothing to report

Old Business none

New Business none

Committee Reports none

President Amy Higgins motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:56 p.m. Seconded. Approved



Short IPNA meeting! Who invited Krampus?

NOTICE.

I HEREBY forewarn all persons against crediting my wife, DELILAH McCONNELL, on my account, as she has absconded without my consent. I am therefore determined to pay none of her contracts.

WILLIAM McCONNELL.

May 15, 1828.

13—2



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Information believed accurate but not warranted. Equal Housing Opportunity.

Agenda

January 20, 2021

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 Advocator?

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

www.little5points.com



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