Inman Park Advocator

July 2020 Volume 48 • Issue 7

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

President's Message

Reimagining the Joel Award

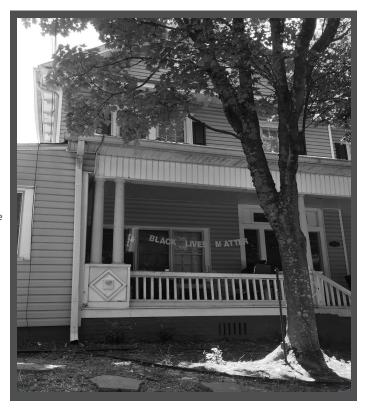
By Amy Higgins • President@inmanpark.org

This spring IPNA formed a new diversity and inclusivity committee to examine ways to improve our outreach to neighbors and make sure everyone in the neighborhood – regardless of age, gender, race, or religious belief - feels welcome and valued. As we move through the year, you will be hearing more about the committee's efforts to make subtle but significant changes to our methods of engaging neighbors.

As a corollary to our diversity and inclusivity committee's work, I think there is a growing imperative to rename the Joel Award for something or someone who is more reflective of the spirit of the neighborhood. The Joel Award is, of course, named for Joel Hurt, the surveyor and developer who built the neighborhood back during the 1880s and 90s. As I understand the history, the Joel Awards were started by Robert Griggs during the mid-1970s as a way for our young, pioneering neighbors to recognize one another's efforts at revitalizing our long-neglected neighborhood, saving its iconic homes from the wrecking ball, and building a sense of community and connectedness.

While Joel Hurt gave us the physical infrastructure of the neighborhood – many of the buildings and some of the oak trees would not be here without him – his life and values are not reflective of our 21st century neighborhood's values. As more awareness has grown in recent years about Joel Hurt and his history of using and abusing convict labor, his name has become uncomfortable for many.

When I was on the awards committee half a dozen years ago, there was talk of renaming the award to honor Robert Griggs, the father of the Inman Park Restoration movement. But other issues arose, we lost focus on the award name and fell back into routine and tradition. Now with everything happening in our wider world, the issue has re-emerged as something we need to resolve. It was really brought to a head this spring when the awards committee discussed making Congressman John Lewis a recipient of the award. Obviously, presenting Congressman Lewis with an award named for Joel Hurt felt wrong.



So, here we are, the name needs to change. Now we need to decide what the new name should be. We discussed possibilities at the June IPNA meeting. The neighborhood recently lost our dear neighbor John Sweet. Someone who, from all I know about him and his life of (continued on page 6)

Proposed	Speak for the	Memories of
IPNA BLM	Trees	John Sweet
Statement		
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VP • Historic Preservation, Sara Wittich historic.preservation@inmanpark.org

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Festival 2020

Sam Bailey • sambailey211@gmail.com
Jane Bradshaw Burnette • jcb5858@yahoo.com

Freedom Park Conservancy

Philip Covin • covin8@yahoo.com

Graffiti

Currently vacant

Hospitality

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Inman Park Tree Watch and Arboretum

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NPU-N Representative

Neil Kinkopf • npu.n@inmanpark.org • 404-281-0638

Social

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

Karen Goeckel • kgoeckel@me.com • 678-612-1776

Springvale Park

Beau Weidman • g.weidman@comcast.net • 770-715-3403 Amy Higgins (Master Plan) • ahigginsaia@gmail.com • 404-593-8253

Transportation

Janice Darling • transportation@inmanpark.org • 678-488-1925

Condolences

Deepest sympathy to Randy Bailey, Colquitt Ave., and his daughter Sam on the passing of Randy's mother, Gladys G. Bailey, on June 18 at the age of 99 in Ft. Myers, FL.

Condolences to Julie and Jay Bookman and their family on Ashland Avenue on the passing of Julie's dad Larry Swindell, on June 22. He was known as "Scoop" to his many grandchildren because he loved being a newspaperman and also because he adored ice cream and had it every night.

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:

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July 28

"The Island of Sea Women"

by Lisa Lee Host: Paula Mason, 1046 Washita Ave.,

August 25

"Next Year in Havana" by Chanel Cleeton

Host: Fiona Havers, 102

Inman Park Security Patrol Activity • May 2020

Directed Patrols • 172
Drop Ins • 82

Parking Complaint • 3
Abandoned Motorcycle • 1
Demented Person • 1
Suspicious Person • 1
Public Indecency• 1

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 Advocator. Get in touch!

Get your Butterfly flags
(2 sizes!) and HIP
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Freedom Farmers Market is Made for COVID-19 Grocery Shopping

By Yr. Editrix • advocator@inmanpark.org

If you've been reading this here Advocator in my tenure as Editrix, you know I love the Freedom Farmers Market. It's held every Saturday, up in the Carter Center parking lot, year-round, rain or shine. The farmers are noble warriors in the battle for local agriculture. Right now, traditional grocery stores might feel risky for COVID-19 transmission since they are indoors and can be crowded. And grocery delivery services are useful but what if you want to pick out your own veggies? Up at Freedom Farmers Market the entrance and exits are separated with a friendly staff member there to guide people the right way. Everyone must wash hands or sanitize upon entry. Once inside, the lines are well managed and the open air environment provides a greatly reduced risk of respiratory transmission. In my experience, 99% of attendees and 100% of vendors are wearing masks. Right now we are seeing peaches, chanterelle mushrooms, snap peas, tomatoes, eggplants, summer squash, strawberries, cucumbers, napa cabbage, peppers, garlic, onions, and potatoes, just to name some of my favorite produce. There's also locally raised chicken, pork, beef, eggs, dairy products, and some really good bakery items. You can also order a box ahead of time from many of the vendors and avoid the lines. I try to get there as early as possible (around 8:00 am) to further reduce my crowd exposure. One thing to note--although farmers markets are generally a great place to ogle doggies, at the moment they are not allowed in, as there's a need to make extra physical space.

I've always loved our Freedom Farmers Market, but it's especially welcome right now, as we try to find ways to reduce transmission of COVID-19 in our community. Come on up one Saturday morning and see for yourself!

Enormous Scissors Invade Inman Park

Our District 2 Councilmember, Amir Farokhi, cut the ribbon on a new sidewalk segment on Hurt Street near the Inman Park MARTA station on June 24. Money for this project was derived from Renew Atlanta/TSPLOST funding that is dedicated to Freedom Park.



IPNA Calendar

Jul 15

IPNA Meeting

Zoom 7:30 p.m.

Jul 23

NPU-N Meeting

L5P Community Center 7:00 p.m.

Jul 28

Book Club

See page 4 for details

Aug 19

IPNA Meeting

Zoom 7:30 p.m.

Aug 25

Book Club

See page 4 for details

Aug 27

NPU-N Meeting

L5P Community Center 7:00 p.m.



President's Message, continued

community service and determination to make the world a better place, really embodies the spirit of our Inman Park community. He would be a good namesake for the award. Of course, naming the award for one neighbor and not another can be very fraught. We don't want to elevate the contribution of one and leave others feeling that their contributions are not as greatly appreciated. There is a possibility that the award should not be named for a specific individual but instead should be given a more all-encompassing name.

In addition to the names I've mentioned above, the Butterfly Award was suggested as was the Janus Award. (Janus being the Roman god of transitions – one face looking backward to the past and one face looking forward to the future.) By the time you are reading this, we should have an on-line poll ready where you can let us know what name you prefer. We will discuss your feedback and reach a decision at the July IPNA meeting.

Springvale Park Update

By Beau Weidman • g.weidman@comcast.net

There were more plants that flowered during UNfestival than mentioned last month. Favorites were:

- 6. Florida Flame azalea "Firecracker"
- 7. Blue ball onions
- 8. Purple Rhododendron "Starry Night"
- 9. Blue sweet shrub
- 10. Oakleaf hydrangea

These can also be used in yards and sidewalk medians for the enjoyment of our paying festival guests, as we now feel the budget effects of not receiving that income.

Thanks to all participants and donors during the Memorial Day weekends. Leo Petersen proved a two year old can plant a native azalea (see photo) and lots of work came from Cam McCaa, longtime Springvale maintainer, Aaron Schwartz of Garden Club with Nick Pedersen and Rekha Pagadalla, Parkside neighbors. Due to the reduced financial situation, we are now almost totally dependent on donations and volunteers.



The master plan is coming closer to fruition. North Springvale is an area of densely used recreation spots, where thousands of dollars have been spent on landscaping with a mix of native and other plants. It is almost wheelchair accessible. The south portion is a less visited spot of walking trails, exposed large tree roots and rough terrain. It contains plants which are the "rediscovered natives" and the more recently planted natives. We might think of the north part in the vein of "Piedmont Park" and the other side as "Fernbank". Together, they are moving into a future of wonderful beauty.

Wanted:

New Graffiti Committee Chairperson

By Amy Higgins • President@inmanpark.org

Looking for a way to get involved in the neighborhood? Volunteer for the graffiti clean-up crew! Our crew cleans graffiti from walls, signs, and playground equipment. Supplies and training are provided - we just need somebody to step up and lead the effort. Please e-mail me or Kevin Curry, our VP of Security for more information.

Please remember to support our fabulous local sponsors who make this publication possible!

IPNA Proposed BLM Statement

The Inman Park Diversity Advisory Committee recommended IPNA release a statement supporting Black Lives Matter. Please read the statement and go to the website www.inmanpark.org to vote. You must be an active member of IPNA or the IPNA Security Patrol to vote. If you have any questions or need help with your membership reach out to admin@inmanpark.org. The results of the vote will be announced at our next IPNA meeting, Wednesday, July 15, 2020. The proposed statement is below; please review and vote:

Inman Park Stands with Black Lives Matter

The time is overdue to end the systematic racism that has prevailed through the history of our nation. While progress has been made, racism remains pervasive in many of our institutions. It is unjust and we must work to end it. It harms us all. Inman Park stands with Black Lives Matter.





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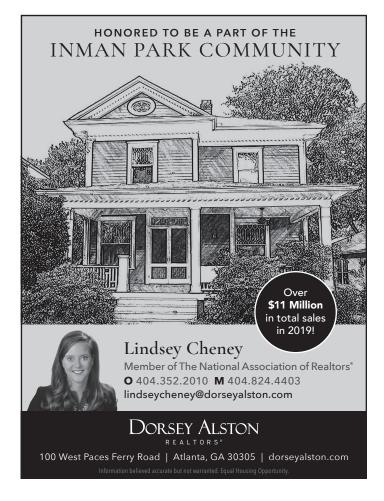


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Speak for the Trees: Tree Lessons

By Jim Abbot • abbot.jim@gmail.com

Good things come to those who wait.

(This should be the tree planter's credo, don't you think?)

If it seems too good to be true, it probably is.

(Those gaudy 'Rising Sun' redbuds were all the rage several years ago. We planted them throughout Inman Park. Now they're dying, splitting, misshapen. Lesson learned!)

You can't always get what you want, but if you try sometimes, you get what you need. (That's exactly what I think when one of you declines a new shade tree but is willing to accept an ornamental or two.)

Beware the Ides of March.

(Not many people know that Julius Caesar was actually being advised that winter is the best time to plant a tree.)

Fine words butter no parsnips.

(This sounds like something only the oldest trees in Inman Park might say. And presumably only they would know what it means.)

For everything there is a season.

(Which reminds me! Water your young trees this month and next, if we go several days without rain.)

Genius is one percent inspiration, ninety-nine percent evapotranspiration. (Wait, did I get that right?)

Great oaks from little acorns grow. (Let's hope so.)

Less is more.

(Not when it comes to trees, it isn't. A group of trees withstands wind better

than a lone tree, for one thing. For another, when it's 95 degrees outside, we can all agree that more shade is better than less shade.)

Do unto others as you would have them do unto you. (I don't need to explain this one to you, do I, as it relates to trees?)



ITHANK YOU! to our sponsors and vendors that were compassionate, understanding and helpful during this time...

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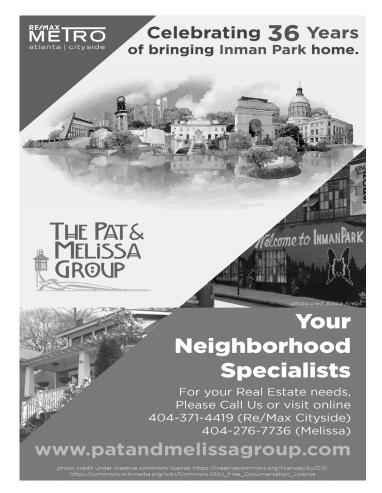
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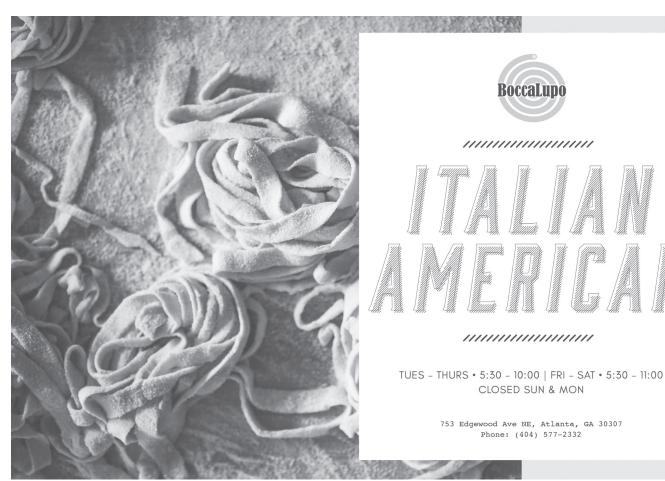
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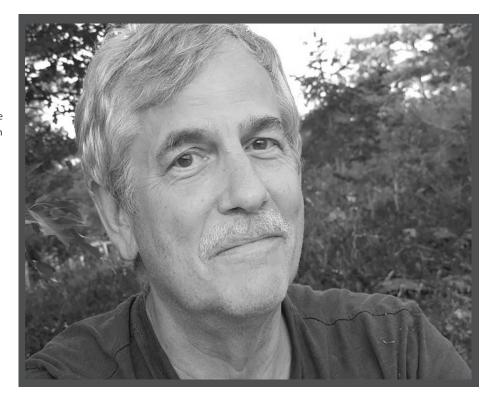
A Few Memories of John Sweet in the Early Days of Inman Park

By Cathy Bradshaw • cbrad999@bellsouth.net>

I met John Sweet in the summer of 1971. A small group gathered in the third floor ballroom of Robert Griggs' rundown, formerly multitenant house at 866 Euclid Ave, lovingly referred to as Belle Wretch. John suggested the formation of a neighborhood association, and with John's legal expertise and community organizing skills, Inman Park Restoration was created. IPR was the predecessor to Inman Park Neighborhood Association, the current organization. I had purchased my extremely rundown house that had been divided into four units at 215 Hurt Street in June and by July, I was part of a neighborhood organization. There were about 30 of us in those days, and in 2020, John, Susan Bridges and I were among the last of the pioneers of 1971 still living in Inman Park. John's foresight and wisdom will be missed.

In 1971, Inman Park was Red-Lined, meaning that we could not get loans to purchase homes or make repairs or even purchase insurance. Seeing a void, John and friend Stan Wise, started the B.O.N.D. (Bass Organization for Neighborhood Development) Community Credit Union in 1972, the first community credit union in the country. It was a huge undertaking, but John was not one to shy away from hard work. Read more about this fascinating institution in our community https://bondcu.com/ourstory. From only a few members, the credit union has grown to 5000 members and \$40 million in assets. One of many memories of John was seeing him driving a large panel truck full of baskets of peaches around the neighborhood. John and board members were selling peaches door-to-door to raise money to pay quarterly dividends to BOND credit union members. John's foresight and wisdom will be missed.

John started his years in Inman Park in an apartment on Seminole Ave, working in the area as a Vista volunteer. In 1972, John



negotiated with one of the many neighborhood absentee property owners to sell four rundown multi-unit houses on Elizabeth Street. Along with Fred Bradshaw and Beverly Hensley (210 Elizabeth), Gretchen and Bruce Maclachlan (226 Elizabeth), and Ed Turner (230 Elizabeth), John executed the deal and six new homeowners began the transformation of four adjacent properties on Elizabeth Street. In 1972, John also helped Fred Bradshaw's brother Bo find and buy 206 Hurt St. Because of John, my future husband moved to Hurt Street. John's foresight and wisdom will be missed.

In the summer of 1972, John also coordinated the rezoning of the neighborhood from multi-family, commercial and industrial to residential and specific sites for multi-family units. Along with the indominable Holly Mull, John led a small group of neighbors on a door-to-door campaign to get signatures of homeowners to successfully have the City pass legislation to protect our neighborhood from commercial and industrial encroachment. If not for John and Holly, your property might have become a service station or convenience store. This rezoning led to the successful listing of Inman Park on the National Register of Historic Places, the State of Georgia Historic Registration and eventually historic zoning overlay in the City of Atlanta. John's foresight and wisdom will be missed.

John's work in the movement to Stop the Road and save our historic neighborhood from the destruction of an expressway will be part of a book one day. In all the years after 1972, John continued to work to improve Inman Park, to serve as mentor to many and to maintain friendships that lasted through the years.

IPNA Meeting Minutes: June 17, 2020 (Third Zoom meeting)

President Amy Higgins called the IPNA meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. [Note: between 7:30 and 8:47, the number of participants varied, beginning with 27 at the start of the meeting, and with a high of around 45 people logged on at 8:18.]

Welcome and Introduction of Newcomers: none present.

Minutes of March and April Meetings Motion to approve April Meeting Minutes. Seconded. Approved.

Announcements
Philip Covin, Inman Park Rep for
Freedom Park Conservancy gave a
4-point update, briefly summarized
here:

- 1. Jane's Walk will be a virtual tour experience this year: http://www.freedompark.org/fpc/janes-walk/
- 2. The FPC is currently choosing an architect for the new Master Plan (the last one was in 1992)
- 3. The Bird and Butterfly Garden is currently thriving. Come visit! http://www.freedompark.org/fpc/?s=bird+butterfly
- 4. The sidewalks along the east side of Hurt Street from MARTA to Euclid are now repaired, thanks to Amir Farokhi, who took action and found funding to fix this. There will be a ribbon-cutting ceremony to celebrate the new sidewalk on Wednesday June 24, 4:00-4:30 pm
- Q: Austin Ave sidewalks by Euclid/ Sinclair have similar problem. Can we take measures for similar repair there? A: Philip and Amir will look into this.

Al Caproni and Chris Curley gave an update for Little 5 Points Alliance, including the Arts Grant currently available, for which voting occurred on 6/18 to choose the Top 6 artists to transform 6 graffiti covered traffic signal boxes into signature pieces of local art that tell the story of Little 5 Points: See the winners here: https://l5pa.com/winners Chris shared the current calendar: https://l5pa.com/calendar

Elected Officials Reports
Councilmember Amir Farokhi,
Atlanta City Council District 2 gave
an update of current city matters:
1. Citywide survey re: impact
fees: https://www.surveymonkey.
com/r/73TSFM7
Info: https://www.atlantaga.gov/
government/departments/cityplanning/2020-impact-fee-update

- 2. Budget cuts because of the \$40 million shortfall. Funds will not, in fact, be taken from the Eastside Tax Allocation District Eastside (TAD); April and May rebound numbers were better then expected, so that fund stays intact.
- 3. Amir received more than 400 emails/calls/public comments about the current police budget. He feels that they will need revamping and a culture shift, and there is a range of new city council legislation in play that he hopes will make a difference. The budget will likely remain as proposed; there is a vote on Friday 6/19.
- O: Is the Inspector General position still funded? A: Yes. Q: We need more data analysis. Is there data other than in the citizens' reports available? A: New amendments in the budget address some issues. O: (Jan Keith) More IP sidewalks (Delta Park, Triangle Park) need help as well A: (Chris Curley) Those projects had been funded, bundled into the Findlay Park Project, but the bid got pulled and is still in limbo. O: is there still \$21 million in the budget for the Atlanta City Detention Center? A: The mayor is moving towards closing the city jail (it is mostly empty and too expensive) and ideas for the repurposing of that space are coming. Current budget is \$3 million to keep jail open for next 12-18 months. O: What is the timeline for improvements to Dekalb Avenue and is the bike lane still planned for the area in between MARTA stations? A: Yes, bike lane is still happening and they hope to start in Sept. Q: When will the ZRB and LRB meetings start again? A: No dates set yet. Q: DA Paul Howard issued an arrest warrant

for Garrett Rolfe, the Atlanta police officer who killed Ravshard Brooks. Felony murder would be a more appropriate charge. A. Howard did charge Rolfe with felon murder, as well as 10 other charges. Q: Is there an itemized police budget available anywhere? A: Yes: https://ipna. memberclicks.net/assets/docs/2020/ Police%20Budget.pdf Info: https://citycouncil.atlantaga. gov/standing-committees/ finance-executive-committee/fy-2021-proposed-budget/fv-2021departmental-budget-hearingspresentations/-npage-2

IPNA officers' reports
President Amy Higgins gave updates
on several topics:

- 1. The oak in Springvale Park pond is still awaiting salvaging; we hope to use the wood to make something meaningful: furniture or a piece of art for the Park. Ward Bradshaw and Alison Gordon are involved in this effort.
- 2. The Inclusion and Diversity
 Ad Hoc Committee has met and
 is working on several projects,
 including an IPNA statement
 regarding recent current events and
 support of BLM, a website refresh
 and update to more accurately
 reflect both the history of the
 neighborhood and more current
 content, and another Stop the Road
 Pop Up event in July.
- 3. Discussion has begun regarding changing the name of the "Joel (Hurt) Awards." These awards for volunteerism and service to the neighborhood have been given out since the 1970s (a tradition started by Robert Griggs) without much thought to the fuller historical significance of Mr. Hurt's actions during his time as a developer. banker and businessman in Atlanta, circa 1875-1926. The possibility of changing the name has surfaced throughout the years but never been fully explored, and 2020 seems like the right time to finally make this change.

Beloved neighbor, pioneer and dedicated public servant John Sweet passed away in May, and many have suggested a change to the "Sweet Awards" (or something similar).

It was suggested, as well, that we rename them the "Janus Awards" (the Roman god of "beginnings, gates, transitions, time, duality, doorways," after whom our butterfly logo is patterned) looking to the future and to the past.

It was also suggested that we simply change the name to "The Butterfly Awards."

In summary, this is a topic we should all sit with, think about, and talk about again at the July meeting. Please send thoughts to president@inmanpark.org

More info on Joel Hurt: http://wanderforlife.com/ atlantas-banker-builder-joel-hurt/ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Joel_Hurt

http://atlantasupperwestside.com/Site/SlaverybyAnotherName.html https://www.georgiaencyclopedia.org/articles/business-economy/joel-hurt-1850-1926

Janus: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Janus

More info on John Sweet: https://www.wabe.org/meet-the-generation-ofatlantans-who-helped-make-little-five-points-what-itis-today/?fbclid=IwAR3aRqizyGxUCnqZwaSVbxokfs1Fca sfir9pSkDIKzaV_0pL7ZHZ7PdAy3A

https://patch.com/georgia/eastatlanta/john-sweet-named-grand-marshal-of-the-inman-park-fest3e3ef702a5

https://atlantadailyworld.com/2020/05/28/statements-from-atlanta-city-council-members-on-the-passing-of-john-sweet/

https://www.ajc.com/classifieds/ obituaries-announcements/sweet-john/ SHkJExK6ZfNjTQfHQ3TzIO/

https://jabarisimama.com/2020/05/27/ john-sweet-like-sugar/

VP for Planning Patrick Pontius introduced himself and reported that, as new VP of Planning he has two goals:

1. Revisit the need/timeline for a Master Plan 2. Look at "edges" of the neighborhood (L5P, Beltline, etc.) and assess how they are important to Inman Park.

VP for Zoning Regina Brewer gave a brief update of the current status of proposed ordinance changes to Z-20-036:

https://ipna.memberclicks.net/assets/docs/2020/Z-20-36%20Fact%20Sheet.pdf

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 that burglaries in general are still down but that there were a few car thefts and break-ins in the neighborhood this month. A midnight protest march on the night of 6/11 possibly resulted in some vandalism/graffiti and broken windows at Savi. Q: Were the criminal acts verifiably by the protesters? A: Inconclusive.

Sgt Soukup of Zone 6 reports that there is a slip in morale in the officers assigned to our area, working 12 hours shifts that have meant Inman Park Security Patrol does not have full patrol hours currently. Q: Can we organize an Officer Appreciation Day? A: We typically recognize and thank them with gift cards, since schedules are so irregular.

VP for Communications Melissa Miller had nothing new to report

Treasurer Kay Kirsche reported that we completed the promised donation of \$10k to the Little 5 Point Center for Arts and Community, to be used for repairs on their roof. The budget is now down to only essential expenses, but Committee Chairs may still submit budget requests to treasurer@inmanpark.org by July 31.

Secretary Julie Noble had nothing to report but wished all the dads in attendance a Happy Father's Day for this coming Sunday.

Committee reports none

Old Business none New Business none

President Amy Higgins motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:47 p.m. Seconded. Approved

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Agenda

July 15, 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 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 July 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

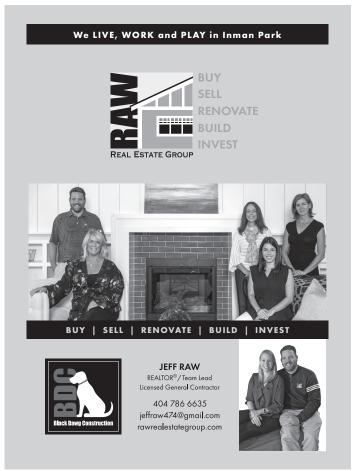
www.little5points.com



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