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# Berkeley Park Bulletin

**August 2009**

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## President's Report

by Michael Wagoner

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404-391-3573

July was an exciting Month with the re-opening of our Fire Station 23. For those of you who were not able to make the Welcome Back Party, you missed a great time. Thanks again to all of the Volunteers and Restaurants for participating in a successful gathering which was greatly appreciated by Atlanta Fire Rescue and the Crew from Station 23. Please take a minute to drop by and introduce yourself to some of the new Crew Members. In the near future, we will be working with Captain Keith to initiate a plan to renovate portions of the Station, and will be looking for more Volunteers. As you know, Station 23 is a Historic Building, and deserves to be maintained as such.

I wanted to remind everyone of the Grand Opening of JCS Cycles, L.L.C. Saturday August 8th. Christine and Joe Sainato felt Berkeley Park was the perfect location for their new Bicycle Shop, and I wish them much success in their venture.

Finally, at this Month's Meeting we will have Lieutenant Cotter from Zone 2 APD and a Representative from Code and Zoning. Recently APD has been cross-training with Code and Zoning to provide a greater footprint for the Department. I hope to get a better understanding of their efforts, how it will impact Berkeley Park, and how we can take advantage of this increased presence.

I hope everyone has had a wonderful Summer and is ready for the School Season to begin. I look forward to seeing you all at this Month's Meeting.

Michael Wagoner

President- Berkeley Park Neighborhood Association

404-391-3573

<http://www.berkeleypark.org/>

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## NPU-D Report

by Jim Martin

[james.martin@me.gatech.edu](mailto:james.martin@me.gatech.edu)

The June 28 th NPU-D meeting was quiet. We ran slightly past our designated 9:00 PM end time because of a lengthy question-and-answer session with City Council President Lisa Borders, who was there in her capacity as Council President rather than as a mayoral candidate (the NPUs are not a political forum). The discussion was fairly wide ranging and touched on several topics where more information was required. Notable among these was the recent article in the Sunday Paper that criticized the implementation of the city's water meter replacement program ( <http://www.sundaypaper.com/More/Archives/tabid/98/articleType/ArticleView/articleId/4306/All-wet.aspx> ). What was noteworthy about this article is that, based on the figures presented, the program is fundamentally unsound in a fiscal sense. If everything had gone perfectly, we would all still have lost money for choosing to do it in the first place or so it seems. Lisa did not know the details of this, but she promised to investigate it and get back to us.

The only zoning case on the agenda was a front-yard setback variance in Underwood Hills that we had deferred two or three times before. We finally dealt with this by approving it with a further reduced front yard depth to 25 feet so as to shift the proposed new house forward on the lot. This was done so that it would match the neighboring houses and minimize the invasion into a stream buffer in the back yard.

We endorsed an ordinance modifying zoning codes with new definitions of “self-storage facilities”. These changes did not seem to be of any great consequence. We disapproved of an ordinance that would allow private companies that boot cars to increase their fees from \$50 to \$75. No one could see any reason why an increase was necessary or what public good these companies served. The lone dissenting opinion on this was from a resident whose church receives revenue by having cars booted in its parking lot. Clearly, if this practice has been endorsed by God, then we may all be in for a good smiting for opposing it.

In a surprise last-minute addition to the agenda, we discussed and endorsed a resolution advocating for the new Northwest Library branch to be located on the site of the failed Burtz St development (at the corner of Burtz and Hollywood Rd in Riverside). Most of the discussion on this focused on the propriety of making a last-minute change to the agenda, as everyone seemed to be in agreement that this was a good library location. Because of the public-input process, there was a deadline to submit proposed sites before our August meeting, so we voted to endorse the resolution. We will also place it on our August agenda, so that it can be properly advertised.

Next NPU-D meeting:

Tuesday, July 28, 2009

7:30 pm

Agape Center, 2351 Bolton Road, NW

ALL NPU RESIDENTS ARE WELCOME

## Announcements

### Local Bicycle Shop opens in August

We are going to have our opening on Aug. 8th. ( Sat. ) 2009. We wanted to invite all Berkeley Park residents to stop by so we can introduce ourselves and we also plan on cooking turkey dogs and veggie burgers and serving

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cold drinks. Our shop will be specializing in commuter bikes as well as doing repairs on all bikes. We are certified bike mechanics and will meet or beat other bike shop prices. We will also be selling used bikes as well as daily commuter bikes.

Thanks,

Christine and Joe Sainato  
JCS Cycles  
[www.jcscycles.com](http://www.jcscycles.com)  
1531 Howell Mill Road

### **Bylaws change deadline**

The Berkeley Park Neighborhood Association bylaws are reviewed each year to see if they are working for us. The deadline for anyone to submit changes to the board is September 1, and the board may review the change and submit it for a vote in November. Details are here: <http://berkeleypark.org/structure.asp#amendments> .

### **Go Green!!**

In an attempt to cut back on expenses, we would like to trim our printing of the paper newsletter. If you would like to read the newsletter online and save some paper for the BPNA, please email [info@berkeleypark.org](mailto:info@berkeleypark.org) and tell us your name and address and that you would like to be removed from the paper newsletter list.

### **Check us out on Facebook!!**

Follow Berkeley Park on Facebook by joining our group. [Click here!](#)

### **Watering Restrictions lifted**

In light of the ending of the drought, Atlanta and the state of Georgia have lifted the restrictions on watering. Residents are asked to still adhere to a non-drought watering schedule, however. Odd-numbered addresses can water on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Sundays. Even-numbered addresses can water on Mondays, Wednesdays and Saturdays. Watering can occur anytime, but residents are asked to avoid watering landscape during the hours of 10 am to 4 pm because of its limited effectiveness (water evaporates too quickly in the heat of the day, and thus doesn't benefit the plants).

## **About Us**

The Berkeley Park Bulletin is published monthly in print and at [www.berkeleypark.org](http://www.berkeleypark.org) by the Berkeley Park Neighborhood Association, a non-profit organization. It is distributed to all Berkeley Park residents 3 times a year. To subscribe to the monthly edition, submit an article or Talk Back letter, or inquire about advertising, contact the editor, Maureen Hetrick, at 404-609-9873 or [maureenfh@mindspring.com](mailto:maureenfh@mindspring.com). We accept appropriate articles from all Berkeley Park residents or other interested community members at the discretion of the editor and as space permits.

Effective January 1, 2009, membership in the BPNA is \$20 per person (up to 3 adults per address are eligible to become members), and \$10 for seniors. To join the association, attend a monthly meeting and pay dues to the

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treasurer, [Nina-Daniela McCormack](#), or the president, [Michael Wagoner](#). If you cannot attend a meeting but wish to join, or for more information, email us at [info@berkeleypark.org](mailto:info@berkeleypark.org).

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