

Emory Village Alliance
August 12, 2019 3:00-4:30pm
Location: Saba
Meeting Minutes



Primary Board present: Todd Hill (chair); Mark Herald (vice-chair), Jean Welsh (secretary), Jay Johnson (treasurer), Cynthia Tauxe, Yvette Weatherly, Mary Eccard, Shane Mixon (Saba), Sarah Bannick, Ann Wallace, Margaret Blackmon, George Basco (Rise n Dine),

Primary Board absent: David Payne, Bill Gryboski, Dave Moore, Priscilla Valesquez, Mason Rainey

Advisory Board present: Becky Evans, Jimmy Powell,

Advisory Board absent: Sally Sears, Mark Goldman, Kathy Gannon, Stuart Meddin, Perry Mitchell, Marlene Goldman, Clark Weeks, Louis Berthaume

Guests: Neil Fried (owner Railroad Earth), Shawn Gleason (Blanchard group), Don Walter (self)

1. Following welcome and introductions, minutes from the July meeting were approved.
2. Regular business
 - Todd provided a review of the State of EVA's mission and objectives.
 - Updates were provided on short-term activities, including:
 - Crosswalks (Todd)
 - Lighting roundabout (Todd)
 - Fountain (Mark)
 - Landscape maintenance (Mark)
 - Open Streets (Don Walter/Shane)
 - Parking Communication – Emory Decks (Dave)
 - DHCA Concert idea (Mark)
 - Overview of the budget and the association's financial status (Jay)
 - Emory Marketing Study (Mark)
3. Collaboration between EVA and local businesses and property owners.
 - The main focus of this month's meeting was to facilitate a conversation with local business and property owners in order to better understand their needs and concerns and how EVA might help address them. Unfortunately, only a few of the businesses/property owners attended the meeting.
 - Some points raised by those in attendance include:
 - Positives
 - The fountain
 - Weeds being cut
 - Advocacy i.e. for parking issues
 - Challenges
 - Businesses with multiple locations often aren't as invested in supporting the village.
 - Ease of transport (rideshare) and food delivery services from outside the area have increased competition

- Communication. Businesses don't always know what priorities EVA is working on

Ideas/Needs

- Signs indicating restaurants/sites of interest as has been done in Decatur. Could be a temporary "sandwich board"
- Better crosswalk/pedestrian safety
- Designate an "Ambassador" from EVA to each of the local businesses.