

Emory Village Alliance
September 9, 5:00-5:30pm
Location: Glenn Church parlor
Meeting Minutes



Primary Board present: Todd Hill (chair); Mark Herald (vice-chair), Jean Welsh (secretary), Cynthia Tauxe, Yvette Weatherly, Mary Eccard, Shane Mixon (Saba), David Payne

Primary Board absent: Jay Johnson (treasurer), Sarah Bannick, Ann Wallace, Margaret Blackmon, George Basco (Rise n Dine), Bill Gryboski, Dave Moore, Priscilla Valesquez, Mason Rainey

Advisory Board present: Sally Sears, Clark Weeks, Jimmy Powell

Advisory Board absent: Becky Evans, , Mark Goldman, Kathy Gannon, Stuart Meddin, Perry Mitchell, Marlene Goldman, Louis Berthaume

Guest: Thea Roeser

1. Minutes from the August meeting were approved.
2. Security update. Thea Roeser with DHCA reported on ongoing efforts to monitor the type and frequency of security related incidents in Druid Hills. Most crimes involve items being stolen from vehicles. They are working to process the large amount of data that is being collected and are interested in working with EVA in efforts to reduce these crimes.
3. Open Streets update
 - No puppets show this year
 - The planning committee is open to the possibility of allowing vendors
 - EVA Table
 - Jimmy volunteered to be the point person for the EVA table.
 - David will check into the legality of having a raffle
4. Light Pole banners
 - As per Georgia Power, the cost of adding banner brackets to the light poles is \$300/pole.
 - Art students at Druid Hills are working to provide some possible banner designs as part of their course work.
5. Graduate school marketing plan
 - Mark and David met with the graduate student group that will be working on the EVA marketing plan. They will be doing focus groups to get input. Will likely present findings in November
6. Roundabout Lighting
 - Todd working to remove final blockage so that power can be passed through sleeve. Will look to do this as part of water main replacement work being initiated. Goal is to have lighting in place in time for Open Streets.
7. Board member updates
 - Sally requested EVA letters of support for the plan to build the park and retention pond along the new Briarcliff bridge and for efforts underway by the country to improved biking and pedestrian infrastructure.

7. Improved bike paths on/along Emory campus
- A celebration to mark the opening of the new multi-use paths on/along Emory campus on N. Decatur and Haygood is planned for Sept. 27.
 - These paths greatly improve some of the key walking and biking paths approaching Emory Village.

4. 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.