

# Midtown Citizens Advisory Council



<http://www.raleighnc.gov/community/content/CommServices/Articles/CAC/MidtownCAC.html>

**NEXT MEETING: Monday, September 25<sup>th</sup> at 7PM**

**Eastgate Park**

**4200 Quail Hollow Drive**

**Chair:** Patrick Martin [acemar@aol.com](mailto:acemar@aol.com)

**Community Specialist:** Michelle Bandklayder [Michelle.Bandklayder@raleighnc.gov](mailto:Michelle.Bandklayder@raleighnc.gov)

## Agenda

- \*Welcome, introduction, review of minutes
- \*RPD Report
- \*Parks, Recreation and Cultural Resources Report
- \*Community Engagement Report
- \*Code Enforcement Report
- \*Solid Waste Services Code Enforcement Manager Joseph Acosta: current solid waste collection issues and enforcement, and review of allowable recycling
- \*The Wake Historical Society will speak about the history of Isaac Hunter's Tavern, a very significant location in the foundation of the City of Raleigh. We are pleased to have this program in response to the August N&O article describing the story of the tavern ruins being "rediscovered" in the Dewitt/Carolinas Company property along St. Albans Drive. Belle Long and Brennie Holloman will be presenting.
- \*Nominating committee presentation of slate of candidates for 2018 officers of MCAC, and call for nominations from the floor
- \*New Business

## City Contacts

City Manager 919-996-3070

Public Utilities 919-996-4540

Community Engagement 919-996-4330

Planning 919-996-2626

Street Lights Out 800-419-6356

Graffiti Hotline 919-996-6001

Solid Waste Services 919-996-6890

Public Works 919-996-3030

Code Enforcement 919-996-2444

Parks, Recreation and Cultural Resources 919-996-6833

## City Council

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Dickie Thompson, Council Member (District A), [dickie.thompson@raleighnc.gov](mailto:dickie.thompson@raleighnc.gov)

Bonner Gaylord, Council Member (District E), [bonner.gaylord@raleighnc.gov](mailto:bonner.gaylord@raleighnc.gov)

Mary Ann Baldwin, Council Member (At Large), [mary-ann.baldwin@raleighnc.gov](mailto:mary-ann.baldwin@raleighnc.gov)

Russ Stephenson, Council Member (At Large), [russ.stephenson@raleighnc.gov](mailto:russ.stephenson@raleighnc.gov)

Midtown CAC  
Minutes from August 28, 2017  
Patrick Martin, Chair  
Five Points Center for Active Adults, 2000 Noble Rd.

**Welcome: Patrick Martin, Chair, Midtown CAC**

Chair Martin welcomed residents and guests including City of Raleigh (COR) employees. Attendees were invited to introduce themselves and identify their neighborhoods. Chair Martin reported that two speakers were arranged for this meeting. One called to report being on his way, but the other speaker has not called.

**Attendees:** Total attendance: 22. There were 17 residents (including two who live outside Midtown and one resident who is a City Council candidate) as well as 5 Raleigh Staff (Police, Parks, Community Engagement, Code Enforcement, Public Works).

**Review of Minutes of the July 24, 2017 meeting – Chair Patrick Martin**

Minutes were available as a part of the agenda packet at the registration table. After attendees were given a few minutes to read the Minutes, it was moved and seconded that the Minutes be approved as written. Motion passed.

**Raleigh Police Department Report – Senior Officer Kenneth Klos-Weller**

Officer Klos-Weller explained that there are two more scheduled meetings of the Police and City Council to finalize the body camera guidelines before cameras are ordered and distributed. Officer Klos-Weller proclaimed the Police summer soccer league a success with 43 boys, 41 girls and 21 officers involved in the program. He alerted us to the change in traffic that the start of the school year brings. Police are finalizing a policy (by late September or October) where Officers will carry Narcan, a nose spray that almost instantaneously and without side effects, reverses the effect of a narcotic drug overdose. He further explained that there is not a great need in Wake County for this drug, but it is needed down east. EMS and Fire Dept. employees have carried and used Narcan for many years.

**Q:** In light of recent events in other states, I have a question about proposed body cameras not being used at parades

**A:** If sticks come out, or things begin to turn ugly, the cameras will be turned on.

**Q:** Who will make the call?

**A:** The Incident Commander from the Special Ops Division will decide to turn all cameras on at once.

**Q:** Has there been any discussion about large scale use of closed circuit TV like in England? For traffic control?

**A:** That is a monetary decision. I don't think police could monitor Raleigh 24-7 like it is done in England.

**Q:** How is Narcan administered?

**A:** It is a 4 ounce nasal spray.

Chair Martin announced that we will be moving back to the Eastgate Community Center for our September 25<sup>th</sup> meeting. He wanted to make sure that Officer Klos-Weller would have that information. Chair Martin was disappointed to share that news, but resident Peggy Reaugh will bring a hand-held microphone which may solve one of the issues that constrain meetings at Eastgate.

## **Raleigh Parks and Recreation Report – Bryan Garrido, Assistant Director at Optimist Park**

Mr. Garrido reported that summer camps had been phenomenal: 17 camps in 11 weeks with themes ranging from volleyball to American Girl Doll camps! Activities during the school year include free teen programs at Millbrook Exchange Park including basketball from 3:00 to 6:00 p.m. Mr. Garrido encouraged residents to visit 10 city parks and then complete the “Bucket List” card that would earn them a free t-shirt. (The enclosed card is currently up for an award.) The 32<sup>nd</sup> International Festival will be held at the Convention Center on October 20-22. Consult the Leisure Ledger for other programs and activities including Pickle Ball which is being played at multiple parks. Check online for a park near you. The newest youth (6 to 12 year olds) activity is Ultimate Frisbee. High school volunteers are needed to help make this program a success. September 24 through 30 is “Take a Child Outside Week” - A good time for adults to volunteer.

Mr. Garrido complimented the Police for their soccer program this summer.

Chair Martin asked if the International Festival had anything to do with Raleigh’s Sister Cities. Mr. Garrido said that there is an historical connection from years ago, but the International Festival is not run by the Sister Cities program.

**Q:** I read a report in the Christian Science Monitor that in Iceland teen drug use was reduced by having the teens participate in sports. They closely monitored the teens and got good results. “You are doing good things, too.”

**A:** We have tried a number of different approaches. Right now at the St. Monica Teen center, teens are able to use computers. They are focusing on community. There are transportation issues that make going to Millbrook difficult. But, they are trying new things including an education piece, a physical piece, and a hands-on piece.

Chair Martin encouraged residents to participate in Pickle Ball (a combo of ping pong and tennis). It is fun for mature adults.

Stef Mendell arrived at the meeting, and Chair Martin asked her to introduce herself to the group. She identified herself as a Glenwood resident running for the City Council E seat in the October 10<sup>th</sup> elections. Parts of Midtown overlap with her Council District.

## **Community Engagement Report – Michelle Bandklayder, Community Specialist**

Ms. Bandklayder shared dates for The Citizen Leadership Academy and Raleigh Neighborhood College classes which are scheduled to begin on September 7<sup>th</sup>. If you missed a chance to register for the Fall sessions, go online and register for Spring. Chair Martin urged residents to take advantage of these free, unique classes.

Ms. Bandklayder also explained how the Attendees at the Raleigh Neighborhood Exchange’s “Unconference” to be held on September 16<sup>th</sup> at the McKimmon Center will be able to pitch topics of interest, then those suggestions will be voted upon and then discussed/addressed by the group. Ten dollars covers the cost of the full day conference as well as a sweet roll breakfast and full lunch.

## **Housing and Neighborhoods Dept. - Code Enforcement – Blade Perdue, Inspector**

Mr. Perdue announced that according to phone reports, and what he sees as he drives around our CAC, the most common code violation is grass that is too tall. Be sure to report things that you see.

**Q:** I wonder about overgrowth of grass that ends up growing on the curbs on Falls of Neuse and Six Forks.

**A:** Call **919.278.6184** and put in a complaint if it looks like it encroaches on drainage.

**Q:** Which Department would I call to report a hedge that blocks my visual field on a City right of way.

**A:** That would go to “streets.” Where is it? (Corner of Northwood Dr. and Six Forks) I’ll go over tomorrow to check it out.

**Q:** I have a question about an area with kudzu that encroaches on my property.

**A:** Feel free to give me a call.

### **New Business – Chair Martin**

Mr. Acosta from the Sanitation Department has not arrived. Chair Martin will see if he can be re-booked for another month.

### **Special Guest, Dennis Lassiter, COR Public Utilities Construction Projects Administrator**

Mr. Lassiter was invited to tell us about the North Hills Drive Sewer and Water Rehabilitation Project to replace or rehabilitate aging existing cast iron water and clay sewer lines that have been around since the 1960’s. (The project map and information sheet is attached.)

The types of repairs will range from creating pipe linings that are cast in place to some which will be open cut. Others will be patched. Traffic patterns will need to be changed while the work is done. There will be 3 closures, but Mr. Lassiter is hopeful that traffic will continue to move through the area.

The project will begin on October 16<sup>th</sup>, will run from 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. and last 7 months. Notices will be sent to residents.

**Q:** You won’t put a trench down the roadway? How will you force liner into the pipes?

**A:** The sewer is 73,000 feet long. 6,000 feet will be relined.

One mile of the water line needs to be replaced and they will need to dig for that as well as to have some cuts across the street.

**Q:** Something from my house runs to a manhole cover. Is it a cistern or sanitary sewer?

**A:** Send me an email.

**Q:** Will it cause a problem?

**A:** It may be a problem.

**Q:** How often does a water main break before you replace it? We spring a leak every 14 or 18 months.

**A:** Water lines are under high pressure. We might have it on a list. Send me an email.

Ten or 15 years ago, breaks were caused by trucks.

**Q:** We received notices years ago including certified letters about Rocky Branch Creek. There were hearings, but nothing happened.

**A:** That was my project; a big challenge with stormwater. The sewer has to be parallel to the stormwater lines. It is now 60% complete.

**Q:** Sending certified letters is inconvenient. Why don’t you send regular letters?

**A:** A State statute controls this. If they aren’t signed, after 30 days the City proceeds without the response.

**Q:** Where are you going to start?

**A:** We will start close to Leadmine Rd. and then proceed with adding liners.  
I can send updates to Chair Martin.

### **Additional New Business – Chair Martin**

Chair Martin reiterated that he will have a representative from Solid Waste Services make a presentation and answer residents' questions as soon as possible.

**Q:** We need information on recycling pizza boxes.

**A:** They are not recyclable because of the grease on the boxes. Only cardboard without food residue is eligible for the recycle bin.

**Q:** Did you know that if it is difficult for you to move your garbage and recycling bins to the street that the city will wheel them for you?

### **Nominating Committee – Mrs. Francis W. Brooks, Chair**

Committee Chair Brooks introduced David Jones and Thad O'Briant who serve on the Committee. They already had a meeting on August 15. They are scheduled to meet again in September in advance of the MCAC meeting where they will be presenting the slate of officers. Election of Officers (Chair, Vice Chair/Secretary, Second Vice Chair, Third Vice Chair and Meeting Coordinator) will be held at the October 23 meeting.

Chair Martin commented that the MCAC needs more help so we can cover more City meetings and get more involved with issues affecting Midtown.

He thanked Chair Brooks and the rest of the Committee for their work!

Chair Martin asked if there were nominations from the floor for the RCAC Neighborhood Recognition Award. He proposed nominating the members of the Midtown Working Group from last fall that studied and created conditions for the rezoning cases Z-28-16 and Z-13-16 along St. Albans. Other residents chimed in about the work the group did to improve the quality of public life. Current officers including Mr. Martin, Mr. Prevatt, Mr. Otwell and Ms. Donn are not eligible for this recognition.

The reception honoring the recipients will be held at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, October 18<sup>th</sup> at the Five Points Center for Active Adults, and Chair Martin encouraged residents to come to the ceremony and refreshments preceding the presentations.

The next meeting of MCAC will be on Monday, September 25<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. at **EASTGATE Park** where we have met for a number of years.

Chair Martin also updated residents about the Six Forks Corridor Study. On Tuesday, October 10<sup>th</sup> it will be presented to the Planning Commission and from there it will probably go to a sub-committee and then on Thursday October 26<sup>th</sup> it will go to the Committee of the Whole, and then on to City Council which has not yet set a date for the Public Hearing.

Calendar update – Chair Martin drew our attention to the fact that the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of December is the 25<sup>th</sup>. Last year we held our December meeting on a different Monday. Chair Martin proposed that we reschedule the December meeting for January 8<sup>th</sup> if there is a pressing need or a hot topic at that time. It was moved and seconded to accept those conditions/dates. The motion passed with a unanimous voice vote.

Chair Martin asked if anyone had any more old or new business.

One resident spoke about the procedure to remove and/or to add speed humps that was an important issue a few years ago. He has stayed on top of it, and a procedure has been established.

**Q:** What is the status of the North Hills NCOD (overlay district) request?  
**A:** The petition is still in the pipeline – proceeding through multiple steps.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

## City of Raleigh News

### Raleigh City Council Supports Advancing 'Green' Development with New Stormwater Guidelines

News posted Sep. 06, 2017 - 6:00 pm

The Raleigh City Council on Sept. 5 approved adjustments to the City's Unified Development Ordinance (UDO) that provide guidelines for incorporating green stormwater infrastructure (GSI) in development and redevelopment throughout Raleigh. These changes encourage the use of landscape features, such as rain gardens and green roofs, in development plans to offset environmental impacts resulting from the construction of impervious surfaces, like buildings and pavement. Development plans that include GSI features will be approved beginning in November.

GSI practices mimic nature by allowing rainwater to be absorbed and stored while pollution is removed from stormwater runoff. Typically, stormwater runoff from streets, buildings, and other structures goes directly to storm drains and local waterways without being cleaned, which significantly impacts water quality and stream health.

“As Raleigh continues to grow, practices like green stormwater infrastructure are increasingly more important in order to maintain a sustainable community,” said Kevin Boyer, water quality manager for the City's Stormwater Management Division. “Providing an opportunity for developers to use these features will reduce the amount of stormwater runoff and pollution from developed land that enters the storm drainage system and streams.”

With the approval of these guidelines, City staff will develop resources and tools that will help developers, designers, and citizens navigate the GSI plan review process.

City-owned facilities and street improvement projects also will benefit from using these new guidelines.

To learn more about green stormwater infrastructure, contact the City of Raleigh Stormwater Management Division at 919-996-3940 or [RaleighStormwater@raleighnc.gov](mailto:RaleighStormwater@raleighnc.gov).

For more information, contact

- Kevin Boyer, Water Quality Manager, Engineering Services Department, 919-996-4009