

Minutes for ADNA Community Meeting 1/13/09

After socializing and enjoying donated food (from Nikko's courtesy of Intown Properties) the meeting began at 7pm. There were about 50 people in attendance. The first Happy Hour of the season will be at Rise Sushi Lounge on Marietta St Friday Jan. 23 at 6:30pm. Cash bar, free appetizers and door prizes for those attending. ADNA is also planning an Atlanta Hawks game for Friday Jan 30 vs. the NJ Nets. Tickets are half priced and range from \$15 - \$37.50. Information will be in the Jan 19 newsletter.

Monday for MLK Day residents are encouraged to form a group to supervise students working clean-up projects downtown. See Matt Jordan for details.

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Licenses heard and approved include:

191 Club (change of Agent) Everett Butler. 191 Club is hosting the Feb. 20 Happy Hour!

Ritz Carlton (change of Agent) Todd Morrow. This license includes a package sale of wine in the gift shop. New agent wants to host a future Happy Hour for ADNA.

Tabernacle/Wolfgang Puck (change of agent) Alex Palazzo.

Liz Wattenberg from ZipCar made a presentation to boost downtown membership and usage. ADNA has an account that costs only \$25 annually with no other fees except hourly (discounted business rate) usage. To sign up go to www.zipcar.com/ADNA

Dorthey Hurst, Chairman of NPU-M Public Safety Committee, reported that she will have a "Neighborhood Successes" newsletter at the next ADNA meeting and that encouraging calls to 911 was at the heart of their success. Mike Bonacuse mbonacuse@earthlink.net is ADNA's rep to this NPU-M Committee that meets at 6:30pm on the 1st Thursday of each month (starting Feb. 5) at the Central Library 2nd floor. It is also open to the public.

Jay Tribby, chief of staff for District 2 City Councilmember Kwanza Hall, reported that the city is poised for round 3 of layoffs and belt tightening due to declining (by 6%) tax revenues due to the slow economy. He spoke about the Atlanta Police Department's furlough (10% reduction in pay/time) and that the Council and Mayor cannot agree on how to fund any increases for public safety. (*NOTE: the Mayor is adamant about finding funding to hire 200 more officers before she leave office according to her speech Tuesday at the Atlanta Press Club.*) The Mayor works on her budget for the city starting late Feb through May and submits to Council for approval. Jay suggested a Mayoral Forum for new candidates to address resident concerns be held in May. He also spoke about the APD's "Clean Car Campaign" which is designed to educate residents, visitors and workers in the city to remove valuables from their parked cars to decrease vehicle larcenies.

Jennifer Ball from CAP updated a couple items they work on with the city: privatization of City Street meters is going out for bids soon and the Public Vending program is working on kiosk designs. The next CAP/ADID Town Hall Meeting will be Thurs. Jan

29 at the Omni Hotel starting at 7:30am. It will include an update on the vending program.

Matt Jordan will draft a letter to the Mayor and City Council supporting upgrades to the Public Safety entities (APD, AFD) and will post at the ADNA website. Dorthey suggested ADNA host a fundraiser for the Atlanta Police Foundation.

New Programs suggested for ADNA in the coming year:

1. Engage more business participation
2. Engage GSU students (possibly putting a student on the ADNA Board?)
3. Holding a Mayor's Candidates Forum to address neighborhood issues (specifically the License Review Board approval process)
4. A program in which Major Deborah Williams explains APD's role in License enforcement
5. More support by residents for neighborhood businesses (a program that creates a Downtown Small Business Association?)
6. Neighborhood Watch Program (Mike Bonacuse will head this and work with APD Officer Swoops)
7. New places to hold ADNA meetings around the downtown

Christopher Livingston encourages folks to attend NPU-M meetings, always on the 4th Monday of every month. The next meeting will be held Jan. 26 at the MLK Center Auditorium. Meetings after that may be held at another TBD location. ADNA will publicize this and other important community meetings in each newsletter.

The next ADNA meeting (Tuesday Feb 10 at 6:30pm) will be held at the Tabernacle, with Kwanza Hall and APD's Zone 5 Commander Khirus Williams updating. It will be followed by a building tour.

Meeting adjourned at 8:15pm