

Myers Park Neighborhood Association NEWS



May 2021

Dues Due to support what we do to benefit you our neighbors

MPNA Survival •

What?

- MPNA requires a small amount of money to operate.
- Voluntary dues for the MPNA are **\$20 per household per year**.
- Why should I bother?
- To protect your quality of life and property value.
- To have neighbors tracking and publicizing City and County actions that will impact you.
- To have recognized representation before the City and County Commissions on land use and zoning issues that directly and significantly impact your quality of life and property value.
- To stay connected with your neighbors through the MPNA Facebook group (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/myersparkna/>) and web page (<https://myersparkna.org/>).
- To have representation within neighborhood alliances like the Association of Tallahassee Neighborhoods and South City Foundation that help guide City and County policies.
- To have the opportunity to participate in the Tallahassee Police Department (TPD) and Leon County Schools (LCS) crime watch programs.
- To enjoy an annual picnic to foster community and connection.
- **How?**
- **Send dues by check to MPNA, PO Box 504, Tallahassee, FL 32302.** And consider adding a bit more to match our giving to the Hartsfield Elementary School project (see below).



Hartsfield Elementary Family Resource Center Fundraiser

- **What?**
- Hartsfield Elementary School (our neighborhood school) is building a family resource center (FRC) where parents can access resources and technology to bridge the digital divide and foster success. For more information, check out this link at the MPNA website: <https://myersparkna.org/hartsfield-elementary-fundraiser/>

- **Why?**
- The school system is funding reconfiguration of the media center and an adjacent room for the engagement center. However, the school needs additional funds to provide the furnishings and technology for the center (desks, chairs, computers, printers, whiteboards, and the like).
- **How?**
- To help furnish the FRC, send donations by check to **MPNA, PO Box 504, Tallahassee, FL 32302**. Please write “**Hartsfield FRC**” on the “For” line of the check.

From our Neighborhood President Piers Rawling:

As MPNA president, my main contribution over the past year has been my service as your representative to the Alliance of Tallahassee Neighborhoods (ATN). I was a founding member of this organization, and serve on its executive committee. Our recent activities are listed below, and more information can be found on the ATN website: <https://www.atntally.com/>

In support of our vibrant neighborhoods.

ATN Spring 2021 Initiatives

Joint City/County Workshop: Comprehensive Plan Amendments

A joint city/county workshop was held on Tuesday, March 23 with the following key items for ongoing monitoring by ATN:

- [Update of Land Use and Mobility Elements](#): Consultant Services.
- Southside Action Plan - Proposed Community Engagement Strategy for Update to the Southern Strategy Area (aka Southside Action Plan).

Southside Action Plan and Frenchtown

ATN advocates for revitalization and investments in underserved communities and welcomes the community partnerships that can strengthen and accelerate these efforts that are vital to every Tallahassee and Leon County resident’s quality of life. For example:

- ATN unanimously agreed to support the Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) vote to allocate \$275,000 for the Providence neighborhood “Heart of the Hills” project.
- Additionally, ATN supports the Planning Commission approve the designation of the [Macomb Street Mall](#) to the local register of historic places.

For ATN’s position regarding Southside revitalization, see these videos: [Southern Strategy and Social Equity](#).

Land Use Policy and Ordinances

ATN has been working with City staff and elected officials to protect our neighborhoods with proposed improvements to ordinances and the following initiatives:

- [Neighborhood Bill of Rights](#)
- [Dwelling Unit Ordinance \(motel/hotel conversions to apartments\)](#)
- [Neighborhood Compatibility Ordinance](#)

Multi-Modal Transportation District

The [Multi-Modal Transportation District](#) (MMTD) comprises an 18.2 square mile area in central Tallahassee that encompasses many ATN member neighborhoods. ATN has [drafted implementation issues and recommendations](#) to improve the MMTD and will continue to work with the Tallahassee-Leon County Planning Department and other stakeholders on suggested improvements.

ATN has also been following proposed state legislation that would limit the authority of local governments to work with citizens and support good design elements to protect neighborhood character, as noted in [Design Matters for a Sustainable Future](#). For additional information, see [Florida Senate 2021 Session Bill 284](#).

Blueprint (2000) Intergovernmental Agency

Formerly known as Blueprint 2000, Leon County voters approved the referendum to extend the Blueprint 2020 program in November 2014. On ATN's watch list is:

- FSU Gateway project now underway with new consultants.
- Redirecting funds from big ticket items (e.g., the FSU Convention Center) to projects that have a more direct effect on traditionally underserved parts of the city.

Midtown Working Group

ATN midtown neighborhoods continue to be engaged with midtown initiatives that include a Midtown Master Plan and a new citizen's advisory group.

Noise!

Multiple in-town neighborhoods have been subjected to inordinate late nighttime noise from pop-up vehicle-based parties and bars holding outside parties. Residents have been receiving conflicting messages in part due to a Florida Supreme Court ruling. Also, the City does not allow anonymous noise complaints, which can be a deterrent to reporting.

For answers and helpful information see: [Dealing with TPD on Noise Issues](#).

Contact Us

[Alliance of Tallahassee Neighborhoods \(ATN\)](#)

HELP WANTED

MPNA Needs Volunteers

- What?
 - Facebook Administrators - Very light admin duties. Mostly granting membership to the closed group. Occasionally reminding member businesses that only one or two posts per month are preferred. Creating occasional posts to inform residents of issues and events.
 - Neighborhood Engagement Coordinator – A \$1000 grant from the SCF is available to improve neighbor engagement with the MPNA. There is a draft project plan for an FAMU/FSU marketing student intern to conduct the effort, but the MPNA needs a member mentor to manage the intern. The effort is a year-long and would take ten to twenty hours to start, and then a few hours per month to oversee the work.
 - Email List Coordinator – Maintain the MPNA email list (hopefully greatly improved by the Neighborhood Engagement Project listed above) and send emails on behalf of the MPNA board. This role consumes only a few hours per month.
- Why?
 - To keep MPNA going, help is needed. If we don't get neighbors to step up, we will not be able to protect and improve the neighborhood.
 - The members who fulfilled these roles have moved out the neighborhood and we need new folks to take over.
- How?
 - Contact any board member by Facebook message or respond to this email and let them know you are willing to step up and play a part.

MPNA Board Members

President: Piers Rawling, Piers.Rawling@gmail.com

VP: Peter Grasel, corb1435@comcast.net

Sec.: Donna Heald, dhealdtlh@centurylink.net

Treas.: Cindy Cosper, cospercats3@embarqmail.com, 520 Oakland Ave.

Board: Gunilla Trull, gunillatrull@gmail.com; Don Ramsey, yesmarnod@gmail.com; Lisa Beck; Advisor Jeanie Conner, Communications **Vacant**

Membership Application

Myers Park (Historic) Neighborhood Association Inc., Tallahassee
Florida

One per household, Association. Dues are \$20/household per yr

Names: _____

House/Apt. Address _____

*Tallahassee, FL 32301-*_____

How long have you lived in neighborhood _____

Mailing Address _____

Interests: _____

Phone Number _____ *E-mail address* _____

Date _____ *Payment by* Check Cash *Enclosed amt.* _____

Mail checks to Tres. MPNA, P.O. Box 504., Tallahassee FL 32302

Join our Crime Watch

- **What?** - Neighbors watching out for each other in an organized fashion with direct TPD/LCS contacts.
- **Why?** - To keep us safer which improves our quality of life and property values.
- **How?** - **Volunteer to be a “block captain.”** It takes three or four hours to get going, and then an hour or so per quarter to update and disseminate the block list. We have a template to follow to help get you going. Contact any board member if you are willing to step up.

Neighbor to Neighbor in the Nenes has offered to share their experience of keeping in contact with elderly neighbors by periodic visits and phone calls. We are thinking of asking our block captains to consider this. If you are 75 or older let us know if you would like this service.

Have you seen our benches at the Cascades Overlook?



JOB ANNOUNCEMENT - please share

John Wesley UMC **Little Lambs Preschool Director** (Mrs. Rowan retiring after 20 years as Director)
John Wesley United Methodist Church is accepting applications for the position of Little Lambs Preschool Director. Requirements for the position include a degree in Early Childhood Development or a CDC with experience and Director’s Credential with VPK endorsement. Excellent communication, evaluative, and computer skills are needed. Responsibilities include implementing and supporting the vision and goals of the ministry of JWUMC, supervising preschool teachers, volunteers and visitors, preparing the preschool budget, maintaining attendance records for VPK and ELC, collecting tuition, coordinating regular staff meetings, maintaining preschool requirements for DCF, and other needed duties required to operate a certified preschool. Selected candidates will be required to pass a criminal history background check. Submit cover letter and resume to Rev. Bethany Douty at: pastor@johnwesleyumc.com