



Mt. Paran-Northside

Citizens Association in Atlanta & Sandy Springs, Georgia

Monthly Newsletter

Vol 21.1

January 2021

This month we begin a new MPNCA initiative to keep you informed and up-to date on neighborhood news and events. Look for this newsletter every month.

Quick View – Key information in this Newsletter:

- Councilmember JP Matzigkeit's 2021 priorities
- Captain Anthony Singh and crime statistics
- Changes to membership fees
- 2021 Officers and Board members
- **Membership Raffle Winners!**
- Budget and membership

MPNCA Holds Annual Meeting

The Mt. Paran-Northside Citizens Association (MPNCA) held its annual meeting on Wednesday, November 18, 2020 via Zoom.

Sally Riker, President of the MPNCA, opened the meeting and provided a "year-in-review." Items discussed that the Board was involved in this year included the "Party House" at 4499 Garmon Rd., controlling speeding in the neighborhood, additional security hours during the protests, and working closely with the Buckhead Council of Neighborhoods on several initiatives. Additionally, over \$7500 was raised in the Wrap it Blue mailbox campaign for first responders. 100% of donations went to the following: Grady, Wellstar, Piedmont, Emory, Covenant House and the officers and firemen who serve our community.

Featured speakers during the meeting included:

- Councilman J.P. Matzigkeit of Atlanta's District 8
- Councilman Andy Bauman of Sandy Springs' District 6, Fulton County Commissioner Lee Morris
- Captain Anthony Singh of Zone 2
- Jennifer Rose, MPNCA Membership Chair
- Alicia Gant, MPNCA Security Chair.

Councilmember J.P. Matzigkeit stated that his #1 priority for 2021 is public safety. Items he is focused on include "Buckhead Blue," a comprehensive security plan for the Buckhead business district, together with street racing, transportation and infrastructure and party houses.

Councilmember Andy Bauman stated that he will be focusing on delivering the highest-level services such as 911, police, fire and transportation. Councilman Bauman encouraged people to visit Sandy Springs to take advantage of all the restaurants and cultural activities in the area.

Commissioner Lee Morris stressed that he and the 7 other Fulton county commissioners are committed to reducing homeowners' tax burden.

Captain Anthony Singh provided background on crime statistics and tips on how to avoid being a crime victim:

- He stated that one reason for the increased crime numbers is that people are not working (many for COVID related reasons) and are desperate for money plus they have more time to commit these acts.
- Additionally, vulnerable people such as stay-at-home mothers and the elderly, can be easily taken advantage of. For example, Pine Straw scammers who ring the doorbell and provide a "too good to be true" deal on pine straw have recently taken advantage of some of our neighbors. Please do not accept any "deals" from anyone selling pine straw door-to-door.
- There has also been an up-tick in car break-ins and many of these cars have had guns stolen out of them. This has given rise to the "Clean Car Campaign." A campaign to educate and encourage the public to keep their cars clean of visible packages and hidden guns.
- Because of COVID, more people will be shopping on-line which will give rise to more packages being delivered to homes. The criminals know this. If you are not home all day, try to have your packages delivered to your work office or to a post office box or have your packages held for pickup.

Jennifer Rose, Membership Chair and Alicia Gant, Security Chair made the following comments:

- In 2020, 620 households out of approximately 1200 households within the Mt. Paran-Northside boundaries joined the MPNCA. Because about 90% of dues goes to fund the security patrol, these numbers gave rise to 70 to 80 hours of patrol per week with increased patrol hours on Halloween, Election Day and during the protests. The more members join, the more security hours we can have. *Please join or renew and encourage your neighbors to do so as well.*
- *A major benefit of joining the MPNCA is the "vacation check."* Anytime you are out of town for any reason, call or text 404.538.8946 or email security@mtparannorthside.com. Send security patrol the following information:
 - Your address,
 - the days you will be away, and
 - a phone number where you can be reached while you're gone.

The Patrol will drive by your house, complete a “walk around” and pick up packages. *It is definitely a good reason to join!*

2021 will bring 3 changes to membership fees:

- Waiver of the transaction fee that all members were paying when dues were paid on-line.
- An option for automatic renewal and
- For the first time in 10 years, there will be an increase in membership dues. Dues have gone from \$250 to \$285.

2021 Officers and Board Members

Sally Riker, closed the meeting by nominating the slate of officers for the 2021 term. The slate of officers and board members for 2021 are:

President – Sally Riker
Treasurer – Ashford Little (*also* Buckhead Rep)
Secretary – Dee Dee Guzman (*also* Publicity)
Alicia Gant – (Security)
Jennifer Rose (Membership and Buckhead Council of Neighbors Rep)
Sharon Oglesby (Sandy Springs Rep)
Larry Samuelson (NPU-A)
Joseph Stabile (Membership)
Cathy Barshay (at large)
Scott Cline (at large)
Harin Sebastian (at large)
Kurt Stephens (at large)

Highlights from January Board meeting

The following items were discussed at January’s MPNCA Board meeting.

Security

The Security Committee of the MPNCA thanks those who donated for holiday bonuses for our off-duty officers. They were humbled by your generosity and thoughtfulness. In a time of uncertainty, this neighborhood community went above and beyond to demonstrate their appreciation for the officers. Thank you for your support!

Winners of the free membership raffle announced

The winners of the raffle of a free membership are Christine and Tom Woodward. The Woodward’s will receive free MPNCA membership in 2022 worth \$285! Congratulations to the Woodward’s! All households that joined or renewed their MPNCA membership by the end of the year were automatically entered into the raffle.

MPNCA Events

The Board will hold the following events in 2021:

- Quarterly Coffee and Connect meetings that will feature individuals important to the MPN neighborhood such as City of Atlanta Commissioners including JP Matzigkeit the District 8 (which includes the Mt. Paran Northside boundaries) councilmember.
- Fall Fest at a time and date to be determined.

Sidewalks

The Board renewed a discussion to increase and encourage sidewalks within the MPNCA area. More to come.

Budget and Membership

- As January 11, 2021, 437 households had joined the MPNCA. Many residents ask why we do not have more security patrol hours. We can increase the hours BUT we need the membership numbers to make that happen. The more members who join, the more security hours we can have. The 2021 membership goal is 700. *Please join or renew and encourage your neighbors to do so as well.*

Atlanta District 8/Councilmember J.P. Matzigkeit

Newsletter

Click below to learn about our District 8 initiatives and activities.

[Atlanta District 8 Newsletter](#)

Membership

To renew or update your membership, login to your profile at <https://www.mtparannorthside.com/Sys/Profile> with your email and password and follow suggested actions on your profile screen.

To initially set or to reset your password, click here <https://www.mtparannorthside.com/Sys/ResetPasswordRequest>



(Click red button to pay your dues online)

Alternatively, you may send a check payable to "MPNCA" for \$285.00 to:

Mt Paran-Northside Citizens Association
P.O. Box 724153
Atlanta, GA 31139

(This newsletter is written by volunteers. Please disregard format, spelling or grammatical errors.)

Comments? Questions? Email

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