



**Mountain Way Common
Steering Committee Meeting Summary #3
November 29th, 2012 7:00 PM, Blue Heron Nature Preserve**

Attendees: Beth Godwin, Dan Weede, Gordon Certain, Jane Moss, Jane Zoellick, Kevin McCauley, Joe Coomes, Bethann Kushner, Denise Starling
Park Pride Staff: Walt Ray, Becky Katz

Dan Weede invited Connie Land, an experienced race organizer, to discuss a short proposal for a midnight 10 k run. The event could be a potential fundraiser for Mountain Way Common. The participants agreed to pursue the fundraiser idea further. The Visioning meeting then started with a round of introductions and an overview of the agenda.

The short view of upcoming dates was announced including:

- Emory Work Day- Monday, January 21st
- Steering Committee Meeting- Thursday, January 24th @ 7:00PM
- First Public Meeting- Tuesday, February 12th @ 7:00PM

Each upcoming activity was then discussed in detail including the best ways to engage and motivate the community to participate.

Park Pride inquired if more Captains were needed for the Emory Work Day. The Steering Committee suggested contacting the Rotary Club for volunteers and highlighted how great the last event on November 10th was with the Emory students. Park Pride suggested that students could distribute fliers advertising the Visioning public meetings, but the Committee advised against. In the past handing out fliers has produced low reward for the effort spent. The Steering Committee suggested that yard signs (about a dozen) would be more effective. Park Pride agreed to design the signs and the Steering Committee with arrange to get them printed and put them out 2 weeks before the first public meeting.

The next Steering Committee will take place on Thursday, January 24th. At this meeting Walt and Becky will give a preview of the first public meeting presentation. Park Pride's team will send out the presentation prior to the Steering Committee meeting so that the members have time to review and comment.

To publicize for the first public meeting, aside from the yard signs, the Steering Committee will arrange for an announcement at the NPU meeting, and in the Livable Buckhead and Patch newsletters. Jane Zoellick, with help from the Committee, will also print the tri-fold brochure she created. The brochures will be made available to bring to certain events and meetings where the Committee sees fit.

After the logistics of the first public meeting were finalized, the Park Pride team took the Committee through a preliminary S.W.O.T. exercise. The results follow:

Strengths:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Connection to GA-400 Trail Free Land – Access to New Greenspace Addresses Community Need Sense of Wilderness Stream’s Beauty Access to Nature Turning a Negative into Positive Harbor for Urban Wildlife 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase Property Values Strengthen Community – Community Meeting Point Spectacular/Dramatic Drain Greenspace for Children to Play Various Partners Successful Model
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Weaknesses:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Challenging Terrain Graffiti Public Safety 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Presence of Highway/Noise Flood Plain to Street
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Opportunities:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Physical Connectivity Corridor to Sara Smith Elementary Water Quality – Creek Buffer Expansion into Private Properties – Adjacent Undeveloped Properties 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Columns and Bank as Exercise Labs/Education for Nearby Schools Promote Outdoor Activity/Fitness Opportunity to Pry Open GDOT’s Collective Mind
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Threats:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Development Restrictions (GDOT) Maintenance/Liability – Who’s Responsible? Traffic/Parking Concerned about Crime – Inviting ‘Them’ Into Our Neighborhood Perception of Unsavory Activity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Flood Plain to Street Development on Currently Vacant Parcels GDOT Standard Practices Run-Off from GA-400 – Nasty - Trash Pollution from Cars Overhead
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The preliminary results from the S.W.O.T. exercise may be included in the initial public presentation for expansion and comment.

Denise Starling of Livable Buckhead spoke briefly about the progress of the GA 400 Trail design. The design is 60% completed, but not yet open for public presentation. It was discussed that the GA 400 Trail design includes carefully design on-street parking on Mountain Way to avoid tree recompense. If the community wants additional parking that should be consider during the Visioning process.

The next Steering Committee meeting is on January 24th, 2013 at 7:00 pm at Blue Heron Nature Preserve.

