

City of Pine Lake Annexation Committee Meeting

April 19, 2017

6:30 pm – Council Chambers

MINUTES

Attendance: Calvin Burgamy, George Chidi, Melanie Hammett, Augusta Woods, Tonja Holder

Attendees introduced themselves and spoke to what they felt was Pine Lake's most important identity.

Calvin Burgamy spoke of the uniqueness of the City and commented that it was somewhat insular, but it added to the idea that it was a small community that was unique.

George Chidi said he wanted Pine Lake to remain a place where its OK to be weird. We definitely have an image as a place where people can be weird in their own way, artists, musicians, etc. and still be safe and part of the community.

Tonja Holder spoke to the value of art and nature in such a small community. Even as a small community, we commit resources to ensuring our city has arts and nature.

Augusta Woods spoke to the walkability of Pine Lake. That was one of the reasons that she and her husband moved here.

Melanie Hammett emphasized keeping socioeconomic diversity.

Potential Annexation Communities

Committee members examined potential annexation maps.

George Chidi spoke to an approximate rate of 40% owner occupied in some nearby communities. Annexation could change that and move some communities up closer to Pine Lake levels which are 70 to 80%.

Committee Members spoke about Lake Chateau and their strong sense of community and demographic profile.

Some discussion of how big the annexation area should be. Should we annex down to the Indian Creek Marta station. Discussion focused on the size of the population that would be incorporated in that area. Whether residents around the MARTA station would know much about Pine Lake. Members discussed whether a piecemeal approach would be better to trying to get down to the Indian Creek MARTA station.

Melanie Hammett and George Chidi spoke to the Georgia Senate wanting to slow down municipalization, so we might be able to do a more modest one now and annex further communities later.

Melanie spoke about Sen. Henson indicating that our annexation map wouldn't be put up for a vote if he didn't see that residents in annex areas were in favor of that option.

Melanie spoke about trying to take Chartley by the 60% method and avoiding legislature. George Chidi indicated that we might be hurting ourselves for the larger annexation vote by already taking out the "yes" voters through the 60% method.

Committee members decided that they wanted revenue and expense numbers for the following areas:

Chartley

Ingles

Aberdeen

WM

Oakhill

Hambrick

Membend

Shepley

Lake Chateau

In addition:

George Chidi is going to speak with Mayor Ted Terry of Clarkston to inquire as to whether homes in annexed areas would be immediately reassessed by DeKalb County.

Tonja Holder is going to speak with Pine Lake Police Chief about crime rates and law enforcement burden in each potential annex area.

Next meeting was set by Committee Members for Tuesday, May 2nd at 6:30 pm at the Council Chambers.

Meeting adjourned at 8:34 pm