North Chattanooga Neighborhood Association

Meeting Minutes – November 5, 2026

Final Meeting of 2026

1. Opening Remarks & Association Updates

This was the final North Chattanooga Neighborhood Association meeting of 2026 and the last meeting led by Allison Poole.

The group reflected on the two events that served as catalysts for forming the Association:

- **Proposed consolidation of Normal Park Upper and Lower Schools:** Although the consolidation ultimately did not happen, the proposal brought several neighbors together to discuss how the community could become more involved in local planning and decision-making
- **Fatal accident on Frazier Avenue in November 2023:** This tragedy further highlighted the need for neighborhood advocacy, particularly around pedestrian safety and safer streets

Looking ahead, the Association hopes to continue building momentum around several ongoing initiatives, including PlayStreets, Safer Sidewalks and Roads, Sylvan Park, and other neighborhood improvement projects.

There is also an opportunity to grow the Association's membership and encourage more neighbors to participate.

2027 Membership Dues: Members are reminded that 2027 dues can be paid beginning in January. An automatic renewal option is also available.

2. Guest Speaker: Marc – Hamilton County Register of Deeds

Marc provided an overview of the Register of Deeds office, its responsibilities, and the importance of protecting property records.

What Does the Register of Deeds Office Do?

The office is responsible for recording and maintaining official documents related to property ownership and other legal filings. There are approximately 98 types of documents recorded, including:

- Deeds
- Liens

- UCC Fixture Filings
- Assignments
- Charters
- Easements
- Affidavits
- Deeds of Trust

Tennessee is a Deed of Trust state. The earliest dated record in the office is a deed from 1798.

Most recorded documents are public records and are available online. DD-214 military discharge records are an exception and have special access protections.

Property Fraud Prevention

Although property fraud is relatively rare, incidents are increasing. Residents are encouraged to enroll in the free Property Fraud Prevention notification service.

Registration:
https://register.hamiltontn.gov/onlinerecordsearch/home/IndexNotification.aspx

Important information:

- A separate registration must be completed for each property you own
- Once registered, you will receive an alert if a document is recorded against your property
- If you receive an unexpected notification, contact the Register of Deeds office to identify the type of document that was recorded
- You can then notify the Sheriff's Department, which will take over the investigation if fraud is suspected

Veterans and DD-214 Records

Veterans who have lost their DD-214 and previously recorded it with the office can obtain a certified copy. Requests must be made in person, as DD-214 records cannot be emailed. This service is available to veterans and their immediate family members.

Marc also confirmed that information provided to the Register of Deeds office is not sold.

3. St. Mark's Updates

St. Mark's recently received historical designation and is celebrating its 100th anniversary.

The building currently hosts Willow School, a preschool and elementary school focused on serving children of all abilities. St. Mark's also provides space for community activities and events, including pickleball and the annual Holy Ghost Weenie Roast.

Here for Good Capital Campaign

St. Mark's is launching *Here for Good*, a capital campaign focused on preservation, restoration, and expanded community outreach.

Recent improvements include:

- Installation of a new roof
- A fresh coat of paint on the building
- Lighting added to the bell tower (the bell itself will not ring.)

The venue is available for community use. St. Mark's does not host weddings but hopes to continue serving as a welcoming neighborhood resource.

4. Reducing Contamination Team – Recycling Education

Representatives discussed a partnership between the UTC Honors College and the City of Chattanooga focused on reducing contamination in the recycling stream.

Residents were reminded of several important recycling guidelines:

- **Glass:** Glass cannot go in curbside recycling bins. It must be taken to designated glass drop-off locations throughout the city
- **No bagging:** Do not place recyclable materials in plastic bags. Workers cannot open and sort every bag
- **Pizza boxes:** Pizza boxes with grease or food residue are not recyclable
- **Styrofoam:** Styrofoam cannot be recycled through the city's recycling program
- **Plastics:** Only plastics labeled #1 and #2 are accepted. Plastic clamshell containers are not accepted

Different recycling facilities process different materials, so following the city's guidelines is important to prevent contamination.

For the most up-to-date recycling information, visit:

https://chattanooga.gov/services/waste-recycling/recycle-collection

5. City Neighborhood Association Updates – Perrin Lance

Perrin Lance shared updates regarding neighborhood associations and the City's approach to community engagement.

Perrin works with approximately 100 neighborhood associations throughout the city and emphasized that the City values resident involvement and engagement.

Adriana will be the Association's new City staff contact.

6. PorchFest

PorchFest is scheduled for **March 6, 2027**, along Mississippi Avenue and Summer Street.

The event is seeking sponsorships to help support its programming. A key priority is ensuring that participating artists and musicians are compensated for their contributions.

Community members interested in sponsoring or supporting the event are encouraged to get involved.

7. Sylvan Park Updates

The Sylvan Park initiative continues to move forward, with additional volunteer opportunities expected after the holidays.

The group is also seeking volunteers to help write interpretive signage for the park. The overall framework and concepts are already established; the primary need is for individuals who can help turn those ideas into engaging, informative language.

Upcoming Volunteer Opportunity:

- United Way Day of Caring – April 16, 2027

8. Forest Avenue / Sylvan Roadwork

The group discussed potential improvements to Forest Avenue and Sylvan Road.

City Council representatives are open to considering changes; however, the proposed work is not currently included in the City's budget.

One possibility is for the neighborhood to fund some improvements independently, potentially purchasing the necessary paint and organizing volunteers to complete the work.

The estimated timeline for seeing changes on the ground is approximately 12–24 months, although the process could take longer.

9. Wyatt Center Updates

The Wyatt Center shared several upcoming program opportunities:

- **Skills & Drills:** Planning to offer sessions for students in grades 2–5 during January and February
- **Beginner Pickleball:** Additional beginner-level pickleball sessions are expected soon
- **Yoga:** Exploring the addition of an evening yoga class to complement the existing Wednesday 10:00 a.m. class

10. Closing Remarks

As the Association wraps up 2026, members were encouraged to continue participating, volunteering, and inviting neighbors to become involved.

The organization looks forward to another year of community engagement, neighborhood advocacy, and continued progress on initiatives that make North Chattanooga a safer, stronger, and more connected place to live.