

SBNA GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

06/09/2015

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the 5/12/15 General Membership Meeting were approved.

2. OLD BUSINESS

- Councilman Eric Costello provided an update on utility construction in our neighborhood. He met with DOT, BGE, Spinello, Wills Brothers and DPW last week. His goal is to make sure that every street that has been worked on in South Baltimore will be 100% resurfaced. He related the schedule for all remaining work and will be updating his schedule spreadsheet to relay this information to residents. As streets are repaved, utility cuts in sidewalks will also be repaired.
- Eric also related that the Hanover Street construction in the 1700 and 1800 blocks is complete. The next step is for SBNA to enter into negotiation of the MOU with the City for maintenance of the landscaping. Eric will provide a draft MOU to us. Residents will not be allowed to enter the median for maintenance purposes. It must be done by a private contractor. Insect and rodent abatement can be included in the MOU.

Amy Mutch mentioned that the landscaping was selected without input from SBNA. Eric responded that DOT had decommitted from installing the landscaping and had to be pushed at the last minute to install it – there wasn't time to obtain input from SBNA.

Amy also asked how the landscaping will be maintained prior to the MOU being finalized. Eric will ask City staff how the landscaping can be maintained on an interim basis.

- Eric also mentioned that the parking restrictions on Ostend Street due to the Race Street culvert project will be extended into early July. The number of restricted spaces had been substantially reduced from the number originally proposed by the contractor.

3. TREASURER'S REPORT

<u>FUND</u>	<u>LAST MONTH</u>	<u>CURRENT MONTH</u>	<u>DIFFERENCE</u>
PETTY CASH	\$120.00	\$100.00	(\$20.00)
GENERAL FUND BALANCE	\$3,680.10	\$3,216.85	(\$463.25)
TREE FUND	\$97.00	\$97.00	\$0.00
TEEN COUNCIL FUND 2010	\$371.89	\$371.89	\$0.00
HEATH STREET COMMUNITY GARDEN	\$2,238.23	\$2,238.23	\$0.00
AUXILIARY POLICE BIKE FUND		\$250.00	\$250.00
BALANCE	\$6,507.22	\$6,273.97	(\$233.25)

- The Heath Street Garden repairs have not yet started
- We expect to receive money from Federal Hill Main Street for helping with the Wheel of Fortune at the Spring Block Party and the Jazz & Blues Festival.
- We paid for the Auxiliary Police jerseys, our insurance premium and CLC's legal fee related to our legal name change to SBNA.
- We received and deposited \$140 in new membership dues.
- We moved \$250 from the General Fund to the Auxiliary Police Bike Fund.

4. POLICE RELATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT

- Officer Butterbean announced he will retire on July 29. He reported that within the past seven days there have been 2 larcenies from autos, no aggravated assaults, 6 burglaries, 5 larcenies, 9 stolen autos. There was also a burglary at 1735 S. Charles.
- There have not been any upticks in crime in our area after the spring civil unrest period. We should not see any change in the level of police service.
- Kevin Lynch asked about the Victory House at 1702 – 1708 Light Street where there has been a change in management that seems to have turned conditions to the worse. There have been a lot of complaints recently. There is a combined effort currently with SBNA, City Hall, and Riverside Neighborhood Association to look into the issue. There have been 38 arrests there in the last 18 months.

Liam Davis mentioned that he and Councilman Costello met with the Deputy Commissioner of Housing to get this problem on their radar and the City Department of Housing is very interested in seeing this property transitioning from a boarding house to a better use that this market demands.

- Kevin Lynch said there will be a social event at Delia Foley's on 6/17 in honor of the retirement of Officer Butterbean as well as Officer Dena Roney. Donations will be collected for the Explorers, the youth group that Officer Butterbean has been and will continue to be involved with.

5. COUNCILMAN COSTELLO'S STAFF

- Councilman Costello introduced a new addition to his staff, Obie Chinemere. Betsy Zeigler is retiring.

6. BIKE MARYLAND

Lisa Nguyen introduced Emily Ranson of Bike Maryland. Emily discussed bicycle safety issues as well as rules and regulations. Bike Maryland is available to teach at youth and adult workshops.

7. SAFE AND HEALTHY COMMUNITY COALITION

Susan Ettinger explained the purpose of this new coalition that has been formed after the most recent Irish Stroll and asked for support from SBNA. Some residents feel the Irish Stroll has

become an unsafe event in the way it is implemented. The Coalition is working in conjunction with the Police department and the Mayor's Office to come up with strategies to make the event safer for the participants and the community. The Coalition is broad based and is not associated with any one neighborhood association. It does include businesses, neighborhood associations, churches, and the Johns Hopkins School of Public Health. Their first step is to write a letter to the Mayor to get on record the events that occurred at the last Irish Stroll. They already have signatures from 25 businesses and the Key Highway and Federal Hill Neighborhood Associations as well as the Downtown Family Alliance, and the Christ Lutheran Senior Center.

She is asking for SBNA to support this venture.

8. DESIGN REVIEW COMMITTEE REPORT

Peter Bartels provided an update on the PNC Grant we applied for last year for the sculpture in the Hanover Street median. We did not get that grant. Now that the median is in place, we will further develop the design with the sculptor this fall and reapply for the grant.

9. CLEAN AND GREEN COMMITTEE REPORT

- Several members participated in the Federal Hill Main Street plantings a few weekends ago.
- There was a Mother's Day block cleanup organized by us and the Federal Hill Hospitality Association.
- Mike Costa is currently taking an inventory of all trees in the neighborhood and will report to us in the future.

10. SOCIAL MEDIA REPORT – LISA NGUYEN

- We are hoping to get the next newsletter out in June or maybe July.
- We need volunteers to help distribute the newsletters door to door – contact Lisa to help.
- We have a goal of producing a calendar with photos of the area/neighborhood. The calendars would be sold as a fund raising method for SBNA. If you have any interesting photos please contact Lisa.

11. PARKING REPRESENTATIVE

- Deb Alt has volunteered to be our District representative on the RPP Advisory Board. The District includes Area 30 and other Areas.

12. LIQUOR ADVISORY COMMITTEE – ADIA HOAG

- The Local Fry is buying a 6 day beer and wine license from the sushi restaurant on Light Street. The LAC has negotiated an MOU with them which will be voted on at this meeting.
- Regarding the ongoing Crossbar issues, the Circuit Court has overturned the BLLC decision so Crossbar once again has a license. Our current MOU is attached to the license and is still in effect. However there are individuals who are raising funds to appeal the Circuit Court's decision.
- Langermann's is applying for a liquor license transfer of ownership. The prospective owners have owned other establishments and have been cited for violations there. They have also given us misinformation regarding those establishments. In the MOU we are asking for 50%

food sales, no minis, no Keno or gambling, no check cashing, good security and preventing loitering. They haven't provided a specific business plan. The LAC has not received any requested information from their attorney. They are not willing to agree to the 50% food sales requirement. The current license is a BD7 license which does not require that food be served.

The project is on the BLLC docket for 6/18/15.

13. BYLAWS COMMITTEE REPORT – DENNIS PLOUFF

Copies of the Draft Revised Bylaws were distributed. The membership is asked to review them and vote on them at the July General Membership meeting. Two major revisions are: up to nine Board of Directors will be elected in the future including four officers and the Board will be elected to two year terms instead of one year. A Conflict of Interest Policy has also been added to the Bylaws. We are also legally changing our name to the South Baltimore Neighborhood Association and updating our Articles of Incorporation.

14. LOCAL DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL – GARRETT SCHICHE

We signed an MOU with the Neighborhood Design Committee to help us with conceptualization of what we would like to do in the Hanover Street gateway. The first step will be a neighborhood envisioning meeting to determine how to use the \$50,000 LDC allocation. That meeting should occur in the next month or so.

15. NEW BUSINESS

- A motion was made to approve the transfer of the beer and wine license to Local Fry and to sign our standard MOU with them. The vote was in support of that motion.
- A motion was made to approve the transfer of the liquor license to the new prospective owners of Langermanns, 1542 Singh LLC, and to enter into a standard MOU with several additions: limiting the license to the first floor, 50% food sales, no minis, no Keno or gambling, no check cashing, no singles sales and the providing of security and monitoring for loitering.

The prospective owner has not agreed to the 50% food sale requirement.

The vote was 5 yes, 11 no, 4 abstentions. The motion did not pass.

- A motion was made to support the work of the Safe and Healthy Community Coalition and sign the letter that the Coalition is sending to the Mayor.

Prior to a second and a vote on that motion, another motion was made and seconded to table the first motion until we find out what the letter will say and until we obtain more information as to what the Coalition is all about. A vote was taken in support of that second motion. This issue will be on the agenda of the July General Membership meeting.

16. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned. The next meeting will be July 14, 2015.

Respectfully submitted,

Dennis Plouff
SBNA Secretary