



## M I N U T E S

### 1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the 04/11/2017 General Membership Meeting were reviewed and approved by the general membership.

### 2. OLD BUSINESS

Cross Street Market- Caves Valley working to amend the development plans. The modified liquor license was passed during the General Assembly session in Annapolis.

South Baltimore Gateway Sign- The executive board reviewed the designs, focusing on the designs receiving the most votes from the Executive Board. It was suggested that a full size mock-up is included in the cost. The executive board considered all the elements, opinions, location and future mural when narrowing down the choices. It was determined that the design company has not produced a design the board would like to move forward to general membership. Garrett will take the feedback to the design company.

### 3. PRESENTATION

State Delegate Brooke Lierman attended. This is her first term and third session in Annapolis. Delegate Lierman shared the following: This session the Market Liquor license was a hot topic. It was good to see so many people come out, become active and be vocal about an important issue. Caves Valley is currently renegotiating their contract with BCMC since the renovation plans have scaled back. Delegates are paying attention to potential changes in federal government support and ways to support local communities. Important legislation passed this session included the right to sue the Attorney General, additional money directed to city schools particularly those with declining enrollment and additional funding for school districts that offer full day PreK. Additional cost savings were implemented by eliminating the mandate for MTA to bring in 35% of its revenue from the Fare Box thus allowing them to put resources into improvements in the system. Baltimore City schools no longer have to reimburse MTA for student bus passes. Delegates were able to reduce the 600 million dollar deficit to a balanced budget with a 100 million dollar cushion. Maryland public schools are now prohibited from expelling or suspending students in Prek-2<sup>nd</sup> grade. HB1, the Healthy Working Families Act providing 5 paid days of sick leave for business with 15 or more employees passed. The governor has threatened to veto the bill but hasn't yet.

Resident asked why redistricting is so complicated? Delegate Lierman shared that six states were working together to implement a similar bill but the governor vetoed it yesterday. Presumably because the bill did not provision for an additional republican seat.

Resident asked why the state government controls the city police even though the city controls the police budget. Delegate Lierman shared it was a complicated issue and there is no simple answer.

Delegate Lierman concluded by sharing that she is here to advocate for residents and to connect them to services. She is hosting a picnic June 4, 2017 from 2:00 – 4:00 p.m. in Federal Hill Park. Mission BBQ, beer and ice cream will be provided. Other state and city representatives will attend so it's important to have a strong turn- out showing our city and state elected officials that our communities are involved, vocal and vote.

Resident thanked Brooke for listening to the community position on both sides of the Cross Street Market.

#### **4. TREASURER'S REPORT**

<u>Fund</u>	<u>Last Month</u>	<u>Current Month</u>	<u>Difference</u>
Petty Cash	\$100.00	\$100.00	--
General Fund Balance	\$6,056.58	\$5,562.79	<b>-\$493.79</b>
Tree Fund	\$97.00	\$97.00	--
Teen Council Fund 2010	\$371.89	\$371.89	--
Heath Street Community Garden	\$1,945.28	\$1,945.28	--
Auxiliary Police Bike Fund	\$83.41	\$83.41	--
<b>Balance</b>	<b>\$8,654.16</b>	<b>\$</b>	

Peter Bartels, treasurer provided an update.

#### **5. POLICE RELATIONS COMMITTEE**

Lieutenant Worthy, shift commander in South Baltimore and Major Warden attended. They have worked together for many of Lt. Worthy's 18 years on the force. Lt. Worthy shared that he is available if we need anything or if he can be of service. There are excellent officers in south Baltimore with a good supervisory staff. There are currently 26 full duty officers but the number fluctuates to as many as 40. Officers are committed to the residents of all neighborhoods despite homicide rates that are historically high and crime raging in other parts of the city.

Resident asked if there was a theory to the significant rise in murder rate. Lt Worthy shared that the spike in crime has occurred since the riots in Baltimore and across the nation. He referenced the former mayors comment to criminals "We're going to give them room to destroy." He also noted that officers are trying to fight the battle with fewer officers as hundreds have left the force. The mayor also changed the retirement pension and added five years to the requirement moving from 20 to 25 years just after the riot. The city is short about 1,000 officers from being fully staffed.

Thursday, May 18 Major Warden will speak from 6:30-8:00 at the Community Relations Council Meeting to discuss the new consent decree. Meetings are held at 10 Cherry Hill Road at the southern district on the third Thursday of every month. Major Ward shared a brief summary of the

recent crime statistics and reminded residents to lock windows as robberies are happening at night while people are sleeping. Brooklyn is driving crime into the southern district. We are currently in the green, meaning crime is down, in the last 28 days and good things are happening since the shift in using data to place officers effectively. New officers are being assigned to South Baltimore but new policy requires that they walk the streets first. The new BPD website is more current and transparent.

Resident shared there was a violent mugging in the neighborhood during which three individuals carjacked someone making a delivery. Major Ward stated that the car was recovered 30 minutes later and several suspects in their late teens were arrested. The incident does not seem to be related to drug trafficking in the area of 1607 Harden. Major Ward will see if he can assign someone to the house to establish enough probable cause to raid the residence. Residents asked what information would be helpful in establishing probable cause. Major Ward said anything would be helpful. Send dates, times of day or video if available. The city probably won't install any additional cameras as grant funding is not available but highly recommends citizens install cameras.

If there are any questions or concerns, Major Ward's contact is [steven.ward@baltimorepolice.org](mailto:steven.ward@baltimorepolice.org) 410-404-9199. Crime statistical data is available daily by visiting the following site: <https://data.baltimorecity.gov/Public-Safety/Summarized-Crime-Data-By-District-Week-19/>

## **6. COMMUNITY INTEREST ITEMS**

A community dumpster will be made available on July 22, 2017. The proposed location is on Ostend St. between Hanover St. and Charles St. in front of the fire station. Tim is working with the city to finalize.

## **7. DESIGN AND DEVELOPMENT**

Hanover Street median: Sagamore continues to work with the city to finalize the MOU for maintenance of the median. The city has not provided an update on when the dead trees will be replaced.

## **8. SPECIAL PROJECTS COMMITTEE**

No topics for discussion.

## **9. LIQUOR ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Das Bier Haus – still no formal second floor plans.

## **10. LOCAL DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL (LDC)**

The South Baltimore Gateway Partnership is in the process of hiring an executive director. There are opportunities to take on projects with funding available from the South Baltimore Gateway partnership. Ideas include lighting in the neighborhood, murals on the pillars of 95 leaving the neighborhood toward the stadium, and off-duty officers to increase police presence. Hosting a

brainstorming session for residents was proposed. Amy Munch shared: The Complete Street Study was ineffective. The study was intended to be re-done. The study would help with things such as identifying where lighting, cross walks, bike lanes, trees, sidewalks, etc need to be upgraded. The study would provide a starting point with data to support the improvements. A grant from the SBGP could pay for a similar study. Eric Costello said the study was done poorly and should be redone. SBNA should put the pressure back on Costello to get that study done. Previously SBNA committed all our LDC funds to the study. We need to put the pressure on to see the study. A cohesive plan will have better long range outcome. DOT took all \$750,000 and we have never seen the study.

### 11. NEW BUSINESS

A Tree Fundraiser will be held at Herch's tomorrow night, May 10, 2017 from 6-8 p.m.

### 12. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned. The next general membership meeting will be in **one month at Delia Foley's** on Tuesday, June 13, 2017 at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Tara McNulty, SBNA Secretary