



## M I N U T E S

### 1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the 05/09/2017 General Membership Meeting were reviewed and approved by the general membership.

### 2. OLD BUSINESS

South Baltimore Gateway Sign- The city finally approved a sign design company, however their first designs will not be moved forward to general membership. The signs were more fitting of a suburban strip mall then the look and feel of the neighborhood we would like to convey. The \$50,000 grant from the LDC has no time limit. Since the sign will be the centerpiece of the mural, banners and other improvements Garrett will take feedback to the design company and ask for revisions.

### 3. PRESENTATION

Auni Yonice from Baltimore Museum of Industry presented. She shared that if residents need resources or have program ideas to let her know. The BMI farmers market will continue with more vendors that in the past. Vendors will now include those with prepared food options and more produce.

### 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	--
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	--
Balance	\$8,654.16	\$	

Peter Bartels, treasurer provided an update.

### 5. POLICE RELATIONS COMMITTEE

Major Ward and Kathy Brown attended and reported a string of robberies began in the area the weekend of May 18-20 that appeared to be connected. Kevin Lynch assisted in publishing information that helped identify the stolen car involved. The police then received a photograph of the suspect from a resident. The suspects were using stolen electronic devices which also aided in identifying and arresting a minor and a week later an adult. There were a total of 11 robberies in 4 or 5 days. The good communication with the residents was incredibly helpful in identifying the suspects and putting an end to robbery spree. Nest, and other resident owned security cameras, are helping. Garrett will coordinate with Major Ward to identify where City Watch cameras are currently located and where additional cameras are being added by the LDC.

Evelyn Vargas, Community Liaison and Victim Advocate for victims of violent crimes attended along with the South Baltimore Assistant States Attorney, Burke Miller. Ms. Vargas coordinates with the crime strategy unit. She will follow up to provide more information for SBNA on the status of the cases discussed by Major Ward. She can also assist with Community Impact Statements that are presented to the judge at the time of trial. A resident asked for clarification on the process when an incident goes to trial, expressing concern that there are very often 3-5 court dates. It was confirmed that the process will always work to allow the accused the additional time to prepare their case. Everyone agreed that open communication with the states attorney will keep you informed and may reduce the number of days a victim will need to miss work.

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 location is on Ostend St. between Hanover St. and Charles St. in front of the fire station.

Evites will be utilized in addition to the Facebook notifications to encourage attendance at SBNA General Membership meetings.

## **7. DESIGN AND DEVELOPMENT**

1404 S Charles: Still no update. SBNA's position is that it's positive the church will be converted not torn down. Residents can attend the zoning board hearing if they have concerns.

Hanover Median: The MOU between the city and Sagamore Development has almost been resolved with the board of estimates. Sagamore Development will then take- over and maintain the Hanover St medians. They have begun replacing plants that did not thrive.

## **8. SPECIAL PROJECTS COMMITTEE**

No topics for discussion. Residents were asked to get in touch with any topics of interest for special projects including improvement projects or working with neighborhood youth.

## **9. LIQUOR ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Das Bier Haus –Wants support for a second floor renovation but they have not returned to present formal plans to SBNA. They are not engaging with SBNA at this time.

Banditos – Both owners of Banditos attended to update SBNA on the recent events at their restaurant and their next steps. They shared that there were three victims injured in the incident and all are recovering. There has been ongoing communication between the victims and bar owners. The victims are not holding the bar responsible. The investigation into how the suspect gained entrance is still under investigation.

The owners shared they attended to maintain open, transparent communication with residents. They indicated they are taking the incident very seriously and would like to be proactive moving forward. In terms of security, PSG was referred to them by law enforcement and has been hired to replace their previous security company. All employees are trained security guards. They plan to hire additional off duty police officers. Additionally they have purchased ID scanners for use at both of their bars, Banditos and Wayward. The scanners allow them to store the identity of any patrons entering as well as indicate patrons that should not be permitted to return to the restaurant. A stronger dress code will be implemented. Staff will begin carding anyone in the restaurant at 10:00 p.m. with no one under age twenty-one allowed on the premise after 11:00 p.m. The owners are collaborating with other members of the hospitality association and are encouraging them to hire the same security company so all security guards can communicate amongst each other.

Additionally they expressed interest in creating unity between FHNA, SBNA, and the Hospitality Association to work together proactively. They believe Federal Hill is a youthful neighborhood and will continue to be. Their position is that bar owners need to step up and they are willing to do so. They also expressed appreciation for the support SBNA has always provided.

Residents shared they were impressed with the response of Banditos ownership. A resident asked how this will impact the expansion already in the works. It will not. The owners plan to seriously pursue a change in the law to prevent folks under 21 from being allowed in a bar until 2:00 a.m.

Garret encouraged communication/meeting with all neighborhood associations at the same time.

No Idea Tavern - John Ferguson and Stacey Lynch purchased the bar in February. They are in the process of working to renovate the inside and will soon be moving to the outside. Plans include a new menu, new look and new attitude for the bar. They will include additional viewing areas for watching sports. The owners expressed a desire to become more involved in the community including a block party fundraiser on July 22, 2017 for Mo, the young man with cancer that calls into 105.7. Portable restrooms and security have been hired. This will be a family friendly event including kid's activities. SBNA advised the owners to flyer homes within 100 feet to provide notification.

## **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

LDC and the Gateway Partnership are up and running. Residents were advised to visit the website. This is a grant making organization and will be giving grants to local communities. The \$5000.00 community grants are not difficult to apply for and residents were encouraged to consider developing an application. SBNA will encourage Patty and the SoBO Green Initiative to apply for grants to purchase and plant more trees.

The SBNA executive board just received a copy of the requested re-done Complete Streets Study by the LDC in order to identify priorities for community improvement. It is a living document. SBNA can submit suggestion for the Complete Streets plan so residents were encouraged to read the South Baltimore portion of the study and to please provide feedback. The plan will be shared via email. If residents see a recommendation for an improvement on their block, SBNA can submit a form to prioritize that project for funding. A resident asked if it include street repair. It does not.

### 12. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned. The next general membership meeting will be in **one month at Delia Foley's** on Tuesday, July 11, 2017 at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Tara McNulty, SBNA Secretary