



BOARD

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Director

**Kelleigh
Eastman**
Director

Vacancies
Directors (3)

May 9th, 2017, 7:00 PM-8:30 PM

Location: Hamilton Bank

1. Introductions (Aparna):

- a. Board Members:
 - i. Hernan
 - ii. Aparna
 - iii. Sandy
 - iv. Brenden
 - v. Sherry
 - vi. Gabrielle
 - vii. Christine
 - viii. Kelleigh (at training for Board, absence is excused)
 - ix. Stacy (absent)

2. Safety & Crime (Major Ward)

- a. Major Ward, Baltimore Police Department (BPD) provided an update on safety in Pigtown, highlights:
 - i. Carjackings arrests have been made, pending federal charges. Carjackings are now down.
 - ii. More calls come in from Pigtown than any other community in his jurisdictions. Working on Vacants, Drug Dealing, and Prostitution.
 - iii. Total of 22 part 1 crimes. Part 1 Crimes include shootings, assault, burglary, etc
 - iv. Since Major Ward came on, crime is down 28% in Pigtown since Feb 28th. Part of the drop was the arrest of the carjackers.
 - v. Community Members can email, call, text, or message Major Ward directly through NextDoor.
 1. 410-404-9199 (cell for calls or text)
 2. If it's an emergency, first call 911 first, then contact Major Ward.
 3. Steven.Ward@baltimorepolice.org (email)
 4. NOTE: Include the address, description of crime/perpetrators when calling or texting Major Ward.
 - vi. BPD are restarting the Cadet program. Cadet program are administrative officers that are under 21, but over 18. Cadets transfer to full-fledged officers at 21 and go through training at the Academy. 200 Officers are in the Academy right now, which is twice as many as this time last year. BPD is actively recruiting now.
 - vii. Consent Decree will be discussed at the next CRC (Community Relations Council) meeting on Thursday, May 18th, 6:30 to 8:00 PM at 10 Cherry Hill Rd.
 - viii. BPD app is in the app store now for reporting. Download today.
 - ix. New BPD website is up online. You can also request reports online through the new website.

- x. Weekly community email list is available. Email Ward if you want to join the list.

3. Hammerjacks (HJ) Letter of Support for Class B Liquor License (Hernan)

- a. Andy Hotchkiss & Caroline Hecker representing Hammerjacks were in attendance to answer some questions.
- b. Hernan gave an update on the MOU with COP and Hammerjacks. It should be available for community members to review prior to the next membership meeting. We will be voting on the MOU at the next membership meeting.
- c. For now, Hammerjacks is seeking a letter of support for their contingent liquor license. This is a Class B Arena license, which will need to be renewed every year. Class B Area is for 1,000+ patron facilities that have invested more than \$1 million. Hammerjacks has invested roughly \$13 million thus far in their facility.
- d. Hernan answered some questions about the pending MOU.
- e. Hearing is May 18th.
- f. There was a question about the Liquor License and the MOU. Caroline provided some clarification on the MOU and the Liquor License and the Urban Renewal Plan (URP) amendment.
 - i. One of the buildings is not zoned for Live Entertainment at this moment, so Councilman Reisinger must submit a legislative amendment to the URP so they can accept the liquor license.
 - ii. Hernan and Aparna explained that the vote is for the letter of support to the liquor board hearing and not for the MOU at this time. The MOU must be approved by COP membership prior to the URP amendment being accepted. The Liquor License will be conditional only, pending the approval of the MOU and the subsequent URP amendment, so the community will still have leverage to create an agreement with Hammerjacks prior to actually being able to open and operator.
- g. Votes for the letter of support, motioned and seconded the vote:
 - i. For: 26
 - ii. Against: 2
 - iii. Vote passes.

4. Committees Update (Gabrielle)

- a. Need more people are needed to sign up for the committees. Committee sign-up sheet was passed around during the meeting. Please sign up! Committees are as follows (more info is also available on the COP website):
 - i. Communications
 - ii. Greening & Cleaning
 - iii. Safety & Crime Prevention
 - iv. Social Committee
- b. Also, searching for new board members. Please apply to be a Board Member by emailing board@citizensofpigtown.org.

5. South Baltimore Gateway Partnership (SBGP), (Sandy & Aparna)

- a. Aparna and Sandy gave an overview of the SBGP, its creation, and funding from the Casino profits tax.
- b. Three tiers of grants are available: Transformative Grants, Enhanced Services Grants, and Community Grants.
- c. More information on the grant tiers, and the grant applications, visit <https://sbgpartnership.wordpress.com>. SBGP is also holding grant writing workshops/info sessions, check the website and their Facebook page for more information.
- d. The deadline for the next round of Community Grants is June 30th, 2017. COP plans to submit a few grant applications, but community members are also encouraged to email the COP Board with ideas or to volunteer to help write or manage grants (board@citizensofpigtown.org).

6. Reading Partners presentation on SBGP Grant Project Application, (Jeffery)

PO Box 6322, Baltimore, MD 21230
board@citizensofpigtown.org

- a. Reading partners is a one-on-one reading program. Volunteers come into schools in the neighborhood and are matched with students who need assistance with reading. Currently have 900 volunteers. They are in SW Baltimore Charter School. 51 students are tutored there by Reading Partners volunteers. Reading Partners is submitting a proposal for enhanced services. They didn't make a specific dollar ask, but in the Proposal they submitted to SBGP, Reading Partners only outlined the cost of the program; which roughly cost \$100,000 school per school. This cost is split by the school and Baltimore City Public School system, and the remaining is fund-raised by Reading Partners.
- b. Vote was called and second to provide a letter of support
 - i. For: 29
 - ii. Against: 0
 - iii. Vote passes

7. Pigtown Mainstreet presentation on SBGP Grant Project Applications, (Ben Hyman)

- a. Washington Blvd Greenwater Project (aka Stormwater bumpouts on Washington Blvd at Barre St and at Scott St). Ben mentioned that they provided a presentation on this project last year, they have responded to community feedback and responded to them. This document and others were sent to the membership through email. Mainstreet is seeking funding through the SBGP's transformative grants program.
- b. Washington Blvd Gateway Project (MLK and Washington Blvd intersection). In 2016, the Mainstreet developed a plan to improve the safety and beautify the "gateway" of Pigtown. Total project cost is over \$5 million, but they hope to get a portion of the funding from SBGP's transformative grants program and have submitted the project to SBGP.
- c. Crime & Safety Study Areas: Mainstreet is seeking funding for the furthering of these studies to develop actionable tasks that the community and Mainstreet can take on to improve safety and decrease crime in these "hot spot" areas:
 - i. Pigtown Tot Lot
 - ii. Community Garden at 1331 Carroll St
 - iii. 1100 Block of Ward St
 - iv. 1400 Block of W Ostend St
- d. Pigtown Mainstreet Ambassadors: Using the Downtown Partnership's Ambassador model, Mainstreet would hire local residents at a Livable wage to clean the Mainstreet and surround community blocks.
- e. Various Questions were asked by members about each of the projects.
 - i. Lighting: Some projects include a lighting component
 - ii. Budgets were not provided in the grant application proposals provided: Ben explained that the structure of the SBGP process was very open, and they want to engage in the project idea and then develop the budget for the project ideas they like.
 - iii. Trashcans: DPW is providing new big belly trash cans through the LDC.
 - iv. Permissions from the property owner on the corner of the Gateway: the portion of the project/plan that would take over the corner property is actually part of the public right of way (utilities underground) so there shouldn't be any.
- f. Call to Votes on provide Letters of Support for the Mainstreet Projects:
 - i. Washington Blvd Gateway:
 - 1. For: 22
 - 2. Against: 0
 - 3. Vote passes
 - ii. Bumpouts
 - 1. For: 20
 - 2. Against: 3
 - 3. Vote passes
 - iii. Safe growth public safety
 - 1. For: 25

2. Against: 0
 3. Vote passes
- iv. Clean Green and Safe team:
1. For: 23
 2. Against: 0
 3. Vote passes

8. Hamilton Bank requested to hold a "Shred Event" in Pigtown.

1. The membership voted, and the vote passed to hold the event. Date of the event will be determined and announced later.

9. Meeting Adjourned at 8:30 PM.

Check out our new and improved website! www.citizensofpigtown.org