

BOARD

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<u> Minutes – Feb. 2017 –Community Meeting</u>

Date and Time: Feb. 21, 2017 – 7:00 pm – 8:00 pm

Location: Southwest Baltimore Charter School, 1300 Herkimer Street, Baltimore, MD 21223

Board Members Present: Aparna Jain, Interim Pres.; Hernan, Interim V.P.; Sherry Scible, Interim Treasurer; Stacey Bobers, Sec.; Meghan Wilson, Director; Gabrielle Glorioso, Director (Late arrival per work conflict.)

3/15/17

Certification of Below Minutes by COP Board Secretary, Stacey Roberts

Date

1. Call to Order, Introductions, & Agenda

AJ welcomed, called meeting to order, had board introduce themselves, & reviewed agenda. Asked those new community members in attendance to introduce themselves and their connection to the neighborhood. Each person introduced themselves. Agenda approved by voice vote.

2. City Councilman Ed Reisinger

Councilman R addressed noted community concerns in the neighborhood regarding public safety and crime patterns in area. He noted the challenges the BPD had had per a hiring freeze under the prior leadership. He noted a current plan to hire 200-300 more officers. He noted that mayor needs to continue to hear about the significant need for more police in Pigtown. Community members vocalized various concerns with current practices and limitations to addressing crime. Councilman Reisinger requested that people contact their elected city officials and vocalize their concerns as issues arise. Representation from the BPD Southern District was not in attendance.

3. Baltimore City Fire Dept.

Firefighter Murphy presented to the community. Anyone can call 311 to request free smoke detectors (doesn't include Carbon dioxide). BFD recommends all homes with gas have carbon dioxide detectors. Vacant homes should be reported to 311 to be boarded up. Families should develop escape plans. He also cautioned about the risks of space heaters overloading electrical circuits and being too close to flammable items; make sure heaters have plenty of clearance and isn't overloading the electrical circuit. Requests for apparatus please visit http://fire.baltimorecity.gov/fire-education

4. Hammerjacks

Carolyn Hecker (attorney for Hammerjacks) and owners (Kevin Butler and Andy Hotchkiss) of Hammerjacks presented on their plans for developing a concert and entertainment venue in a warehouse near intersection of Ostend and 1300 block of Russell Street, near M&T Bank Stadium. Architecture being designed to blend modern in enhancements while keeping with the historical architecture of neighborhood. Venue will also include 3000 sq ft of retail space for local Baltimore businesses, a 5000 sq ft beer garden, and a 2500-person music/concert venue. Parking: They have entered an agreement with owners of parking lots surrounding the venue, and in process of talking to owners of other lots to have more parking. He stated that Hammerjacks will not hold a ticketed event on the same day as an M&T Bank Stadium ticketed event. Projected open date for 4th quarter of 2017. Community members voiced various concerns about public safety, parking, police, crowd control, and public infrastructure (cross walks, traffic flow). COP will be developing an MOU with Hammerjacks. For information or suggestions around the MOU, please email board@citizensofpigtown.org. For all other questions or concerns, please email andy@hammerjacks.com

5. Southwest Works

Rachel presented on Southwest Works employment connections services and efforts. She noted that she works out of 4 centers in the Southwest neighborhoods. Programs has grants targeted in the 21230 zip code area to help with career services, including resume.

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www.citizensofpigtown.org • board@citizensofpigtown.org

6. Neighborhood Watch

Schlonte McGee (AmeriCorp VISTA Volunteer) will be holding a community meeting to form a neighborhood watch. It will be held on March 15th, 2017 @ 6:30 pm at Clay Pots (1635 W. Pratt St., Baltimore, MD 21233). For more information, email Schlonte at schlonte@southwestpartnershipbaltimore.org or call 443-826-9589

7. President's Announcements

- a. South Baltimore Gateway Partnership (LDC/CID) update: Public meeting Meetings Feb. 28 @ MedStar Harbor Hospital
- b. Public Crime Meeting Jack Young's Office will be holding a public meeting on March 7th @ (time) @ (location). Needs to be well attended by community.
- c. Pigtown Main Street
 - i. Will be doing a crime study.
 - ii. AJ updated community on the plan for "Stormwater Bumpouts"

8. Community Discussion & Sign-Up

GG discussed the various things that COP does throughout the month besides the monthly community meetings. There are 4 committees (i.e. Safety, Greening, Social/Outreach, Communication) that we need community members to sign-up for to become more involved. Additionally, there is an ad hoc committee forming to redevelop bylaws with the Community Law Center. GG noted the recent challenges that we have had as an organization and a neighborhood, and that we need the participation of the community to address these challenges. Contact web@citizensofpigtown.org to sign-up for a committee via email.

9. Adjourned

Motion was called to adjourn and seconded. Adjourned by unanimous voice vote.

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