



Federal Hill Neighborhood Association (FHNA)
 General Membership (GM)
 Meeting Minutes for December 17, 2013

Date: December 17, 2013	Start Time: 7:00 pm	Chair: Eric Costello
Location: Christ Lutheran Church, 701 S. Charles St.	End Time: 9:00 pm	Secretary: Kelly Sheehan
Board Members Present: Eric Costello, Jody Martin, Bob Merbler, Ginny Gerhart, Kelly Sheehan, Gayle McClure, Bob O'Donoghue		
Board Members Not Present: Claire Bogdanski		
Members / Guests in Attendance: Approximately 30		
Itemized Agenda: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Call to Order – Eric Costello – 7:00 2. Adoption of Minutes (see attached) – Kelly Sheehan – 7:01 <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Minutes of 12/12/2013 Special Meeting to be Adopted at 01/21/2014 Meeting 3. Treasurer's Report – Gayle McClure – 7:04 4. Upcoming Meetings – Eric Costello – 7:07 5. Update from Southern District Police – Officer Roney 6. Feedback for DOT on Transportation Action Plan – Eric Costello – 7:25 7. Illusion's Request for Open Sundays Without Alcohol – Eric Costello – 7:40 <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Upcoming vote at 01/21/2014 Meeting 8. Crossbar Beer Garden Case – Discussion of results of Circuit Court, Upcoming BMZA and BLLC Hearings – Eric Costello – 7:45 <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Upcoming vote at 01/21/2014 Meeting 9. New Business 		
Adoption of Minutes – Kelly Sheehan No changes were made. Minutes from November General Membership meeting adopted unanimously by the membership.		
Treasurer's Report – Gayle McClure As of today we have \$19,000.00 in the bank, net income is \$2600.00 for the year. Reminder - You have one year to complete your grand prix project. Question: Who audits the grand prix projects? Answer: Gayle checks and makes sure they are done. We are on budget; the majority of our income comes from the Hillside. Question: How much have we been spending on Crossbar issue? Answer: In total we have spent \$5,029.75 of which \$1650.00 were individual donations. Total out of pocket expense for FHNA was \$3,479.75 Breakdown - Attorney: \$1,379.75 Parliamentarian: \$1,250.00 Design Consultant: \$2,500.00 Bob Merbler: Which brings up a point that we would welcome donations, you can make an end of the year contribution and it would be a tax deduction.		



Gayle will get out forms by the end of the year for everyone who gave donations. The treasurer's report will be on the FHNA website.

Upcoming Meetings – Eric Costello

1. Thu, 12/19, 6pm – 8pm, DOT Meeting on Casino, Holiday Inn. DOT has asked to come up with a laundry list of what we want. This is separate from the Casino Development Comm.
2. Thu, 12/19, 7pm – 9pm, Southern District Police & Community Relations Council Meeting, SD Police Station, 10 Cherry Hill Road
3. Thu, 01/02, 6:30pm – 8pm, Casino Local Development Council Meeting, Leadenhall Baptist Church - cancelled, it will be held January 23rd.
4. Thu, 01/16, 6pm – 8pm, Digital Harbor Tech Center Annual Showcase,
5. Thu, 01/16, 6pm – 8pm, Parking Authority Advisory Board Meeting, 200 W. Lombard Street , open to the public.
6. Thu, 01/16, 7pm – 9pm, Southern District Police & Community Relations Council Meeting, SD Police Station, 10 Cherry Hill Road
7. Tue, 01/21, 7pm, FHNA General Membership Meeting, Christ Lutheran Church

Update from Southern District Police – Officer Jerry Roney

Officer Kevin “Butterbean” Vaught is coming back. Southern Police have a toy/coat drive on Friday at Southern District Police Station, 10 Cherry Hill Road across from Harbor Hospital.

Crime report for Federal Hill in the past month:

1. Four larceny auto – Be mindful not to keep cell phones, ipads, electronics or anything valuable in your car.
 2. Two robberies; one was attempted. In the attempted robbery the victim fought back and was hurt. Please do not fight back, give them what they want and call 911. The attempted was on E. West street, November 17th, 2:15 pm.
 3. Four home burglaries; one victim left his garage open and some bikes were taken. Burglaries are mostly in the rear of the homes, when people are at work or at night when no one is home. Call 911 whenever you want, it takes too long for us to get the call if you call 311.
 4. Quality of life crimes around Cross Street - Officers are writing an average of 3 civil citations on Friday and Saturday nights. Civil citations are \$500 and are for urinating, disorderly conduct and open containers. Being drunk in public isn't a crime; you have to be disorderly too.
- Question: If someone has turned up the volume in his or her car and the noise is really loud, is that a crime?

Answer – There is a noise ordinance of 40 feet, if it is heard from 40 feet it is a violation.

On Friday and Saturday nights there are 3 paid overtime officers around Cross Street. Between Federal Hill Park and Cross Street Market we have 4 mobile units on car or bikes.

Complaint was made about noisy patrons coming from the Zeeba Lounge after closing at 916 Light Street. Officer Roney will include that in their work.

Question: Do noisy patrons in the street warrant a 911 call? Answer: Yes.

Baltimore City Department of Transportation (DOT) - Eric Costello

Eric discussed the DOT Transportation Action Plan, which is intended to mitigate impact of Casino. This is separate from the Local Development Council (LDC) community impact funding.



We have been asked to come up with a laundry list of items we want corrected.

Categories we will touch on are:

Safety, pedestrian safety, way finding signs, bicycle lock up, landscaping on or around roads or sidewalks, lighting, public transportation, resurfacing, parking, if you have any other categories please submit them to Eric.

Safety

1. Hanover Street – Cross street has limited visibility when going out onto Hanover Street.
2. Grindall from Covington up to crest of hill, is glacier city.
3. Henrietta and Charles AND Henrietta and Hanover. Visibility is an issue when turning, can't see cars when turning.
4. South on S. Charles St.(around Cross Street market) on weekends especially at night, people making a left on Cross St. is really hazardous. Make it limited hours for turning left?
5. We could really use a cab stand, people are stopping in streets to get cabs.
6. Paint curbs to identify handicap areas, hydrant areas for visibility, cab areas

Way finding

7. William Street – Coming the wrong way from Montgomery and Key Highway, no sign that says one way from key highway.
8. Battery – going wrong way on Battery, northbound
9. East Montgomery – going wrong way
10. 200 block of Montgomery – people going wrong way.
11. Crosswalk – William and Key, maybe a flashing light is needed.
12. 200 block of Warren Avenue heading westbound, people don't stop when turning on William.
13. Crosswalk on Charles and Hill – It is outside of our geographic scope, but I will add that.
14. Path coming from the Science Center is treacherous especially during winter.
15. William across from Federal Hill Prep, sidewalk is in need of repair
16. Q: Could we get a traffic slowing device? A: If you want traffic calming there is a separate process through DOT.

Sidewalk Repair

17. 829 Light Street, sidewalk repair because of tree roots.
18. Sidewalk repair on William across from Federal Hill Prep, from tree roots.
19. Bricks repair/missing on Light street by circulator stop before Key Highway.
20. East side of Light, near Churchill Street. Bricks need repair. That whole block needs help.

Pedestrian Safety

21. Crossing Light – need more crosswalks besides Montgomery and Light.

Question: There are so many areas that need repair, is it possible to put a map on the website so people can make suggestions?



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Answer: Eric will look into it.

Question: Why doesn't a representative from DOT survey the complete area?

Answer: Eric has asked for that, they said they don't have the resources.

Question: Is this in coordination with the Key Highway plan?

Answer: Eric is not sure about that. DOT is trying to take care of things without using casino funds.

Comment: The homeowner is responsible for the sidewalks from the curb in, I would like to see that law changed.

Please email any other comments to Eric by Wednesday evening,

Question: What is the proposed shuttle service route for the casino?

Answer: We don't know that answer yet.

Comment: There were traffic studies done several years ago concerning impact of casino, the conversations did not happen concerning this. Also consider all the development that is going on around there.

You are invited to come to this meeting on Thursday from 6 – 8 pm at the Holiday Inn across from the Casino.

Illusions – Eric Costello

Illusions, with community support to the Liquor Board, may be open on Sunday and not serve alcohol. Illusions would like our support. We will be having a vote on whether or not to support that initiative at the January 21st general membership meeting. The membership will be given a 10-day notice of the meeting and the operator will be here to make a presentation. We have to vote on this because they are asking for less than before. We voted earlier to support Illusions based on successful execution of MOU. The need for an MOU no longer exists because alcohol is not involved.

Question: Why do they have to ask to be open on Sundays if alcohol isn't involved?

Answer: Because it's an MD Article 2B if you have 6-day license you can't be open on Sundays.

Stalking horse – Mark McFaul

Mark wants to have live entertainment at Stalking Horse. He doesn't have a specific plan yet, he just wanted to come and introduce the idea and get feedback from the membership. He is changing his other establishments to offer live entertainment and thought he would do the same for Stalking Horse. Mark thinks that having the music will bring in an older crowd. He is open to what the membership has to say and will follow what the other establishments have done if that's what people want. Eric clarified that we are not taking a vote on this because it would require a 10-day notice to the membership. We have criteria for live entertainment, please read it before our next membership meeting.

Question: Where are you going to park? Every bar says they are going to park at Shoffers in their MOU. There is no parking. Where will you park the cars? Where will you put your patrons? We don't have the ability to accommodate the cars until we understand the impact of the casino as well.

Answer (Eric): There is a valet parking regulation bill that will be rolled out between April and June of 2014, which will make the valet parking legitimate and enforceable. Using Schofers as a



place to park for all the bars will no longer be possible with this valet parking bill.

A motion was made to stop discussion now since we will be discussing Stalking Horse in January. Motion was seconded and passed by unanimous vote.

Crossbar – Eric

Our appeal on validity was dismissed in circuit court and subsequently remanded back to BLLC on or before February 24th. We will have a vote at the general membership meeting, January 21st on any positions to be taken, and a 10-day written notice will be given for the meeting. The zoning board hearing will be January 28th. If there is a position with regard to zoning, then there would be a vote by the general membership at that January 21st meeting.

New Business – It was suggested to add more people to the board. A motion was made and seconded to recommend Walter Ettinger to fill the vacated board position of Joe Halperin. The recommendation was confirmed with a unanimous vote by the membership. A recommendation was made to the board to increase the numbers of board numbers. Discussion – fill the positions first and then expand, make sure there is transparency. No vote was taken on this issue.

Adjourn – 9:00 pm

Action Items Moving Forward:

Eric Costello – Look into putting a map on FHNA website to have people pin where the troubled spots are for DOT.

Eric Costello – Ask about shuttle service route at next LDC committee meeting.

Minutes Approved On: January 21, 2014

Minutes Approved By: FHNA General Membership – Unanimous Vote