



To Preserve And Promote Our Historic Lifestyle

Federal Hill Neighborhood Association (FHNA)
 General Membership Meeting
 Meeting Minutes November 17, 2015

Date: November 17, 2015	Start Time: 7:00pm	Chair: Beth Whitmer
Location: Christ Lutheran Church	End Time: 8:17	Secretary: Jessica Damen
Board Members Present: Beth Whitmer, Jessica Damen, Bob Merbler, Nancy Gordon, Brooke McDonald		
Board Members Not Present: Deb Nelson, Walt Ettinger, Sharon Johnson, Kyle Warner		
Members / Guests in Attendance: 14 registered members		
Guests:		
Itemized Agenda: Adoption of Minutes from 10/20/15 meeting – Damen. Bob Merbler moved to approve as written. Accepted		
Treasurer's Report- Nancy Gordon- The treasurer's report as of 10/23/15 was handed out. Bob Merbler moved to approve the Treasurer's Report as written. Approved.		
Federal Hill Peace Ambassador: Inner Harbor Project. (IHP) Celia Neustadt, executive director, plus two high school students, Deona, 15 years old and Demontee, 17 years old presented a brief overview of the Peace ambassador program. The IHP's Peace Ambassadors, are teen leaders whose roles are to help promote positive behavior amongst teens and help prevent misunderstandings and altercations amongst youth, police and residents. Incentives are given to these PA youths, such as the Harbor Card. Training is offered and the Peace Ambassadors must commit to specific times. They receive a stipend for their work. The Inner Harbor Project is the model for a similar program beginning this spring for Federal Hill. The Inner Harbor Project is looking for Federal Hill businesses to support the Harbor Card. IHP has interviewed 100 candidates for ten spots. The IHP requests help to get the climate surveys out to the community. We have eight businesses on board in the Inner Harbor. For more information and to donate to the 501c3 non-profit go to: http://theinnerharborproject.org/		



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Public Safety Committee Update (Citiwatch): Liam Davis, liaison of Council President, Jack Young's Office presented information about Citiwatch, a registration program for privately held surveillance cameras. Registration of one's private security camera simplifies the "red tape" about any evidence that may be on tape. Even if one registers their camera they may still opt out from releasing the footage. This initiative involves three city agencies, police department, the mayor's office of criminal justice and mayor's office on technology. This initiative should not be confused with the installation of a HD camera directly linked with the police locations. The cost for that program is approximately 60K.

For more information go to: citiwatch.baltimorecity.gov

A new City Council bill would institute a charter amendment providing that 3% of unrestricted budget monies be dedicated to benefit children and youth.

Sargent Jonathan Amy and Officer Adriel Runez- adriel.nunez@baltimorepolice.org of Community Collaboration Unit are our city's police representatives. A brief report of arrests and other citations were provided. Sargent Jonathan Amy noted that no citations were issued regarding disruptive behavior during the Halloween crawl.

Parking Committee Update- Bob Merbler presented issues with Federal Hill Prep School (FHP) parking lot. The privilege for residents to part there has been taken away yet again because of the inconsiderate and rude behavior of a few people in the neighborhood. Bob also report that the committee has previously requested extended parking hours after nine pm for permit holders along Key Highway and this request is held up by bureaucratic inefficiency. Proposals: The permit sticker pickup is in February and Bob asked the Membership whether they thought this event is worthwhile. The consensus was that it has been a good social event bringing in members and therefore worth the expense and volunteer time. Bob Merbler discussed the proposal for one hour parking east of William Street.

Ivo expressed concern about more zoning downgrading of commercial properties to residential with its allowable residential parking permits. Discussion ensued about specific property and others, which had served as commercial properties.

Local Development Update – Rufus Lusk presented information about the Federal Hill Park bricks. About 150 bricks will be installed tomorrow. Cross Street Market and the city continue to negotiate with Cave Valley, the possible developer of Cross Street Market. Rufus believes that an amount of money that the development will pay the City for the Market has been agreed upon but, it will take several weeks to paper it.

Liquor Advisory Committee (LAC)– Porters hardship hearing this Thursday 10/19/15

Announcements: No meeting in December. Happy Holidays.

New Business - none

Meeting Adjourned: 8:17pm



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