

**FEDERAL HILL NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION**  
**General Membership Meeting**  
**January 15, 2019**

**CALL TO ORDER:**

President Beth Whitmer called the meeting to order at approximately 6:32 pm.

**ADOPTION OF MINUTES FROM December 2018 MEETING:**

A motion was made and seconded to approve minutes of the December General Membership meeting. Motion approved unanimously.

**Federal Hill Subsidence-RK&K Engineering-Melissa Nicholas, Eric Klein, John Depanier, Kate Brower**

- RK&K has been working on FHP project for about a year
- East side of hill historically used for mining and tunnels in 1860's; in 1991, the north end wall was repaired; in 1999, north slope was repaired
- In 2017 a geotechnical report was prepared for the south side; poor surface and sub-surface drainage found
- In 2018, geophysical study of the east side found mostly water/drainage issues and by 21 December 2018, this side of the hill failed and experienced subsidence
- Short-term project underway to remove saturated soil and stabilize slope with subgrade drains and rip-rap; study found that buried drain pipes dead-ended, rather than going into storm water system; estimate of 10-12 weeks to complete
- Long-term project on east side will begin in 2020; draft proposal includes new pathway with plaza off of Covington Street, new drainage pipes, reconstruct sidewalks and curbs, regrade slope; bio-retention terraces with vegetation; walkway from Grindall Street to park
- FHP is within a MD Historic Trust (MHT) Preservation easement; application already filed; CHAP (Walter Galas) helping to coordinate with MHT
- Meeting attendees requested plans to allow continued use for sledding and DHHS drills
- Plans still in draft stages; will work details as plans progress further
- Look at sources of initial drainage at southeast corner of flat part of park
- Amenities/goals include:
  - pathway from basketball court up the hill
  - preserve historic qualities of park
  - preserve daily activities
  - preserve vistas

**Federal Hill Park Playground – South Harbor Renaissance – Andy and Sandy Epgar**

- Train will be installed in June 2019, in middle of grated area, around Flag Day
- Fundraising goal of \$65K, about 80% funding

**Rash Field Update – Ben Hyman**

- Waterfront Partnership presented updates for Rash Field Master Plan initiated in 2013 to include skate park, mobility/wellness features, focus on nature/science activities, new pavilion for outdoor shade, public restrooms, and café
- Liquor license 1<sup>st</sup> step is to present state legislature to create special license for this café, limited to park location and tied to facility/site (not individual or business), and other set parameters
- Hours of operation are TBD; not a full commercial kitchen; will solicit advice from operators

- If license creation approved, next step is to present to Baltimore City Liquor Board for approval and draft MOU's with surrounding neighborhoods
- No RFP for café operator yet, but it will be a public process (local operator, not a chain restaurant)
- Phase I of Master Plan – break ground Fall 2019, 12-month duration
- Phase II is conceptual now, but will include lawn games, volleyball courts
- Taking input from multiple designers to add vibrancy and facts to park; safety concerns being address
- Vote held to support concept including liquor license creation; motion made and seconded and approved unanimously

### **Announcements and Reminders**

- Robert Baker Park Celebration Jan. 26, 2019 at 11 am – City dedication of sculpture; currently about \$1,200 short; Go Fund Me page set up to cover balance due to artist

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:47 pm

Submitted by Michelle Li, Secretary