



Federal Hill Neighborhood Association

General Meeting

October 17, 2023

Opening:

The hybrid meeting was called to order at 6:35pm.

Roughly 30 attendees in person and 30 folks on zoom.

The September meeting minutes were approved.

Introduction to Delegate Robin Lewis. Delegate Lewis shared a brief bio of herself and discussed the importance of working together. Mentioned several times she works on behalf of us/community and has an open door policy. Encouraging us to reach out if we have any concerns or questions.

Elections:

- Voted on four board members (At Large) Read/Shared bios for each new board member. Group welcomed new board members
- Carol Ann Malenowski - Unanimous support and approval
- Crystelle Sharpe - Unanimous support and approval
- Hector Mendez - Unanimous support and approval
- Paco Coummings - Unanimous support and approval

Federal Hill Neighborhood Results

- Zac reviewed survey results - FHNA received 475 responses
- Notable highlights from the surveys - 16 questions
- Most common characteristic/theme of survey - Federal Hill being a walkable area
- Historic and living near the harbor/water also key reasons for folks living in Fed Hill
- Vast majority of residents are both drivers and walkers
- Survey questions highlighted reasons for folks moving . Crime and safety being on the top of the list in addition to cleanliness.
- Perceived safety was one of the key takeaways

Public Safety Discussion:

- Late night lawlessness is the number 1 issue and is not being addressed
- Addressed the recent homicide in Federal Hill (Howard County Assistant Deputy)
- Read through the list of homicides throughout the past few years in our area
- Discussed/shared strategies to help improve the late night crime in our neighborhood
- Call to take action for community to respond and work together
- Encouraging neighbors to advocate and help neighbors understand
- Jen Covino, a neighbor on 100 block of E Montgomery, shared concerns about the violent crimes occurring during the day. Gave specific situations over the course of 18 months (brick thrown at window, BPD not being responsive (waiting close to 90 minutes), asking concerning questions (DOB of criminal), neighbors being assaulted, and thinking about moving out of the city since she is a mom.
- Brian mentioned being passionate about sharing our stories, working together, and taking action

October 21st Neighborhood Clean-Up: at the block level, Clean-Up at Robert Baker Park, and Clean-up at Digital Harbor Foundation. Diablo Donuts is dropping off donuts for volunteers, and Afters has a 30% discount on frozen yogurt and drinks.

Digital Harbor Liaison - Working on safe streets with Digital Harbor - Participation w/FHNA and Digital Harbor

Federal Hill Prep Liaison - Celine will share next month (November)

Cross Street Reopening to Traffic: Pedestrian side of Cross Street will open to traffic starting in early December. Cross Street businesses were unanimously in support of re-opening to car traffic, concerned about late night activities, trash, homeless folks, and drug activity.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm.