

**Federal Hill Neighborhood Association
General Membership Meeting
Tuesday, February 18, 2020**

CALL TO ORDER:

Beth Whitmer called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES FROM January 2020 MEETING:

Minutes posted online. Approval deferred to next meeting.

ITEMS OF DISCUSSION:

Rec & Parks Update – Kate Brower

New stairs on Covington Street side (East Slope) – Rec & Parks will not pursue stairs on East Side of Park. Focus on structural integrity of East Slope. Kate Brower distributed sketch of repairs to date. Damage to slop was caused by disconnected pipe on Warren Avenue. Pipework has corrected.

Member – Stairs up from battery show a minimal dip and bulge at top of hill. Kate Brower will investigate.

Federal Hill Tree Canopy – Emily Green

Baltimore Tree Trust invited but unable to attend. Emily reports many trees in FH are nearing the end of life. Many trees need to be removed and have stumps ground. Process to remove trees through city is very tedious. Baltimore Tree Trust acts a liaison between residents and Baltimore Forestry. With help of Tree Trust process has sped up. Trees on Hamburg are being replanted this spring. Residents are encouraged to map dead trees on their block and report to 311, Baltimore Forestry, Councilman Costello and Baltimore Tree Trust. Emily offers help to all residents who would like to remove trees and replants by showing template for mapping trees using Google Maps. Emily is updating Rich Polan's map for entire neighborhood. Baltimore Tree Trust partners with residents near new trees to monitor and report any issues. Residents are able to volunteer with Baltimore Tree Trust.

Brooke Shird recommends involving Digital Harbor students in tree planting efforts. Community Services hours are required to graduate.

DHHS Update – Brook Shird

Red Cross Blood Donation upcoming.

Monday 2/24 5pm – Student Family Council Meeting. Agenda includes budget, safety, behavior, transportation. Residents invited to share concerns.

Female Student Empowerment Session - Thursday

OHIP free dental appointments – Friday

Monday 2/24 – Underclassmen making decision on which pathway they will pursue in school. Resident in the select fields are invited to present to students at any time.

Coat Drive – 50 Coats donated to students. Still accepting donation as a “closet” for needy students is developed.

Social Committee Update – Beth Whitmer

T-shirt Sale – T-shirts for sale at parking event on 2/22. First come first serve.

Wine Tasting Event – 4/2 at Cans/CSM. Tickets on sale now and at parking event. \$15 for FHNA members, \$20 non-members. Limit of 50 people. Cash/check/Venmo accepted.

Home Brew Contest/Community Picnic – Still in development. Tentatively scheduled for October. Vincent is leading the effort. All proceeds would go to FHNA & Federal Hill Prep PTA. Attendees will be able to purchase glass to sample beer. Currently recruiting brewers for the event.

Trash Can Challenge – Beth Whitmer

Residents are leaving trashcans out seven days per week. FHNA working with code enforcement and Councilman Costello to distribute letter (from city) to residents letting them know that fines will begin. Code Enforcement conducted a sweep of three blocks on 2/10. FHNA is awaiting results of “sweep.” FHNA will continue to escalate.

Emily Green raises issue of difficulty of residents carrying big trashcans through house when no alley access exists. Beth reports that FHNA will work with such residents to purchase smaller trashcans.

Faith reports FHMS is working with businesses to get trash cans off the street.

Emily Green reports the idea of trashcan boxes to hide trashcans in front of houses. Cost of custom-made version is \$1100. Confirmed with the city that the box meets code. Beth Whitmer recommends that CHAP review prior to further implementation.

RPP Event – John Bacci

Parking decals are on sale online until Thursday 2/20. Event is 9-12 at Berkshire Hathaway. Donuts and coffee available.

Member reports she is having issues with website. No other members have had the same issue.

Charm City Books New Business Introduction – Davin

Just opened on Washington Boulevard in Pigtown. Indie bookstore with large kid's section. Also service as event space. Focus on family/kids events. Partner with schools and other local organizations for events. Event space can be rented or is available free of charge for certain organizations. Used book donations are accepted. Davin distributed event calendar. Do not parking Dollar General parking lot for risk of towing.

Federal Hill Main Street Update – Faith Millspaugh

Irish Stroll is scheduled for 3/14 12-9p. Junebug (event company) has obtained permit. 12 security guards during event. Four will remain after the event has ended. Minimal problems at Halloween event. FHNA has recommended security focus on area near CVS based on previous experience.

Additional updates:

- Jazzfest will be in June in 2020. Location moved to parking lot near Stadium Square.
- Living Classrooms contract was renewed. Cleaning Thursday through Monday.
- Planters will be returning in April.
- More lights planned.
- Sidewalk improvements continue.
- Mural planned for abandoned Schoffer's warehouse. CHAP has approved.

NEW BUSINESS:

Tyler from Bill Ferguson's office introduced by Beth Whitmer. Email – tyler.mccurdy@mlis.state.md.us.

ADJOURNMENT:

Meeting was adjourned at 7:33 p.m.