

### Call to Order

A quorum being present, President Tony Vittoria called the regular meeting of the Locust Point Civic Association, Inc. to order on March 10, 2010 at 7:30 p.m.

A) Opening ceremonies

B) Roll call of officers

The officers present were: Tony Vittoria, Sarah Clarkson, Colleen Wolfe, Ben Piccone, Teresa Alcorn, Dusty Smith-Erickson, Barb Wilson, Brian Mastervich, Paul Silberman, Jack Frederick, Chris Palazzi, Lara Faulkner, Cheryl Duffey, Chris Ritsch, Justin Grossman, and Matt Craig.

C) Reading and approval of the minutes

No minutes to approve

D) The Treasurer reported: February 2010

Opening Bank Balance	\$ 24,424.82
Ending Bank Balance	\$ 23,899.28
<u>Net Change in Period</u>	<u>\$ -525.84</u>

E) Reports of standing and special committees

#### Standing committees

a. Park and Beautification

1. Committee meeting will be held on March 18 at Colleen Martin-Lauer's house at 1322 Richardson St at 7:30 p.m. They'll be planning this year's park projects. First project will be renovating the brick entrance, likely late April/early May.

b. Garden Committee (Jack Frederick)

c. Communication Committee (Colleen Wolfe)

1. Please provide your email address to receive periodic updates from the LPCA, including announcements from the City. LPCA now has a Facebook page as well.

d. Social and Festival Committee (Sarah Clarkson)

1. Next meeting is March 24 at 7:30 p.m. at the Rec Center. Planning for the festival, spring yard sale, summer picnic, and others.
2. Questions about the date of the festival – Sept. 11 is Defender's Day. The festival could be combined with Defender's Day activity to drive more participants in both. Lots of positive feedback for this idea.
3. Tentative date for Yard Sale is Saturday June 5.
4. Tentative date for Summer Picnic is Saturday August 15.

e. Design and Review Committee (Brian Mastervich)

1. Latrobe Park Bath House Project: the project may begin soon. An old agreement between the LPCA and the Silo Point developers was made to renovate the Bath House. They ran into issues due to the historic nature of the building, and the project stalled with the architect and the historical building review board (CHAPP). The architect has committed to drawing up a construction budget.

f. Membership Committee (Lynne Mastervich)

g. Fundraising Committee (Colleen Martin-Lauer)

h. Safety/COP Committee (Chris Ritsch/Hap Duffey)

1. COP Walk Wednesday March 17 – meet at City Limits. May be postponed due to St. Patrick's Day holiday.

i. Dog Park

1. Dog park cleanup day is Saturday at 10:30 a.m.

2. An incident occurred in the Dog Park between some neighborhood kids and dog owners in the Dog Park, and threats of violence were made. The police have been notified.
3. People are reminded that only dog owners are allowed to be in the dog park.

### New Business

- **TOPIC** –

#### F) Announcements

- **TOPIC** – Ben Piccone, Recording Secretary has moved from the neighborhood. The position is now open
- **TOPIC** – new neighborhood liaison from Mayor's office – Steven Robinson
  - i. His phone number is 443-984-1083. Email is [steven.robinson@baltimorecity.gov](mailto:steven.robinson@baltimorecity.gov).
  - ii. Snow – the blizzard earlier this year was a big strain on the City – over 1,200 911 calls per day. Emergencies were prioritized over basic street cleaning.
  - iii. Most effective way to get your street plowed in the future: call 311.
  - iv. Census: please complete your census form and encourage your neighbors to do the same. It's important so that the city can receive as much federal and state funding as possible.
  - v. City Budget: \$120 million deficit projected. The Mayor's office is developing a plan to address the deficit while maintaining police and fire departments to ensure public safety.
  - vi. Question: when will slots open? TBD
  - vii. Question: has a serious proposal to change the name of Locust Point been submitted to the Mayor's office? Answer: No. It's not up to the Mayor's office or the City.
- **TOPIC** – Steve Fogelman, Liquor Licensing Board
  - i. Liquor Board is a government agency that generates a profit.
  - ii. Steve's contact info: [Stephan.fogleman@baltimorecity.gov](mailto:Stephan.fogleman@baltimorecity.gov), cell 410-258-8500.
  - iii. The Liquor Board hears requests for new licenses and requests for not renewing existing licenses, as well as appeals.
  - iv. Information regarding violations directed to the Liquor Board will be forwarded to an inspector for investigation. 311 calls are not answered after 10 p.m., but complaints can be filed online any time. 311 complaints go to the entire Liquor Board staff. It's important to file complaints promptly so that the inspectors can respond while the situation is occurring.
  - v. Licenses are renewed in April. Hearings are on Thursdays. Docket is posted on the City website.
  - vi. Question: How do licenses expire? Answer: Every bar can be closed and then reopen within 360 days, and the license is not considered expired. Extensions are often granted for hardship as long as requests for extensions are requested. As long as the establishment has receipts, they're considered open even if they're only open a few days a month. The Board can use discretion if they suspect that the establishment hasn't really been open or if it doubts the integrity of the receipts.

- vii. Question: Is there legislation being considered to allow bars to be open until 3 a.m.? Answer: No – that legislation has been withdrawn.
- viii. Question: Is there legislation being considered to allow 6-day licenses to convert to 7-day licenses? Answer: If there was, it would have to be proposed in the state government.
  
- **TOPIC** – Lou and Marie – high school students – to discuss Digiball fundraiser
  - i. Digiball fundraiser for VCF college scholarships – April 23 at Museum of Industry. Tickets are \$75.
  - ii. Information is in the newsletter
  - iii. The event will feature food, beverages, entertainment, and a silent auction.
  - iv. Motion – LPCA donates \$1,500 to the Digiball fundraiser. Motion passes unanimously.
  
- **TOPIC** – Ann – Lotta Art fundraiser
  - i. School 33 is a school in Federal Hill offering art classes from toddlers to adults.
  - ii. Lotta Art is their one large annual fundraiser.
  - iii. Artists submit pieces for judging – top 150 pieces are given to ticket holders in a lottery fashion.
  - iv. Tickets are \$175 for art tickets, \$50 for guest tickets. Info at school33.org. Volume and early ticket discounts are available.
  
- **TOPIC** – 1400 East Fort Avenue. Catherine Sterling and John Blake
  - i. They own the property at 1400 East Fort Ave and would like to open a convenience store.
  - ii. To avoid problems with the school across the street including vandalism, they'd be willing to close during the hours before and after school.
  - iii. Neighbors in the area may have started a petition against the store. Ms. Sterling has not talked to any neighbors.
  - iv. Ms. Sterling has owned Locust Point Tavern since 1957.
  - v. Concerns were voiced amount the merchandise that would be sold – stated that they have no intention to sell questionable items that can be used as drug paraphernalia.
  - vi. The LPCA Board requested an extension of the zoning variance hearing. The Board asked the applicants to meet with the neighborhood association and gain consensus approval.
  - vii. Suggestion that Ms. Sterling and Mr. Blake take the time to speak with immediately adjacent neighbors, perhaps organizing a meeting for any neighbors with concerns.
  - viii. Concerns were voiced over the viability of the business, and that it might lead the owners to sell questionable products.
  - ix. The LPCA will carefully consider the opinions of the immediate neighbors.
  
- **TOPIC** – Recycling Contest – Locust Point is now in 6<sup>th</sup> place in the citywide recycling contest.
- **TOPIC** – LPCA received a \$500 recycling grant from the city.
  - i. We will be selling bins for half price at future meeting. As a condition, we have to count the number of recyclers before and after the grant received.
  - ii. Question: Does recycling go in front or in back? A
  
- **TOPIC** – Golf Tournament to benefit Sister Catherine
  - i. Will be held at Oakmont Golf Course. Cost is \$95 per person. Sponsorships are also available.

ii. See Alex Wroblewski for details.

### **Adjourn**

- They're being no further business the meeting was adjourned by President Tony Vittoria at 9:10 p.m.
- Teresa Alcorn took the minutes