



LPCA General Meeting Minutes - Feb 11, 2015

Preliminaries:

- Pledge of Allegiance - special presentation by Police Explorers
- Roll Call of Officers Present: Greg, Ginny, Justin, Laura, Will, Cheryl, Harry, John, Caroline, Shannon, Matt, Monica
- New Neighbor Introductions: Damien (Towson), The Klein's (Clement)
- Treasurer Update: \$44,732.56 (includes money set aside for Doda Memorial); \$4,032.98 in Dog Park account.
- Membership: 44 new members last meeting, 5 new members tonight.

Approval of previous minutes:

- November minutes: no changes.
- January minutes: no changes.
- Motion to approve both, seconded, passed unanimously.

Committee Reports

Communications/Newsletter:

- Collecting editorial submissions for newsletter by Feb 18 - communication@mylocustpoint.org .

Design Review:

- 900 E Fort - recently named Anthem House project, a new mixed use development. Filing for demo permits later this month to break ground.
- Development/renovation complaints in neighborhood - We have received many complaints lately about construction practices, exceeding scope of permits, curb cuts, height approvals, etc. and have been looking into specific issues. In one case, permits had been issued but not posted online - the project also had issues with alleged unmitigated asbestos demolition, and an abandoned dumpster. This issue is being worked on by City; the holdup is around liability for another waste management company to remove it. Issues with construction debris floating around neighborhood. All permits must be posted prominently on property. New city policy prevents new curb cuts that would displace parking. Plug complaints into 311, or report to Environmental Control Board - and please copy Councilman's office so they can follow up. If you file 311 report online (vs. on phone), it will always give you a tracking number, which is critical for council staff to have for follow up. Regarding alleged dumpster with asbestos, council staff will contact ECB.
- LPCA has shared general concern with inconsistency of code enforcement and information from City, and lack of followup, with Council.
- The Design Review committee spent a day driving around properties with Councilman Costello to discuss specific problems and general issues neighborhood has been experiencing.
- Field House - Contacted today by Rec & Parks; they are at 50% mark in their construction documents, and hope to submit to CHAP Board this week for approvals. Expect to bid project in June, with 3-5 month timeline. Asked for community letter of support for the design, based on LPCA design reviews with 20+ resident group earlier. Motion to send letter of support, seconded, passed unanimously.

**Dog Park:**

- Cleaning service that was being used not able to continue service, found new company with good rate. 5 year party on April 25 from 3-5pm at Miguel's - dogs are welcome.
dogpark@mylocustpoint.org .

Parks & Beautification:

- Two events in April/May - Ecoweek runs week prior to April 25, will do a community cleanup on that Saturday. Looking for street captains to coordinate their area. May 16 is park maintenance day.

Education & Schools:

- New governor has proposed budget cuts for education, several responses have been planned, including a post card drop campaign. Harris Teeter program has been successful for FSK - up to \$3500 and 50 members. School 1514 is what to link to if you go into Harris Teeter to sign up - must renew annually (Aug - May). If you register through LPCA, we will create a database of VIC numbers and automatically renew you in future years - either check box on membership form, or email VIC number to education@mylocustpoint.org .
- Q: What is budget cut impact on FSK directly?
A: (Principal McComas) One of strategic goals is to double size of elementary school. Can no longer afford additional 1st grade teacher with budget cuts and would be limited to one class. We have 2 pre-K classes of students expected, so creates a bottleneck. We are poised for growth and the lack of a teacher could stunt that and negatively impact quality of school.

Safety:

- Officer Vaught - No significant crime to report.
443-681-0920 (mobile) or kevin.vaught@baltimorepolice.org if you need to get in touch.

Social:

- For Festival, we partnered with FSK to run the Kids Area, and are working on first annual event called Pastapalooza on Feb 27 from 5:30 - 9:30, catered by Our House. Tickets are \$15 or \$25 including beer/wine. Silent auction, DJ for kids. Paypal link will be posted soon to purchase tickets. Need volunteers. Can purchase tickets at Our House also.

Parking:

- Committee met with Councilman Costello last week and have DOT portion of application figured out. Reverse angled parking is now up to city to approve. For RPP, committee will be meeting again this month and have application ready to present at next general meeting.



New/Old Business

2014 Holiday Contribution Presentation - Police Explorers

- Members of Explorers recap their activities and education that LPCA donations help fund. Bull Roast coming up April 11 at Knights of Columbus Hall - please attend, Explorers is completely funded by donations.

Presentation from The Downtown Sailing Center

- Chris and Claire presenting - Volunteers from DSC. Community resource just 10 minute walk away at Museum of Industry, and are a 501c3 non-profit. Want to invite neighbors to come down and get on a boat this summer. Located on Museum of Industry shoreline. Have fleet of over 30 sailboats. Have 3 hour intro class for anyone without experience, and series of education classes after that to teach basics of sailing. We had almost 400 members last year. If you become a skipper, you can reserve boats to take out on your own. Crew level memberships also available. Offering special discounts for Locust Point neighbors. Have monthly party on second friday of every month. Would be great to partner with LPCA on future joint party or other event. Have junior sailing camp for kids (ages 8-13), and Sailing Instructor Training program for teenagers to become instructors. We also have non-sailing volunteers for variety of programs - Wounded Warriors, Nat'l Federation of Blind. Accessible sailing program for folks with disabilities. Have social event this friday at Captain Larry's. Open houses will be held April 11, June 13, May 16 - anyone can come try out sailing for free, open to the public. downtownsailing.org

Doda Memorial update - Hap Duffy

- Background - The Doda's were a husband & wife team who fought the mayor & federal government to prevent I-95 construction from going through the middle of Locust Point. We started a campaign 6 months ago to replace existing wooden memorial, which is in disrepair. Bronze plaque was created by the son of Dr. Lamb from the neighborhood, who did it at a tremendous discount to us. Estimates for overall project came in at \$22K, twice our budget, so we decided to scale back a bit on plans, which are currently being reworked by a landscape architect. Any additional checks in next month will go towards purchasing another bench.

New Community Improvement Grant Committee - Caroline Baker

- LPCA has created a program to grant money to community members for projects they would like to organize for neighborhood improvement, up to \$500. New application forms are available tonight and on the website. First deadline will be extended to April 1st for first set of grants. We set aside \$2500 for entire year in the 2015 budget. Looking for one more member for application review committee; commitment of probably an hour or two every month, meeting 3x per year. Please submit your ideas!



Community Announcements

- **In Like Flynn** - Cora Flynn: We're planning a small block party March 14 from 11am - 9pm, very family friendly. 10 tents with kids activities, live traditional Irish music, and dancers. Corner of Clement & Andre. Hope to hold annually, would love more community involvement.
- **Snug & Evil** - Kelly: Just opened, wanted to thank LPCA for their support getting started.
- **Church of Redemption** - Pastor Jim: This Tuesday from 5-7:30pm, will be having free pancakes & other food to celebrate Mardi Gras. Also looking for help on April 26 to have small scale fun run around Locust Point.
- **Volunteer opportunity** - Greg Sileo: a small project - we have 2 boxes of historic paperwork, mostly old LCPA meeting minutes, that we'd like to have someone scan.
- **Neighbor Question** - any progress on street sweeping?
Council staff offered to help with signage.
- **Neighbor Question** - Double tax assessments were sent out to some homeowners? Is city giving any more explanation on difference of assessment amounts?
Answer - State is actually who conducts assessments. Supposed to be issued at end of December, with city divided into 3 zones. This year the southern zone including Locust Point was due. They realized the numbers for about 8000 properties were incorrect, but couldn't revise before mailing went out. State is considering sending out letters of explanation, also see the notice we reposted on the LPCA Facebook page for info.
- **Neighbor Question** - Any updates on Circulator Banner Route?
Answer - No major developments, budget season is coming up, and there is a very large hole around this. Banner route has lowest ridership of all. Council is looking into it; the city understands the importance of the program and is looking very hard for solutions.

Adjourned 8:46pm