

LOCUST POINT

CIVIC ASSOCIATION
LPCA General Meeting Minutes - Nov 12, 2014

Preliminaries:

- Pledge of Allegiance
- Roll Call of Officers Present: Terry, Ginny, Justin, Laura, Will, Cheryl, Matt, Harry, Allison, Shannon
- New Neighbor Introductions: n/a
- Treasurer Update: \$44,468.08 Dog Park \$4,163.92
- Membership: 7 new members at last meeting; total 218

Approval of previous minutes:

- October minutes:
Motion to approve October minutes as presented, seconded, motion carried.

Committee Reports -

Communications/Newsletter:

- Karen Chapman is new advertising coordinator. Need new newsletter captain for Towson - Matt Farkowsky volunteered

Design Review:

- Rec & Parks presenting on new Field House design in Latrobe.
- 900 E Fort developers - planning to break ground Jan 2015, 20 month build out, with units available fall 2017. Will be coming back to present concepts, including revision to landscaping design.
- Permits - lots of complaints lately about unpermitted work, we are working with Councilman Costello to meet with the relevant city departments.

Dog Park:

- No report.

Parks & Beautification:

- Dec 6 - Rec & Parks w/ Tree Baltimore is offering tree pruning class at Rec center from 9-1pm.
- End of year volunteer totals for park: 320 hours, roughly \$4000 saved from Parks & Rec budget. Last year had almost 1000 hours. Had some gifts given to park - yellow flowers near staircase, courtesy of Kurt Furlough. 18 plats of pansies, most of them have been planted already. Civic works also gave 1000 daffodil bulbs; 750 have been planted.
- Reminder - Latrobe is a leash-on park, except dog park.
- Hap Duffy - Doda memorial update - raised another \$150 at last meeting. Will have a proof to present at the next meeting; the initial one looks great. Want to thank Will Jovel and his architectural firm for all the effort put into the park, examined the current site and are producing a sketch of what it will look like.



Education & Schools: Ann Whalen, kindergarten teacher at FSK -

- Saturday hosted a DBFA school fair, with over 350 families attending.
- Next thursday is FSK open house for any current/prospective parents, 9-10:30.

Safety:

- Officer Vaught - 1 crime in last month, Merritt had locker broken into. General holiday reminders - please look out for neighbors, pay attention to anything suspicious. SBNA had 11 burglaries and 7 larcenies last month, make sure everything is locked up. Don't put packaging advertising expensive new gifts/electronics out in trash. Don't leave anything in car, and be on lookout for people scoping cars out. Package thefts are on the rise, don't have them left if not home, send to office or have neighbor hold it. Explorers' Toy drive coming up - collecting toys & canned goods until December 20. New, unwrapped toys, no stuffed animals.

Social:

- Had committee debrief from Festival - 3 improvements for next year: tip jar will go to dog park instead of BARCS; will have literature/handouts about our community for visitors; and adjustments to vendor table layout to increase space for group seating.
- Holiday party coming up at Knights of Columbus from 5:30-8:30 - free to all community members. Please bring dessert to share. Silent auction. Annual donations will be presented. Collecting canned goods to put towards Explorer's collection. Focusing on also collecting new things for Rec Center - games, cards, paddle boards, activity books, markers, crayons. Also will be working with area churches on children's activities during party. Got very hearty thank you from Riverside for our donation to their Halloween event.
- Need volunteers for setup/cleanup - email social@mylocustpoint.org

Parking:

- Counts are finished. Another committee meeting will be scheduled soon, focus on wrapping up the application that was started. Will present in January to community. No updates on reverse angle parking from city.

Question - what is purpose of the counts?

- Application requires that information.

Question - will there be discussion/voting in LPCA on the reverse angle parking?

- No, DOT will contact homeowners via mailers, call meeting, and they will call a vote. Usually have a 2 hour open house, usually mon-thurs 6-8pm range.

Comment- UA event had event with tent up for 2 weeks, workers were using neighborhood street parking and causing shortages. UA sent out email after complaints and the parking spots cleared up, but only temporarily. Would be nice if their security folks could check on parking.

New business -

Delegate McHale:

- Term ending this year, lifelong resident with years of service to community. Thanks from LPCA for all your hard work!



Councilman Costello:

- No specific updates, monday council meeting was fairly uneventful. Any issues?
Question - Baltimore Bike Party during Halloween shut down Silo Point for almost an hour. Kids couldn't cross the street to trick or treat, shut down vehicular access to building. What can we do to prevent this problem or change permit?
 - Will investigate getting word to organizers to coordinate better, could go to DOT to get traffic enforcement, will get back with details - email Eric.Costello@baltimorecity.gov
- Digital Harbor HS having issues with school policy; working with Senator Ferguson to try to resolve.

Presentation from Parks & Recreation:

- GWW Architects - Came to LPCA Board in August with city's intent to build field house, followed a month later with 6 basic architectural massing concepts for community feedback. Schedule currently is for groundbreaking in spring, opening in the fall. Focused on how to respect historic nature of park and context of previous building. Asked to develop 2 more detailed concepts; came back for another review and the group unanimously picked 1 of those schemes which will be presented tonight.

Historic Olmsted park plan had two pavilions near current field, which is reflected in the current design. Big request that came through the community meetings was to create a destination for community events. Plan was to do something simple, warm, reflecting nature of park. Looking at how to collect and store rain water from roof to use in watering the park. Park & Recs has stored historic timbers reclaimed from previous Bathhouse; would like to use as tongue & groove soffit around the perimeter. Central area of original design was a concert grove - large canopy trees with crushed stone ground covering. Trying to explore something similar for the future, to make the space around the new building as flexible and usable as possible.

Questions:

September 12, 2015 is next festival, will it be ready?

- Goal is early fall, but depends on how construction go.

Will homeless be able to sleep in middle?

- Open oculus design discourages this by allowing weather directly in, as well as natural light.

2014 Holiday Contributions:

- In the past, our annual donations have been approved in the budget, and allocated by the board. This year, we're trying to use a survey to get member input on groups we donate to - please check 5 organizations that you have personal awareness of doing good work in the neighborhood. Have to be 501c3 nonprofits. Trying to gather a wider scope of input. In the past we've presented checks at the party, but it's loud and busy environment. This year, we're still going to invite recipients to party, but want to have them attend a monthly meeting the following year to explain how they're using the funds. This is just a structure to help us be more deliberative.



Questions:

How do you go about choosing who gets money and how much?

- Has been fairly informal process last 20 years. Budget is set for overall, Board discusses and comes up with list.

Why no formal process to allow anyone with 501c3 status to apply?

- Moving towards that process, this is an intermediate step.

There are people that aren't 501c3 that might work through one to do good things, how to enable that? Some middle ground between full grant proposal and informal process?

- Minigrants are way to pilot this exact issue. Looking for more input for how we move to that process.

2013 contributions/gifts/grants of \$13,500. \$10,000 donation from Mark Sapperstein.

Do we have copy of original 501c3 application? What does it say?

- We have determination letter, it was done in 1976. Don't know if IRS keeps original applications. Renewed every year unless IRS has issues.

Previously said would allot \$19k for trash cans - where is that coming from? We lost benches, do we need to budget for that instead of donations?

- Parks committee has been working very hard to figure out how to do this with sources outside of the normal budget.

Community announcements -

Johns Hopkins research - neighborhood survey - Surveys have been distributed tonight to gather information for a study that includes Locust Point.

Father Jim - Boy Scouts will no longer be selling christmas trees at the church, but church will be doing instead starting dec 9 at little league field. Locust Point community church will be having breakfast with Santa on the 13th at 10am, with lots of other activities. At 11:30 we're allowing people to bring pets for photos with Santa. Thanks to everyone that came out to the zombie house at halloween.

Terry Hickey - Big Brothers Big Sisters: we have a 900 kid waitlist, 30 on the peninsula alone. If you're interested in volunteering, it only takes 4-6 hours/month - please get in touch.

Adjourned 8:35pm