



LPCA General Meeting Minutes - November 11, 2015

Preliminaries:

- Pledge of Allegiance
- Roll Call of Officers Present: Greg, Terry, Laura, Ginny, Justin, Will, Harry, Caroline, Caitlin, John, Shannon, Monica, Damian, Jamie, Matt
- New Neighbor Introductions: Lots!
- Treasurer Update: \$21,114.48; \$3,285.98 in Dog Park account.
- Membership: 123 members last meeting, unknown new members tonight.

Approval of previous minutes:

- October minutes: no changes.
- **Motion to approve, seconded, passed unanimously.**

Committee Reports

Communications/Newsletter:

- If you would like to receive our emails, send note to contacts@mylocustpoint.org and like our page on Facebook for updates. Send any editorial ideas or interest in volunteering on the newsletter - communication@mylocustpoint.org .
- Damian O'Connor is new newsletter editor. Looking for submission and pictures for next issue.

Design Review:

- Mark Sapperstein has requested to meet with Design Review to discuss his vision and proposal for new addition at McHenry Row, please contact us if you would like to be on the task force for that development.
 - PDI Development task force update (Chris Ritsch) - PDI lot near Beason being developed for housing. Original plans called for 4 story houses, which would be unprecedented in Locust Point. After meeting with developers and discussing concerns around height, density and parking, they agreed to lower to R-8 35' height limit, and reduced density from 51 to 47 houses. In turn, they asked for some concessions around rear setbacks and curb cuts to allow for front entry garages on corner houses. We will gain ~10 net street parking spots, given that the current curb cuts are large, being sized for semi-trucks.
 - **Motion: Support agreement between LPCA task force and developer. Seconded.**
- Discussion:**
- Q: Curious about parking, we are experiencing problems on Andre now with new houses, and there are 7 fewer parking spaces on Beason.
A: Gained parking will come from redoing existing large semi-truck curb cuts to be smaller, and adding off street garage parking for new residents.
Q: Can you clarify height limit?



A: 35', down from the developer's request of 45'.

Q: If we don't vote to approve this what does it mean?

A: Councilman proposed change of use zoning at that site at behest of developer, which would allow a broad set of uses if passed. Committee requested to keep zoning R-8 to avoid uses like

Q: Does plan include smaller lot between Cuba, Cooksie, Towson?

A: Yes, it does. We will have developers come and show designs at future meetings.

Q: What about visitor parking?

A: Same as any other residential street.

Q: Right now its industrial, if you add 50 houses and they all have 2 cars, it will add a lot to an already tight parking situation.

If we don't pass this motion to support the agreement, the developer has other means to go about getting what they want, that won't involve our input. The task force feels this is a significant concession on the part of the developer and a good compromise.

- **Discussion - motion to close discussion, majority approves, 2 opposed. Voting by paper ballot, to be counted. 199 Yes, 19 No. Motion passes.**

Dog Park:

- Supposed to be cleanup on Saturday, but got rained out. Reschedule in a couple weeks, watch FB page for updates.

dogpark@mylocustpoint.org or locustpointdogpark@yahoo.com with any questions.

Parks & Beautification:

- Just did fall cleanup, starting up work events again in the spring. Looking forward to new fencing around flower beds courtesy of Domino Sugar, and new marble lion head attached to steps. Only 5 people showed up for last cleanup, we need more people to show up and help if you enjoy the park and want it to stay nice.

parksandbeautification@mylocustpoint.org .

Education & Schools:

- Saturday was school fair, with information on Baltimore school options for parents. Fundraising - if anyone shops on Amazon, FSK gets 7% back, if you use the FSK page as your launching point.

School 1514 is what to link to if you go into Harris Teeter to sign up for free fundraising back to FSK - 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 the box on your membership form, or email VIC number to education@mylocustpoint.org . Last year we raised over \$6K.

Safety:



- No police representation. Councilman Costello on incidents at McComas & Key - 2 individuals were discharging firearm, nobody was injured, police officers witnessed event and chased them down. At the same time, MTA Police found abandoned vehicle with firearm and caught folks soon after.
- LPCA President attended city meeting on public safety, and again asked for new community relations officer for Locust Point. Commissioner assured us the vacancies will be filled shortly.
- COP walks taking a break until the spring. COP coordinator had to step down, if anyone is interested in replacing them, please contact us - contacts@mylocustpoint.org

Social:

- Dec 9, 5:30pm - 8pm is the annual LPCA holiday party at Knights of Columbus. Everyone is invited, family friendly event. These events are only possible with help from volunteers, need people to pickup food, set up, clean up. Please bring a canned good or toy to benefit those in need. We will have visitor from North Pole for the kids.
- Need lots of volunteers - email social@mylocustpoint.org to sign up.

Parking:

- This is about trying to decide what is the will of the community on this issue; want to get consensus with this vote. Background is that 2 years ago, vote was taken at general meeting to have Parking Committee develop proposal to submit to the Parking Authority on what RPP permit parking would look like in Locust Point. That proposal has been extremely vetted by that committee of 50-60 participants, and anyone was welcome to participate in that. This is an LPCA vote, and we did everything we could to get information out to residents in multiple ways. Vote is whether this application letter as written is supported or not. We can't rewrite this via amendments tonight, it's not practical given the number of attendees. We will only take amendments on typos or mistakes.
- **Motion: I move that we send the application for the residential parking permit program, as submitted by the parking committee, to the Parking Authority of Baltimore City. Seconded.**
- **Discussion, limited to 10 minutes:**
 - Q: The letter said phase 1, what are the next phases.
 - A: Written that way so that if other areas want to add their streets in the future, so those would become phase 2.
 - Q: When we first got idea, they said we'd get 2 passes and 2 guest passes. Do we have to pay for original 2 passes?
 - A: Yes, \$20 per pass annually, as set by Parking Authority.
 - Q: A yes vote means what?
 - A: Mean we will take this letter and submit to the Parking Authority, including the vote tally. If this proposal doesn't get submitted, the process is done.
 - Q: If you think maybe we should wait 5 years, you should know that Riverside submitted a similar application and the city hasn't touched it for 3 years.
 - Q: Since many have not participated, as stated the reason, have they been addressed by



discussion with UA or the water taxi? For homes that have more than 2 cars, where would they park.

A: Yes. Any unpermitted cars would have to park in non-permit zone.

Q: On Woodall Street, it's not so bad now, but you may have noticed a whole bunch of cranes and construction so things are not going to stay good.

Q: Historically we have banded together as a group to help neighbors out, and for those of you who don't live near water taxi and don't experience those problems, please think about what is good for the whole.

Q: What is status of reverse angle parking?

A: City is revamping process, everything is on hold indefinitely until resolved.

Motion to close discussion. 6 opposed, majority in favor. Discussion closed. Voting by paper ballot, to be counted. Both results to be announced after next presentation.

New/Old Business

RPP Letter

- [Separate letter from committee chairman]

Live Baltimore Presentation - Kim Wiggins

- Non profit started in 1997 to help people move into Baltimore through home buying assistance and neighborhood information. Realized that when people have children they leave, and are trying to stop that trend. Did study and found 3 needs - support group, space, and good schools. We identified 5 star family friendly neighborhoods, and Locust Point is one of them. Criteria are room to grow, active parent groups, walkability, great school, family-friendly neighborhood. Asking for people to sign up on our website to become neighborhood know-it-all to serve as ambassadors for Locust Point. Also, looking for school know-it-alls if your children go to FSK. livebaltimore.com

Q: Seems like you're trying to especially attract people with children, why?

A: Historically, we've concentrated on empty nesters and first time buyers, but city cannot sustain itself if young families keep moving out because of false impressions of schools or neighborhoods. We're just trying to find way for people to stay who want to stay.

Two votes - 28 people didn't vote in first vote. Final vote for PDI was to support committees recommendation by 199 'yes' to 19 'no'. Parking 'yes' votes was 36, 'no' votes was 210. Parking application will not move forward.



Community Announcements

- **Community Improvement Grants** - Will be opening up grant applications for next year very soon, for proposals up to \$500. Send to contacts@mylocustpoint.org Can't use to buy alcohol.
- **Priest Jim Parrah** - Leaving Church of Redemption this sunday, thanks to everyone for all your help and hope we can continue to work together.
- **Moment of silence** - in recognition of police officer who was just shot tonight.

Adjourned 8:48 pm