



## LPCA General Meeting Minutes - September 14, 2016

### Preliminaries:

- Pledge of Allegiance
- Roll Call of Officers Present: Harry, Ginny, Justin, Brian, Caitlin, John, Damian, Caroline, Jamie, Will
- New Neighbor Introductions: 2
- Treasurer Update: No update
- Membership: 2 new members tonight, 98 previously.

### Approval of previous minutes:

- Motion to approve June 2016 minutes as presented; seconded – motion carries.
- Motion to approve August 2016 minutes as presented; seconded – motion carries.

### General Updates

#### Communications/Newsletter:

- Email [contacts@mylocustpoint.org](mailto:contacts@mylocustpoint.org) to get on our email list and like us on Facebook for news.
- Need a new circulation manager volunteer for newsletter.

#### Education/Schools:

- 600 names linked on Harris Teeter VIC program. Open Houses coming up for FSK in October.
- Principal Dunne: Any issues with student behavior in neighborhood before/after school - please call 410-396-1503 or email contact on school website. Recent reported issue with bottle throwing has been identified and addressed. Working with police to provide extra patrol presence on areas off school grounds, which school staff are not responsible for. Any issues during school hours are subject to school code of conduct though, and students must remain on school grounds or under staff supervision during school hours. Suggestion from audience that FSK administration monitor & have representation on local social network pages, or coordinate with LPCA/PTO to get statements out about any situations.
- PTO parents & FSK students volunteered at Locust Point Festival; made around \$2K for programs. Trying to use these kinds of volunteer opportunities to build more bonds between neighborhood and middle school students.

#### Safety:

- Officer Newman: Restarted Explorers program, had to find new space to host activities - Ben Franklin HS, Tuesdays from 3-4pm. Also started youth jump rope club. Serves as liaison/youth officer for 10 communities - [sheena.newman@baltimorepolice.org](mailto:sheena.newman@baltimorepolice.org) for any questions.
- 5 incidents in Locust Point - 1400 Lowman package theft (open case), 1400 Stevenson package theft, 1400 Benjamin garage burglary & bike theft, 1300 Lowman theft from auto, 1400 E Fort - rock thrown at moving vehicle, no injuries. Use Amazon locker at Shoppers or leave packages with neighbors if you can't be home to receive them.
- Q: Seeing report of 3 assaults on 1100 Cooksie (Aug 2, 13) and arson on 1300 Cooksie (Aug 13) on OpenBaltimore from Aug 1 - last Thursday.  
A: Officer Newman comparing both reports in future. Report (internal) was Aug 14 - Sep 10.



Q: Difference between larceny, theft, burglary?

A: Larceny - crime where object is not taken by force. Robbery is if force is used against person. Theft felony/misdemeanor threshold is \$1000 value of items. Burglary has 4 degrees depending on level of intrusion.

Q: Assault?

A: Any unwanted touch, doesn't have to be physical, can be intent.

Q: Who sponsor programs you run?

A: Parks & Recreation helps.

### **Committee Leadership:**

- Many volunteer opportunities desperately need - working on writing up descriptions of roles to share. Board has been working on increasing sustainability of LPCA activities and their leadership.
- Re-activated Fundraising Committee and re-examined reliance on Festival for revenue given wide variability in fundraising that bad weather can cause. Beth Terry from Board has stepped up to chair Fundraising Committee.
- Cheryl Duffy has moved on from Parks & Beautification; we are dividing up the roles she previously filled and are looking for multiple positions organized around plantings, cleanups, funding/oversight, etc.

### **Committee Reports**

#### **Design Review:**

- RFP issued for Field House, no bids as of late August.
- Anthem House met with LPCA Board and presented signage scheme; renderings available.
- **Councilman Costello:** Questions about why PDI lot development zoning notification posting lists B-1-3, when agreement in MOU specifies it will be R-8. Procedurally has to be posted that way due to way original bill was introduced; an amendment will occur to change to R-8 before final passage. Hearing will be Sep 21 at 10am, second reader Oct 24, third reader in mid November.
- 1400 Towson issues with construction: property owner had medical issue; Housing inspector followed up and they expect to resume work in 2 weeks.
- 1300 block Cooksie & Towson rear lot subdivision issue affecting 18 properties: complex issue with multiple lawsuits, city was able to negotiate subdividing lot into 18 different parts, each going to respective property owners. This will be done by City free of charge, including title. Will increase each property assessment by \$100, resulting in net tax increase of about \$2. Pedestrian walkway will have common area easement to allow egress by property owners. Will go to Planning Commission in October for next step; letters have gone out to property owners notifying them.
- Water billing will change next month from quarterly to monthly, and rates will go up 9%. Minimum water charge is going away. Sewage is billed at 2.5x rate of water. Fact sheet is available online on DPW site and Councilman's site.



- Request to vote in favor of Ballot Question I - Charter Amendment on Auditing. Changes frequency from 4 years to 2 years, requires both financial and functional audits, increases agencies that must be audited, removes authority from Director of Finance and moves to Comptroller who is separately elected, removes option for agencies to use outside office to conduct audits, includes mandatory recommendation followup from previous audits to hold accountable, creates oversight committee controlled by Council to have public hearings of results and provide input to Comptroller.

Q: Where can we read amendment?

A: Bill is 8-9 pages, but ballot will only be 2 sentences. Can see on MD Board of Elections sample ballot.

Q: Regarding TIF and DOJ Consent Decree coming up, we've lost sight of 12 audits that are coming due Dec 2016 - what is status?

A: 5 of 25 have been completed, 10-12 more expected to be delivered to BOE, and a number are underway. Last had oversight hearing in March. Charter Amendment is intended to address problems that were encountered in this process.

Q: 2 departments not covered - Schools & Police, report to state but take up bulk of city budget. Are they being audited?

A: Police is included under Charter Amendment, School system is not. Schools undergo audit every year by MD Office of Legislative Audits as state agency.

#### **Dog Park:**

- New Dog Park Chair - Amanda Greene. Cleanup/weeding this Saturday from 9-11. New project in fall to clean up tree pits and fill to prevent standing water, new fundraising in spring.

#### **Parks & Beautification:**

- No update.

#### **Social:**

- Formal update on Festival outcome at October meeting. Ruby 8 was not able to participate due to death in the family.

#### **New/Old Business**

##### **Hassan Charles - Baltimore City Public Schools Engagement Office**

- FSK update: Urgency around school reform under new CEO. Community engagement & advocacy is critical. Weinberg library & media center is coming soon to school. Will be setting up separate forum in near future to bring together parents to focus around key priorities. Questions around heat-related closures from PTO - 46% of buildings don't have central air, so will be difficult to have systemic solution, and need to treat all schools equally. How to report issues - go to principal first, but district is also testing new mobile app to enable 311-like feature to report issues instantly.

**MOTION: To extend meeting past 9pm, seconded, approved unanimously.**



### **Maryland Fleet Week & Baltimore Air Show Presentation**

- Kevin Cleary - 4 ships in Locust Point, 5 in Inner Harbor, 1 in Fells Point, and NSS Savannah open in Port. Community impacts from event - real start is Wed Oct 12. Shuttles from visitor center to Locust Point Thursday, Friday & Sunday from 1-6pm, as well as Banner Route, to reduce traffic & parking impacts. At Andre/Fort, no vehicles will be allowed to proceed unless authorized from 8am-8pm Saturday-Sunday. Checkpoints will be set up to discourage tourists & non-residents from driving into Locust Point Saturday & Sunday. Working with police to educate on how to allow Locust Point workers, residents, and residents' guests through - make sure they have an address and reason for entering. Cross Street Partners is allowing 670 spaces in UA lots and 2 other private lots to be used by LP residents only (not guests/visitors) from 5pm Friday evening to 7am Monday morning. Use [www.mdfleetweek.com](http://www.mdfleetweek.com) as authoritative source for information. October 15 is peak day; be mindful of your travel plans.  
Q: Circulator route impacts?  
A: Probably modified route Saturday, possibly Sunday.  
Q: Entrance on Andre from McComas closed to residents? When?  
A: McComas is expected to be very busy from shuttle buses, but open. Key Hwy will be closed at McComas during Marathon.
- Kevin Cleary can be contacted on cell phone at **410-818-8483** for any emergencies. See <http://www.mdfleetweek.com> for more information. Bag policy is restricted like at athletic events.

**Motion to extend meeting past 9pm, seconded, no opposition, motion carries.**

### **Community Announcements**

- None.

**Adjourned 9:13 pm**