

Fells Prospect Community Organization

Agenda

October 14, 2009

I. Introduction: Victor Corbin, President, called the meeting to order at 7:35 pm.

Agenda has changed. Community Law will not be present. Victor will cover that issue.

II. Committee Reports and Announcements

A. Treasurer's Report: \$3500 in account. \$1559 in beautification. \$850 in alley-gating project

B. Land Use Committee: Project on Broadway in old Boy/Girls Club next to Scratch and Dent. Residential apartments with parking. Will be income-regulated but not Section 8. Want something low-key on ground floor. Want to work with FP Main Street to gain kind of retain we want.

C. Social Committee

D. Crime Committee: Upswing in crime. Lots of reports about muggings and attempted break-ins. Debbie reports that person robbing citizens on Chester St. has been arrested. Watch out for strangers knocking on doors. Muggings in Butchers Hill area. People targeted were sitting on front steps talking on cell phones, so were distracted.

E. Traffic/ Parking Committee: Update of RAP (Ann Street completed). Completed, all installed. Tia Waddy from DOT will install a few lingering spaces on Ann Street. Lower Fells Point now interested in RAP.

F. Beautification Committee: Tree survey sent to city. Requested 17 trees. Community as a whole will take care of the trees.

G. Any other reports or announcements:

Raffle is \$5.00 for Ravens vs. Colts Game. Money collected will go towards alley-gating. Drawing on day of bulb planting. Winner announced on website.

Butchers Hill Flea Market was success: \$600 gained.

Applied for alley-gating grant.

Applied for grant for spreading information about the one + one collection program.

One plus One hearing Wednesday, October 21st at 5:00pm at the Council Chambers in City Hall

(100 N. Holliday St, 4th Flr).

III. Old Business

· Bags - \$ 5.00 on sale (see Debbie at check-in table)

· One plus One – Fells Prospect applies for a \$500.00 city grant

Have permission now to use rest of grant money for bulb planting in Patterson Park. Can order bulbs. Have about \$1500 left. Can buy 6000 bulbs. Last year, we planted 3000 in one afternoon. Patterson Park is having bulb planting on Nov. 14 in morning. We should plan to join that effort in the afternoon and plant the Bank St. and Eastern Ave. corner. Schedule planting for Nov. 14; rain date the next Saturday. Have bulb planters; can go pretty fast.

IV. New Business – Time to Renew Your Membership – PayPal now available

Support levels: Annual Membership for an Individual= \$10;

Advocate Annual Membership - Individual = \$25/Couple = \$45;

Patron Lifetime Membership- Individual = \$100/Couple = \$190.

Advocates and Patrons will receive a Fells Prospect Community Association Tote for each member to show their support while shopping around town. In addition, Advocates and Patrons will be recognized in the March Newsletter and year-round online at www.FellsProspect.org.

PayPal is available today. Is \$1 more to use PayPal, but is more convenient.

Victor outlined what funds are used for: website, newsletter, etc.

V. Presentations

- Danyell Diggs and Anna Ricklin: Red Line Coordinators (30 mins): Overview of preferred alternatives and initiatives. Light rail on surface. 20 stations. First east-west connection. Brought map. Route will be about 14.5 miles long. I79 east along Route 40. Tunnel at MLK at Lombard; transfer station at existing light rail. Connection to existing subway. Tunnel through Fells Point and Fleet St. Up along Boston St. End at Bayview; plan to install MARC station at Bayview. Start 2012; finish 2017. Currently submitting plan to Federal engineering; wait for approval and funding. Want to be fully operational by 2017. Mayor looks at it as an investment in the city. Wanted input from residents to find out what would promote job opportunities, etc. Passed out folder of outline of research, signatures of approval, and details. Project should attract jobs to Baltimore and put residents to work building the Red Line. Also wanted to involve communities, schools, etc. Want to sustain environmental viability. Can you walk or bike to stations? Can we eliminate stairs to board the train? Station design looks at community revitalization, e.g. Marketplace at Fells Point. Stations in various areas may look very different. Construction will be looking at quality control and impact on pre-existing structures. Establish communication channels to report problems. Education/communication in community about the project. Also, how to keep existing businesses viable during construction.

Question: What impact on businesses? Ans. Signage, coupons, specials, promotions.

Question: How long going to be in a particular block? Ans. Has not mapped out those specifics yet.

Announced City database available for info. re Red Line.

Community liaison couldn't make it tonight; Victor will reschedule.

Starting Jan., will move forward

Question: Why this route? Why not go further north? Ans. Looked at job centers, population concentration, etc. The 14-mile route will not demolish any homes. A few businesses will be eliminated.

Looking at Boston St.: in future, many more cars will make commuting more difficult.

Question: Tunnel or surface on Boston? Will come above ground on Boston St., but City has decided on this route.

Victor comment: In Portland, communities were told that this was an opportunity to design looks of stations, business opportunities, community resources, etc. Discussion of route has been decided.

Question about distance between routes. Ans. About half a mile. Normal for other cities.

- Michelle Wizberger, Esq. Community Law Center: Chubbies- Update (30-mins): Rep. was unable to attend. July 31, we sent in petition for revocation of license. Submitted to Liquor Board. Two weeks ago, Robbie Burch and Michelle called. Ans: Our file has disappeared. Further phone calls in process. Victor spoke to Della regarding suspicious disappearance. Mole in LB? Have now asked for emergency hearing. Need letters from membership to support petition/case. Victor will send out email request for letters; membership needs to respond. Need community support to prevent further irregularities. On April 24, Board approved renewal; bar was sold. 16 June, Board transferred license without any problems. Applicant agreed to follow agreement signed by previous owners, but nothing has been done. Robbie Burch recorded the renewal hearing.

Question: Any violations since transferral? Ans. Yes, but point is that the new owner has not honored agreement.

Suggestion: Give talking points for letters. Ans. Yes, we will. And will provide link.

Victor provided history of agreement. Will have to start proceedings again.

- Fells Point Community Organization asked for our support to oppose Cheerleaders Bar. We will back their efforts to oppose the bar. Nancy, from FPCO gave testimony about violations. Beatings, knifing, etc. Fells Point Main Street has tried intervention; got nowhere. Now FPCO is petitioning for revocation of liquor license and refusal of transfer of license. Other associations have joined in the protest.

- Canton Hair Salon: New business on Patterson Park Ave and Fleet Street: Robin and Terry. Robin has been working in community for 5 years. Salon wants to be positive addition to community. (5 mins)

- Question about Circulator: When will start? Busses late in arriving; route changed; want to start this Fall. Electric busses will connect Harbor East to JH to City Hall, back down to Harbor and Federal Hill. Geared toward commuters, not long-distance riders.

Adjourn: Meeting was adjourned at 8:50 pm.