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JANUARY 2011

www.fellsprospect.org

NEXT MEETING: WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 12, 2011 AT 7:30 PM

CRISTO REY GYMNASIUM, 420 CHESTER STREET, BETWEEN BANK STREET AND EASTERN AVENUE

FELLS PROSPECT AND THE NEW YEAR

Fells Prospect Community Organization (FPCA) accomplished a lot in 2010. Here are the highlights.

- We were awarded a grant for two alley gating projects this past fall and are currently raising the required 25% match from affected residents who will benefit from the alley gating.
- We held three dumpster days in partnership with Upper Fells Point.
- We moved our meetings to Cristo Rey Jesuit High School.
- We started a new partnership with a group that will be hosting bus trips in 2011 under the Fells Prospect Community Association name. The first bus trip in 2010 to Atlantic City was a great success, and we look forward to many more.
- The association launched its Facebook page and redesigned its newsletter.
- The Fells Prospect Garden Club was formed.
- FPCA had success in holding the owner of Chubbies Bar accountable for not being a good neighbor.
- FPCA has continued to forge great partnerships with neighboring community groups and associations, and has even forged partnerships with groups outside the Southeast, including Federal Hill and Remington community groups.

2010 was a good year for the association considering the economic environment. Financially, we are in good shape,

but we need more community support to cover the cost of the newsletter and website.

Here are some of our goals for 2011.

- We hope to double our membership in 2011. There are over 3,400 residents in Fells Prospect, yet only just over 9 % are dues-paying members of the community organization.
- We will be working on increasing our advertising for the newsletter (the largest in Fells Point).
- In 2011, we hope to complete three alley gating projects.
- FPCA will continue to work with the city and state leaders to improve the quality of life for its residents, though at times we may not see eye-to-eye.
- We are currently working on new ideas to solve the ongoing problems with parking. A southeast traffic study work group had its first meeting in December 2010. Findings will be release in mid-2011.

RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP

One general ticket at the movies—\$10.00
Two Starbucks frappuccinos—\$10.00
Fells Prospect membership—Priceless !

You may join or renew via cash, personal check or PayPal. Membership is \$10.00, or \$11.00 if you joint via PayPal at www.FellsProspect.org. If you chose to pay by check or cash, mail your dues to Fells Prospect Inc., P.O. Box 38291, Baltimore, MD 21231 (make your check or money order out to Fells Prospect Inc.). You may

also pay by check or cash at our monthly meetings held on the second Wednesday of the month at Cristo Rey. Our next meeting is on Wednesday, January 12, 2011.

Finally, if you are not already a fan of FPCA on Facebook, please join. We provide daily updates and share valuable information about traffic, events, city information, and interesting news stories.

I would like to thank you in advance for your support of FPCA. We can't do it without your help. We look forward to keeping this a fun, safe, enjoyable neighborhood in which to live, work, and play.

Victor T Corbin
President

GARDEN CLUB MEETINGS

The Fells Prospect Garden Club meets on the third Monday of every month. The next meeting is Monday, January 17 from 6:30–7:30 pm. Email Thin Thin at thin2lm@gmail.com for information and location.

Our mission statement:

- To inspire individuals to create their own green space.
- To contribute to beautification projects and conservation efforts in our community.
- To educate others and ourselves in the care and maintenance of personal gardens and property.

GRANT WRITER WANTED

Fells Prospect Community Association is looking for a volunteer who can do some grant writing for us to find funding for our website, newsletter, and greening project. If you are able to donate time to help the association, please contact Victor Corbin at FellsProspect-President@yahoo.com.

BIKE ROUTES IN BALTIMORE

Many of you may have noticed the new bike signage throughout Fells Prospect and around the city of Baltimore. You can find bike-related downloads on this page: <http://www.baltimorecity.gov/Government/AgenciesDepartments/Transportation/Planning/BikeBaltimore/BikeLanes.aspx>.

CONTACTING THE MAYOR

The official Baltimore City website has been updated to make contacting the Mayor's Office even easier. If you have a question, comment, or concern you can now visit baltimorecity.gov/OfficeoftheMayor.aspx and click on "Contact the Mayor." Find forms to submit your comments, apply for ceremonial documents, request city services, and more!

CHRISTMAS TREE PICKUP AND MULCHING

DPW will provide Christmas tree mulching Monday through Saturday during the entire month of January, 2011. Mulching services will be offered from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at BOTH the Sisson Street Citizen Drop-off Center, 2840 Sisson Street, and the Reedbird Avenue Citizen Drop-off Center, 701 Reedbird Avenue.

Residents may bring their own bags or containers if they wish to collect mulch for their own use. Community groups are also encouraged to bring bags or containers and collect free mulch for neighborhood gardens while supplies last.

For residents who cannot bring their trees for mulching, the Bureau of Solid Waste will offer curbside tree collection from Tuesday, January 4, 2011 through Friday, January 28, 2011.

Christmas tree pickup and mulching, continued

Residents should set out trees on their regularly scheduled trash collection day at the same location where their trash is collected.

All tinsel and ornaments must be removed from trees before they are set out for curbside collection or mulching. For additional information, please call 311.

NEWS FROM COUNCILMAN JIM KRAFT

Leaves and Snow

Please remember that each of us is responsible for cleaning from the front of our home to the gutter. This includes not only trash and weeds, but also leaves and snow. It is extremely important to attend to this responsibility at this time because clogged stormwater drains can lead to backups and flooding. During very cold days, these backups can also result in water freezing, which leads to icing on both sidewalks and in streets. In a number of instances, the end result becomes water in your basement. Having just gone through this wonderful experience, I can assure you that it is one that you do not want to share. So, please take care of the trash and leaves.

FY12 City Budget

Even though the Council has not historically received the actual budget until mid-May and not voted on it until mid/late June, many of us are looking for ways to meet the City's needs without the need for additional money. Some of my colleagues are joining me in my annual attempt to reduce the property tax. If you have any ideas as to how the City can save money or find other sources of funds so that the City may reduce the dependency on the property tax, then please share them with me. I will give all of them consideration.

Jim Kraft can be contacted at James.Kraft@baltimorecity.gov.

LOCAL HISTORY PATTERSON PARK

This is part of an ongoing series by Zippy Larson, Baltimore historian, speaker, and tour guide

For Patterson Park, we thank William Patterson, whose fortune came from supplying George Washington's Revolutionary War army with beef. We know Patterson as the father of Betsy, who, in 1804, married Napoleon Bonaparte's brother Jerome. Napoleon had crowned himself Emperor of France, which thrilled Betsy, who spoke French, loved the culture, and wore French fashions. In fact, her clothes were so skimpy that she created a scandal at parties in America.

William Patterson was an American patriot who tried to dissuade his headstrong daughter from her love affair with Jerome. In his will, a long personal note about his daughter stated that he was leaving her little, as she had given him more trouble than all his other children. To the city, he bequeathed land for a park—Baltimore's gain and Betsy's loss! She, however, had a fine mind for business. In her nine decades, she turned her real estate and ground rents into a fortune.

In 1903, a century after Betsy fell in love with Jerome, Baltimore welcomed the Olmstedts, designers of New York's Central Park. One of their designs proposed doubling the size of Patterson Park, extending it all the way to Canton Square. Parks were tranquil spaces where rich and poor alike went to enjoy fresh air and social activities. Try to picture life without radio and television, before air conditioning and telephones. You saw your relatives at home, friends at school or work, and looked forward to leisure time in the park, where children played, lovers met, and families strolled. Sundays after church, in your best bonnet, you met and talked with friends, tipped your hat to neighbors, and enjoyed a respite from the week's labors. Parks were free and the most egalitarian of places, as they continue to be today.

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FELLS PROSPECT MAP




IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

President: Victor Corbin(410) 327-2427
Vice President: Alana Ridge(443) 562-5168
Treasurer: Jeffrey Rogers(410) 563-8547
Secretary: Kate Richardson(410) 675-8827
Land Use: Marek Tarasiewicz(410) 342-0329
Beautification: Anne Fleishman(410) 732-7717
Marketing: Victor Corbin(410) 327-2427
Crime Prevention: Rich Burton(410) 271-0027
Traffic/Parking: Jonathan Lucas(919) 308-6593
Webmaster: Victor Corbin(410) 327-2427
Newsletter Distribution: Rhonda Cooper ..(410) 675 0376
Southeastern Police District:(410) 396-2422
Police Substation:(410) 675-0273
Baltimore One Call Center:311
 Sanitation Enforcement, Streetlights, Rodents, Housing Violations & Bulk Trash.

FELLS PROSPECT MEMBERSHIP

To become a member of Fells Prospect, send a check made payable to Fells Prospect, Inc. and mail to Fells Prospect, PO Box 38291, Baltimore, MD 21231. Or go online to www.fellsprospect.org to join. You can use Paypal to pay your dues. Dues are \$10 **per person** per calendar year.



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