October 19, 2015

Present: Brain Sweeney (President) has sign-­‐up sheet for list of attendees/members/board members on file

Next meeting: November 16, 2015, 7:00pm, Salem UMC, 3405 Gough St

**Agenda Items**

1. **Call to Order/Pledge to the Flag (Brian Sweeney)**
2. **Treasury Report – No report out at this meeting**
3. **Minutes Review - No review of the previous meeting’s minutes (Minutes posted on** [**http://highlandtown.com/hca-­‐**](http://highlandtown.com/hca-)**meeting-­‐info/) - *Erin Kirley recorded Minutes for the 10/19/15 meeting***
4. **President’s Report (Brian Sweeney)** 
   1. Welcome to new members
   2. Basement Bar tour - Nov 7th
      * Kicks off at Rust-n-Shine – where the day of the event, attendees can purchase tickets
      * Ends with an outdoor party at DiPasquale's
   3. Art Cart Derby on - May 30th
      * Moved to Bank Street
      * Will be held in conjunction with Blockenstein
      * Both events are looking for volunteers for planning, outreach, set-up, and breakdown
      * Four blocks of bank street will be closed for the day
5. **New Business/Announcements** 
   1. Tree planting celebration – 10/25 from 1-4PM at the Conkling Street Garden (25 S Conkling St) – event to celebrate the 70+ trees that have been planted in the area; looking for volunteers for set-up and take down; Robyn has English and Spanish versions of the flyer
   2. Community Meet, Greet and Chicken Dinner - 10/20 from 5-7PM at Markets at Highlandtown; vegetarian sides will be available
   3. Installation of the new bus stop at Highland and Baltimore – 11/14 from 2-5PM - closing Baltimore Street from Highland Ave to Conkling Street; will have community art event and food trucks for the celebration
   4. Patterson Park Master Plan - 10/20 from 7-9pm at Patterson Park Charter Public School - final meeting on the master plan, prior to the recommendation to Parks and Rec; documents are available on line at [www.pattersonparkmasterplan.weebly.com](http://www.pattersonparkmasterplan.weebly.com) (English) and [www.pattersonparkplanmaestro.weebly.com](http://www.pattersonparkplanmaestro.weebly.com) (Spanish)
   5. Lantern Parade - 10/24 at the Patterson Park Pulaski Monument; events begin at 3:30PM, the parade begins at 7PM – This year’s route is little shorter to make the parade easier for the smaller kids; there will be food trucks; an art market; the theme is electric so they are looking to incorporate technology into the final presentation on the main stage; There is a free shuttle from the parking garage at 550 S Eaton St from 4-9PM; Linwood Ave will be closed between Pratt St and Eastern Ave; more info is available at Creative Alliance website [www.creativealliance.org](http://www.creativealliance.org)
   6. New Neighbor Outreach – there have been 87 home sales in the neighborhood since March; Mark Parker has an updated google docs spreadsheet available for anyone interested in volunteering to welcome new neighbors
   7. Events at Breath of God Lutheran Church
      * Youth mentoring program for kids at Highlandtown 215; every Monday from 5-6:40PM; Work with 3rd and 4th grade students on math, reading, and physical fitness; runs September through June
      * Basketball every Thursday from 6-8PM through the end of March
   8. Revision to the Baltimore City Zoning Codes – final rezoning hearing 10/21 at 6PM at the SE Anchor Library; more info online at www.rewritebaltimore.org
   9. Johns Hopkins Bayview Medical Center – Represented by Sharon Jones
      * has health survey for attendees to complete – purpose is understand the needs of the community so Bayview can serve it better
      * blood drive 10/20 and 10/21 from 7A - 5:30PM
      * Flyers on hand: Halloween safety tips; services at hospital; Nov newsletter; volunteer opportunities; breast cancer survivor group
      * Food Pantry - last year 832 people were served through the food pantry at BMC from donations made by community partners – Brian Sweeney recommends bringing a box when she attends the meeting and attendees can donate
   10. Resident concern about “No Parking” signage on Claremont and surrounding streets
       * Brian Sweeney explained the HCA parking sign audit and directed Ms. Dixon to Erin Kirley
   11. Leonora DiPietro Dixon - Promoting her books on the history of Highlandtown - A Peachy Life (first book) and A Peachy Business (second book)
       * Second book is planned for release in November
       * $15 each
   12. Safety and Police issues - Nick Kirley suggests that everyone keeps an eye on the vacant properties on their blocks and report (to 311 or 911) anything that they might see, particularly going into colder weather when squatters are more likely to have open flames inside for warmth; Join the COP Walk and work with the officer on the walk for faster responses than 311 can offer; COP walks are every Thursdays at 7pm and start at the Laughing Pint (corner of Gough and S Conkling Streets)
   13. Southeast Police Department Community meeting - 1st Monday of every month at 7PM at district PD department; entrance is in the rear of the building; updates on crime, police business; next meeting will have an update on 311; encourages everyone to attend and let the organizers know they are from Highlandtown; FYI - 211 is the number to call for general support services for community (homeless help)
   14. 3724 Eastern Ave - looking to change entertainment license from bar to night club; Brian Sweeney states that they need to come to the HCA for letter of support
   15. Resident concern – the bar across from Walgreens is a nuisance; requests help to investigate what is going on and how to minimize the disturbance
6. **Guest Speakers**
   1. Green Labs - represented by Attorney, Nathan Willner
      * Business is located at 201 N Haven Street;
      * The company is looking for support from the HCA and have provided a letter of support template
      * The property is zoned for manufacturing and would only be used for the cultivation and manufacturing of medical marijuana products - this would not be a dispensary (noted there are licenses for 96 dispensaries for state) so only commercial traffic would increase
      * Mr. Willner explained that applications are due to the state in 15 days
      * In order to obtain 1 of the 15 licenses available from the state, businesses must go through a series of inspections during a year-long preliminary license period;
      * Also during the preliminary license period, businesses must meet the expectations they proposed in their operating plan
      * The facility is also inspected and graded by the state on the security system
      * Following the preliminary period, the business will still be required to pass annual state regulatory inspections
      * Employees are required to pass drug testing
      * Brian Sweeney stated that he has drafted a letter of support and outlined some requests included in it (general improvements in appearance, lighting, additional greening, and security cameras connected with the City Watch program) – Mr. Willner stated that the requests are within their scope of work and they are interested in working with the surrounding neighborhoods
      * Rachel Timmons stated that the project has the full support of the District 2 City Council office & the Baltimore Highlands Neighborhood Association
      * Brian Sweeney asked anyone with objections to see him after the meeting

**Meeting Adjourned at 7:58pm**