**Agenda**

1. **Call to Order/Pledge to the Flag (Brian Sweeney)**
2. **Minutes Review –** To conserve time there was no review of the previous meeting’s minutes (posted on [http://highlandtown.com/hca-­‐](http://highlandtown.com/hca-)meeting-­‐info/) - *Robyn Dorsey recorded Minutes for the 10/17/16 meeting*
3. **Treasury Report –** To conserve time there was no review of the HCA’s financial accounts (posted on <http://highlandtown.com/hca-meeting-info/>)
   1. Total funds in the HCA account: $46,507
   2. About $25,000 is earmarked for projects in the Conkling Street Garden
4. **President’s Report (Brian Sweeney)**
   1. Basement Bar Tour
      * 320 guests; 8 hosts; we had SOO many people! Lots of positive feedback.
   2. Our Lady of Pompeii
      * Nearing completion. Open house will be Wednesday January 11th from 6:30-7:30p for Highlandtown residents.
      * Everyone gets a free beer at Laughing Pint afterwards!
   3. We need volunteers!
      * Mayor’s clean up day was a big success and a lot of fun.
   4. We’ve got money!
      * And we’d like to spend it on awesome projects in the neighborhood -- permanent and artsy ones preferably.
        1. We’d like to convene a small grants committee to come up with projects, find funding, implement the projects!
           1. Amanda points out, our $ is more flexible and can be used for many different kinds of projects.
        2. See Brian afterwards to get more information.
      * Highlandtown Art Gallery has giant crab, would like to put a mosaic onto it. Has requested funds to support the project. Board agreed to ask Association to commit $500 to the project. The total cost of the project is estimated at $3000.
        1. HCA voted overwhelmingly in support of providing this funding.
   5. As discussed last meeting, HCA is acquiring the Baltimore Highlands. To reflect this expansion, we will now be using quadrants to organize the neighborhood. See the map.
      * Millie will be contact for east of Highland Ave.
      * Agnes and Shaun will be the contacts for west of Highland Ave
      * Robyn, Mike Dorsey and Rachel Timmins will cover Baltimore Highlands (north of Lombard)
   6. Due to BGE work disrupting parking, Councilman Kraft has requested that the City suspend street sweeping and associated parking enforcement. Non-street sweeping related parking still enforced. See map online!
   7. Mayor’s Office of Immigration and Cultural Affairs:
      * City will not handle Federal immigration issues using City-resources.
   8. Next month’s meeting is the HCA Christmas Party! Bring a dish and/or a drink to share.
   9. New Residents:
      * Carol, new resident on the 200 N Conkling block -- really wants to get involved!
        1. Daisy Harper from Mayor’s Office, had done work in McElderry Park, would love to provide support in Highlandtown!
   10. Board elections are coming up in January!
   11. Crime tips:
       * Nearby pawn shops are likely to have anything stolen from you
         1. They collect ID from all sellers and record all serial #s
         2. They must keep all hocked items for a specific period of time
         3. Therefore, consider keeping a copy of all of your serial numbers so you can provide them to the police -- more likely to get your items back and catch a thief.
            1. Snap a picture of the data plates
            2. You can also photograph antiques or other valuables
       * There’s a national program to check stolen things -- consider writing your license number on the back of your valuable items. This allows any police officer anywhere to find you.
5. **New Business/Announcements** 
   1. Maggie Calhoun -- local realtor, created packets showing comps in the neighborhood
   2. Jessica Hammond -- 4 vacant tree pits on the corner of Clinton and Gough. Looking to fill the pits. Introduced to Michael Dorsey -- greening coordinator.
      * Too late in the season for planting, we can check in with a couple resources to see if we can get a few trees!
   3. Jessica Hammond -- vacant house on her block, have concerns re: disrepair and the extent to which it’s affecting neighboring houses.
   4. Amanda-Smit Peters
      * Shop Small Saturday is coming up 11/26, free goodies from 8a-12p
        1. Free bags, pastries, coffee, shopping guides
        2. Shop Small Challenge! Visit 5 different Highlandtown stores and you’ll get entered into a prize drawing.
      * Highlandtown Holiday Kick Off Celebration Dec. 2
        1. Inside in case of rain
        2. Family friendly beginning, adult friendly end
        3. Luke Clippinger will be dressed as Santa!
      * Highlandtown Train Garden opens Nov. 26!
        1. Featuring the 2016 blizzard in miniature!
           1. Includes a dog peeing on a hydrant w/ yellow snow!
   5. Pastor Mark Parker, Breath of God Lutheran Church
      * Thanksgiving event this Wednesday evening at Pratt and Clinton 6p food, 7:15p service
      * At 6p third Monday in Dec., caroling ahead of HCA xmas party
      * Dec. 3rd 10a-2p, Conkling Street Garden build day -- row covers for the raised beds!
        1. All supplies will be there -- not a heavy lift, but we need lots of helping hands!
        2. Conkling and Leverton
      * Every Thursday evening from 5:30-7p, youth mentoring program at Breath of God
        1. Local students, all attend Highlandtown 215
      * Opportunities to work side by side with refugee kids
        1. If you’re interested, check out IRC’s headquarters at Highlandtown and Eastern, catty-corner from the library
   6. Sharon Jones from Johns Hopkins Bayview
      * Beautiful labyrinth -- being lit Dec. 7th -- all invited
      * Community Psychiatrist building opening up on Lombard
      * Blood drive Dec. 19-21 -- urgent time during the holidays
        1. Save 3 lives, get parking paid for, get a free lunch!
      * Caregivers connection program -- Called to Care
        1. Great program with support, information, phone call-presentations with GREAT information
      * Julio Cervantes -- Community Liaison for Zeke Cohen
        1. Holding community clean up Dec. 17th in Bayview 10a-1p
        2. Encouraging folks to cross neighborhood boundaries and get to know each other!
   7. Robin Nichols from Neighborhood Design Center
      * Have money to target Highland Ave. and Baltimore St. plan is to do some placemaking projects, including better lighting for security, murals, better crosswalks. Watch the area for these improvements!
      * Has a quick survey to help prioritize the Deep Blue projects -- especially alley-gating. Survey is on the front table!
6. **Guest Speakers**
   1. Thomas Chetlet
      * Proposing an art gallery/tattoo parlor on 3218 Eastern Ave..
      * 2-3 employees, 6-7 days a week
      * Open 11a-9p
      * Drug and alcohol free zone
      * Engaged in community -- open in hours when other nearby businesses are closed.
      * Art would rotate through the gallery -- photography to sculpture etc.
        1. Looking for local artists
      * All tattoo equipment and services will be top of the line, sterile
      * Tom will be improving the building -- inside and outside.
      * Closest shops are one mile to the west or two miles to the east
      * Requires a zoning variance to open this shop -- currently a conditional zoning, asking for zoning to be adjusted to allow for the tattoo portion of the shop.
      * Zoning board meeting is Dec. 13th
      * HCA would ask that they follow regulations, aesthetic regulations etc. Encourage the use of a camera system, and register it with City Watch.
   2. Councilman Jim Kraft -- last official appearance
      * The train garden is awesome -- and could use additional volunteers to pull it off!
        1. There used to be a train garden in every fire house in the City. Our’s was started 8 years ago, and it’s one of just two.
      * Councilman Kraft has been helping Councilman-Elect Cohen to transition into the new role.
        1. There’s so much to learn!
      * Huge and diverse district.
      * Recently, Councilman Kraft passed a bill to protect the tradition of giving community association’s ½ price discount on community services for fundraising events. This practice was discontinued and the fallout was devastating for many local events. New bill reinstates and codifies this ½ price discount.
      * Councilman Kraft passed legislation which banned replica handguns in the City. The ban only applies to guns that are difficult to distinguish from real handguns. Police Department reports there are more robberies committed with fake guns than real guns.
        1. This was the issue in the shooting of a teenage boy earlier in 2016 who had a replica gun.
      * Councilman Scott introduced legislation to eliminate Columbus Day and change it to Indigenous Peoples and Italian-American Heritage Day.
        1. If you’d like to make your feelings on this known, it’s best to contact Council President Jack Young and Mayor SRB.
      * SE Police Department and OSI Fellow will be doing a coat drive.
        1. Donate “gently used” or new children’s coats at the SE Anchor Library
   3. Patterson Park Master Plan -- ongoing. Includes moving the rec center.
      * Ice Rink has reached the end of its useable life -- built on oyster shells.
      * Patterson Park is the oldest continually used public park in the entire USA. Getting a historic designation for the park.