

MEETING MINUTES
GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

04/05/2011

1. Officer Butterbean began the meeting by reporting that auto larceny and all other crime categories are down from last year, due in part to the vigilance of residents. He can be reached at Kevin.vaught@baltimorepolice.org, 443-681-0920.

A discussion ensued regarding the recent Irish Stroll event. Members were pleased to see that the Fire Marshall was out enforcing occupancy codes by temporarily shutting down several establishments until the number of occupants was within code.

There was much dissatisfaction voiced that an event of such magnitude and with such potential adverse effects on the neighborhood could be allowed by the City without contingency plans or clear line of authority to shut it down if it became out of control. The Hospitality Association projected an attendance of 7500. Why shouldn't such an event be required to obtain a permit and provide security as do the regular summer street festivals?

It was suggested that we start now to organize a game plan for the next Halloween pub crawl event – perhaps work to have ticket sales limited.

It was agreed that we will send a letter of concern to the Liquor Board, our Councilman and our State Representative.

We were reminded that if we need any police assistance, call 911, not 311. We need to be ready to provide the address where a problem may exist. That address will then be logged in to start a history of occurrences.

2. Ross Albers, our area's Assistant State's Attorney, introduced himself. He lives in our area and will be getting more involved in all the neighborhoods in his jurisdiction. After listening to our pub crawl concerns, he suggested we combine forces with other nearby neighborhood associations that share our concerns. He can be reached at 410-396-4000, ralbers@stattorney.org.

3. Jack Baker, liaison with the Southern District, was present and reminded us that he holds his meetings at the Southern District the 3rd Thursday of every month. All residents are invited and encouraged to attend.
4. Teen Council Report – Marie Sennett

Marie again announced that she is looking for a new Council Chair or Co-Chair, as she will be stepping down in the near future. Please contact her to find out more about this rewarding opportunity.

5. Parking Committee Report – Debbie Alt

Debbie again stated that she is working toward getting Parking Area 30 under SBNA jurisdiction. Area 30 parking area is presently under the jurisdiction of the West Federal Hill Homeowners and Residents Association. SBNA does not have a parking area assigned to it and therefore does not have a vote at the Parking Authority.

A discussion took place regarding plans by The Reserve for valet parking. Members expressed concern that the valet reserved spaces would be taken from Area 30 spaces. It was explained by others that the valet spaces would be open parking spaces, not Area 30 permitted spaces and that it is in the residents' interest to park customer cars off the street at a valet lot.

6. Design Review – Justin Wilde

Julie Tice presented the proposed project at 129 W. Fort Ave., at the corner of Fort and Race, currently a vacant lot. Project consists of 10 residential units. Julie is the project architect and owner's representative. Units will be 3 bedrooms, 2500 square feet, 3 stories on Race Street side, 4 stories on Fort Ave. side. One off street parking space will be provided for each unit. Membership in Area 30 is desired.

A bank owns the property and would like to sell the entire project as a whole, but may sell individual units.

The Board of Zoning Appeals hearing will be May 10, 2011. Signs will be posted on the property 4/29/11.

Concerns were expressed about impact on parking and a future detailed discussion with Julie will be scheduled.

Respectively Submitted,

Dennis Plouff