

GRIA Community Meeting
2/17/2016

GRIA Board Attendees:

Ryan Flanigan
Bill Cunningham
Molly McCullagh
Jed Weeks

Community attendees: ~30

Community Announcements:

- Baltimore Day in Annapolis coming up on 3/8/16 call 311 to get a ride
- The Sisson Street Community Garden has plots open for this season! E-mail info@griaonline.org
- First community dumpster day is Saturday, March 19. GRIA could use help on our trash teams collecting bulk trash. Call Bill Cunningham at 443-799-7446 by 8 am that morning if you need something picked up.

New Business:

Crime update from Northern District rep

- Increase in commercial robberies, including 7-11 and corner store on Huntingdon
 - Meeting on 2/17 between 7-11 franchisee, Seawall (property owner), police, community
 - Changing 7-11's hours requires corporate consent
- Car thefts – don't leave valuables in your car
- Police are moving back to post structure, away from teams; should allow officers to know their communities more closely and be more responsive
- At one point, stopped investigating burglaries under \$15,000 – reversing this decision
- Bill Cunningham suggests installing cameras throughout the neighborhood , 3 per block

Baltimore Music Preservation

- Baltimore music community has lost a significant amount of practice and recording space to loft conversions of the last few years. Many musicians are unable to find space and considering leaving the Baltimore area.
- BMP is looking at the warehouse space behind Lowside Garage and Good Doggie Daycare on 29th Street
- Currently in talks with the landlord
- Would need several months of buildout after signing a lease; construction would include room-in-room construction for sound proofing (musicians don't want to be able to hear each other either!); building has no windows, even better for noise insulation; would adhere to noise decibel level limits set by the City
- Considering professional recording studio, monthly rental for music studios, live event permit, screen printing workshop

- Community engagement opportunities: high school and college-aged interns, public screen printing workshops, bands performing at community events, consider using neighborhood labor for construction

Kelly Cross, running for City Council in the 12 District

- <http://www.kellycross.org/>
- overall message: can't view neighborhoods as islands, strengthen the connections between neighborhoods, focus redevelopment opportunities on large acreage (such as the city jail) and existing commercial corridors, focus on investment into public spaces (greening, litter removal), Baltimore should have a world-class transportation system; would reduce need for resident to own cars

Lead paint

- GRIA continues to pursue lead abatement certificate compliance in our community by investigating rental properties without updated certificates and advocating with City Council
- the city/state offers vouchers for families relocating out of homes in need of lead abatement
- funds are also available for homeowners to remediate their own properties
- scheduling a meeting soon to connect residents with lead in their homes with these resources – stay tuned

GRIA board now accepting nominations for new members – vote takes place at the April 2016 meeting.

E-mail info@griaonline.org to express your interest.

GRIA Land Use Committee elections take place at the March 2016 community meeting. E-mail

info@griaonline.org to express your interest.