

LPCA General Meeting Minutes - March 10th, 2021

Held on Google Meet

Preliminaries:

- Pledge of Allegiance
- New Neighbor Introductions
- Treasurer Update: \$77,272.13
 - \$67,870.61 - General Fund
 - \$3,628.69 - Dog Park
 - \$5,772.83 - Park Fund
- Membership: If you are listening on the Facebook live stream and want to become a member, send an email to the LPCA the Sunday before the General Meeting. Members should follow up on potential missed invitations the Sunday or the Monday prior to the General Meeting.

Committee Reports

Communications/Newsletter:

- If you would like to receive our emails, send a note to contacts@mylocustpoint.org and like our page on Facebook for updates. Send any editorial ideas or interest in volunteering on the newsletter - communication@mylocustpoint.org .

Education & Schools:

- Students in kindergarten through grade 2 have returned in small groups. Francis Scott Key Elementary/Middle School (FSK) is now preparing for the return of grades 3 through 5. As students are now on-site, all drivers should be aware of the school schedule. Students are on site from 9AM - 2PM every weekday except Wednesdays. If you park in the FSK lot overnight please move your car by 7AM.
- Last Saturday night was the Virtual Pasta Palooza which was a big success. FSK sends a big thank you to everyone who attended and the businesses who supported. Proceeds from the event look to be around \$11K.
- The Harris Teeter VIC card program has yielded \$8,200 so far this school year. The program runs through May 31st.
- Harris Teeter vic cards and Amazon Smile (please link to FSK).
- School 1514 is what to link to if you go into Harris Teeter to sign up - must renew annually (Aug - May). If you register through LPCA, we will create a database of VIC numbers and automatically renew you in future years - either check the box on your membership form, or email VIC number to education@mylocustpoint.org.

Community Improvement Grants:

- These grants are available to the entire neighborhood. Projects may beautify, benefit, or otherwise enhance the community with a preference given to those ideas with lasting impact or creating broad new connections. Please consider submitting a grant to contacts@mylocustpoint.org. The grant form is available on the website <https://mylocustpoint.wordpress.com/about-the-lpca/community-improvement-grant/> and on Facebook.

Design Review:

- The LPCA was contacted a few weeks ago by the City Planning Department about the proposed rezoning on the 1200 block of Hull. The Planning Department did not support the community's proposal for an OR-1 zone. It appears there was some confusion about the zoning options.
- The existing properties are zoned residential but have been operated as a business for many years. They were flagged by the city and the business engaged the LPCA to establish an MOU to protect some of the communities interest. The Planning Department met with the board to inform them of their opposition to OR-8. A Neighborhood Commercial zone was their recommendation, as a modification to the underlying R-8 zone.
- The MOU the board had already negotiated may provide additional protections beyond the Neighborhood Commercial zone and beyond OR-1. The board continues to engage with the building owner and lawyers. The Planning Commission hearing is tomorrow at 2PM. More to come.
- Question from the floor: Are there any plans for expansion on site?
 - The property owners committed to no changes to the height.

Parks & Beautification:

- Earth Week is in April and the committee is planning a park activity. To support limited gatherings it will be block oriented (clean up alleys/streets/weeds). Volunteers have been in the park working on the grounds.
- Questions can be directed to parksandbeautification@mylocustpoint.org.

Diversity/Equity/Inclusivity (DEI) Task Force:

- The primary activity for the task force is to hold a DEI educational seminar. They will request a Community Improvement Grant for a DEI instructor from a highly esteemed instructor within Baltimore. If the grant is approved it will be available to the entire community. More to come after the grant is submitted.

Safety:

- Safety concerns can be sent to contacts@mylocustpoint.org.

Dog Park:

- No updates.

Social:

- The committee feels the LPCA will be able to have a fall festival in some form this year. Please save the date: Saturday, September 11th.
- Most events are cancelled or postponed.

New/Old Business

Voting on January 2021 Minutes

- Correction to the January Total Treasure Report. It should read \$68,418.40.

- A motion to approve the minutes was made and seconded. The motion carried with no opposition.

Community Garden Updates

- The committee is working with Under Armour (UA) to determine how many lots are available to the community. They are looking to increase the total number of plots and to expand the amenities on the grounds.
- The committee will schedule several cleanup days that will be spread out to support social distancing.
- UA will support composting and bringing in new clean dirt.
- Please email locustpointcg@gmail.com with any questions or to express interest.

Zero Waste Coalition Presentation at April Meeting

- Join us in April for this short outreach presentation.

Woodall Street/Key Hwy Extension Development Updates

- There has not been much change since last month. The developer is still proposing a 2 story daycare concept in lieu of a 7 story mixed use building. The daycare operator would be the Goddard School.
- The trade offs include no excavation and no underground parking. The portion of the MOU providing parking for Woodall-Steveson residents could not be honored.
- The task force has been reconvened and the primary concern is the proposed offsite parking and traffic flow/volume. The developer is currently talking to the Department of Transportation (DOT) to examine options.
- Assuming those concerns are worked out, changes would be made as an amendment to the MOU and would be presented to the LPCA membership for a vote.

Baltimore Water Taxi and City Connectivity Issues (Mark Edelson)

- The President of the Canton Community Association is involved in conversations with our president on how our communities can work together on shared issues. He served on the mayor's transition committee regarding transportation and can be reached at president@cantoncommunity.org.
- The recommendations from the transition committee included supporting the Baltimore Greenway project, a 35 mile urban trail loop (walking and biking) that connects green spaces within the city with connections to existing public transportation. One pathway will go up Hanover Bridge around Ft. McHenry, Federal Hill Park and connect into Canton and South-East Baltimore. A major connection point would be the Water Taxi. We are putting together a group to advocate for a Water Taxi that serves the residents and not just commuters and tourists.
- The Water Taxi contract is up this year(2021) and a new contract will be negotiated. This presents a chance for the neighborhoods to advocate for change.
- Questions or Comments from the floor:
 - Does Canton have proposals for the new contract?

The separation of the Water Taxi vs. Harbor Connection is bulky and confusing. We are recommending the combination of the services. We also recommended that any payment be consolidated into a single form that would span other

transportation payment methods. Additionally, we would like to focus on high traffic routes and think about maximizing the utility for residents.

- Is there a coordination component for nightlife in addition to commuters?

The idea will be to re-envision the use of the harbor for the city. Small business and hospitality have been getting crushed by covid. The question becomes: how can the harbor help people enjoy those options and increase their foot traffic.

- Are there considerations for recreation? For example, taking bikes?

We are encouraging the new contract to include facilities to transport bikes. Also, we would like the new service to tie into the Greenway so folks can use the Water Taxi to enjoy the parks across the city.

Community Announcements:

- A new resident local publication, Peninsula Post, drops their first hard copy this weekend.
- Community event ideas:
 - Hosting a neighborhood garage sale. The Knights of Columbus have asked about this as well, possibly in June.
 - The new Domino Sugar Sign is to debut on July 4th. We could organize an event for the community for the evening of the relighting. The social committee is in support of an event like the Not-Light-City party.
- The Locust Point Community Church is sponsoring a mission of the month. Check it out on our FB page. Locust Point has been great supporting our last two missions. We are currently collecting for the House of Ruth. - Pastor Johnny Ramsey

Motion and Second to Adjourn the Meeting:

- Motion carries with no dissent.
- Reminder: Next meeting is April 14, 2021 at 7:30 p.m. via Google Meet

Adjourned 8:15 pm