

LPCA General Meeting Minutes - June 9th, 2021

Held on Google Meet

Preliminaries:

- Pledge of Allegiance
- New Neighbor Introductions
- Treasurer Update: \$75,472.30
 - \$67,621.38 - General Fund
 - \$3,628.69 - Dog Park
 - \$4,222.23 - Park Fund
- Membership: The LPCA has a total of 132 members as of this month. 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.
- If there is desire to continue to support remote attendance after the return to in person meetings, please reach out to contacts@mylocustpoint.org to voice your interest. The LPCA may look for a grant to continue supporting remote attendance.
- May Minutes Review/Vote:
 - A motion to approve the minutes was made and seconded. The motion carried with no opposition or abstentions.

Officer Votes

Vacant Treasure Position:

- The treasurer's position will be vacant as of the end of this month. Bijal Dharia has been nominated to fill the vacant position.
- A motion was made to fill the position and was seconded. Motion carried with no objections.

Committee Reports/General Updates

Education & Schools:

- There is a golf outing on June 14th. FSK has partnered with Fed Hill Prep for the last 4 years. They are not seeking sponsorships. Information will be distributed on social media. Signup at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/scramble-for-the-arts-2021-tickets-144047707571>. A happy hour will follow from 3-7PM at Checkerspot Brewing.
- FSK is also holding an online fundraising auction for a weekend at a beautiful Deep Creek vacation home. You do not have to be registered for the golf outing to bid. For more details check out FSK's Facebook page.
- School is in session and there is a problem with pet waste. People walking their dogs on school grounds should clean up after their pets.
- The last day of school is Tuesday, June 16th.
- The Harris Teeter vic cards program will stop May 31st and then restart in August. Please link your Amazon Smile 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.

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 .

Community Improvement Grants:

- There is one new grant under consideration to fill an empty tree pit at FSK.
- 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:

- Community members are seeking PQ development updates from Walker 28 and a point of contact for questions or issues of safety.
- The board has asked for a regular meeting with a small group of stakeholders (PTO, LPCA Board, Immediate Neighbors). Walker 28 was immediately responsive.

Parks & Beautification:

- No updates.
- The grass is not being cut and garbage emptied regularly. LPCA is in touch with the appropriate organizations to address this. Other areas of concern are replacing lights and gaining access to the fieldhouse bathrooms.
- The petition for the return of Melvin Stone was submitted and the LPCA is still advocating for his return.
- Questions can be directed to parksandbeautification@mylocustpoint.org.

Safety:

- Please be mindful to lock your doors, windows, cars, and bikes.
- Safety concerns can be sent to contacts@mylocustpoint.org.

Social:

- The LPCA is planning the Fall Festival as it would typically run the event. Please save the date Saturday, September 11th. There will be more information to follow. Questions or people seeking to volunteer can contact the Social Committee. The committee is looking for anyone who can lend them pasta roller attachments to assist in the kruschiki making.
- The Re-Lit Party, to celebrate the Domino Sugar Sign Re-Lighting, will be held at the brazilian food truck on Key Highway on ~~Wednesday, July 14th~~ *[changed to Thursday, July 15th after this meeting]*. A bar will be run by City Limits. More details to follow.

Dog Park:

- No updates.

New/Old Business

DEI Community Event

- On June 16, 2021, from 7-9 p.m, a virtual education session will be held on issues of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion. This session is open to the community, not just members of the LPCA.
 - Zoom Link: <https://zoom.us/j/3362130495>
 - Zoom phone: 336-213-0495

Woodall Street/Key Hwy Extension Development Updates

- A working committee has been coordinating with Dan Goodier and ASR on issues surrounding the proposed Goddard School.
- The developer is requesting modifications to the existing MOU. Provisions surrounding the parking garage would no longer be able to be honored if the new structure was built.
- Highlights from the MOU amendments:
 - If the structure does not exceed 35 ft, then the requirements for offsite after hours will be dropped.
 - Additional items were included regarding safety in the drop off zones, and the movement of traffic on their truck routes on East Key Highway (no drop off zone on Key Highway).
 - Traffic guards are required by the school at peak drop off hours.
 - There is a provision to come back to the table if issues arise.
 - School drop offs would be on Stevenson and Woodall Street (likely 8-9AM and 4:30-6PM), pending DoT review.
- A motion was made to approve the MOU and seconded. Motion carries with no objections.

City Limits Outdoor Seating

- City Limits is asking for community support to make their temporary outdoor seating a permanent part of their license.
- The existing regulations on temporary outdoor seating will continue through June 30th, 2022, regardless.
- Their hearing will be held virtually tomorrow at 11 AM.
<https://llb.baltimorecity.gov/hearings-schedule>
- City Limits has talked to the closest neighbors and they have not expressed any issues.
- While the city regulations permit outdoor seating until 11 PM, City Limits plans to operate weekdays until 10 PM, with no new customers seated outside after 9 PM.
- A motion was made to write a letter of support to the liquor board on behalf of City Limits and seconded. Motion carries with no objections.

UA Community Garden Updates

- Garden plots have been planted and vegetables/fruit are coming in.
- The garden signage was approved by UA but no date has yet been set for installation.
- The Garden Committee is looking to expand in 2022.
- UA is looking to provide stones for weed control between the beds and to provide benches/tables.
- Questions can be directed to locustpointcg@gmail.com.

Letter to Councilman Costello – Supporting Starving the Incinerator

- The LPCA had a presentation from the Zero Waste Coalition in April. They would like to continue the pressure on the city to do something about the incinerator (the city contract was just renewed for 10 years).
- The LPCA is seeking to write a letter in support of creating an organic processing facility within 30 miles of the incinerator. The Maryland State legislature requires big food organizations divert food waste to a processing facility if one is available.
- A motion was made to approve the letter and was seconded. Motion carries with no objections.

Legislative updates from Team 46

- Delegate Luke Clippinger
 - Member of the MD House of Delegates - Chair of the House Judiciary Committee
 - Items of note this session regarding Criminal Law/Policing and Police Misconduct
 - The House produced a large omnibus bill that became law during this session. Bill provides:
 - Requirement for body worn cameras that goes into effect for Anne Arundle, Howard, & Harford by 2023 and other jurisdictions by 2025.
 - A 2022 ballot measure to transfer control of the Baltimore Police Department to a city agency.
 - New processes for addressing misconduct claims, including more community involvement throughout the process.
 - Creation of an employee assistance program to support officers (i.e. mental health or substance abuse).
 - Creation of a new program to pay for college education (in state) for law enforcement.
 - Stoppage of sales of surplus military equipment to police departments.
 - The house overrode a Governor veto requiring greater coordination between state, county, and local law enforcement agencies.
 - Maryland state police are now required to supply assistance to traffic issues on JFX.
 - The state has created a pre-release program for women leaving the correctional system.
 - The legislature overrode a Governor veto of legislation requiring background checks for rifles and longguns.
 - End of session letters will be distributed soon. Please reach out to the delegate at Luke.Clippinger@house.state.md.us for a copy.
- Delegate Brooke Lierman
 - The delegate will not be running for her seat again in 2023. She will be running for State Comptroller in the upcoming election.
 - Items of note from this session, focusing on providing relief and recovery:
 - Relief Act of 2021 - Signed into Law in February - Directed more than a billion dollars of relief to Maryland. Increased the Earned Income Tax Credit - the most important poverty fighting tax credit. Extended the credit to immigrant communities.
 - Passed legislation to update and support MDs Unemployment System and provide accountability and oversight.

- Served on the Environment Committee and Oversight of Pensions.
 - Passed a bill to create the first state office to address broadband access across the state by the end of 2025. \$300 million will be focused on broadband deployment.
 - Passed the Transit Safety and Investment Act to address a 2 billion dollar gap between allocated funds vs needed funds. Requires the Governor to increase the allocation to capital projects over the next 6 years. The Governor vetoed this legislation and the legislature will be pursuing an override during the next session.
 - The delegate can be reached at brookefordelegate@gmail.com or <http://www.brookelierman.com>.
- State Senate President Bill Ferguson
 - Items of note from this session:
 - The Relief Act of 2021 - \$1.5 Billion into MD hands during the pandemic
 - Police Reform
 - Resolved a 16 year lawsuit with the Historically Black Colleges of the state.
 - Created a board to monitor prescription drug costs.
 - Passed a balanced budget with federal support which is structurally balanced for the next 2 years.
 - Those interested in additional details from this 2021 Session can read his end of session letter here: <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1XumjVCRaEJhEg8YU7Cp9Zy9OTAivbvGY9SXLwSWCIBA>
 - The senator can be contacted at bill.ferguson@senate.state.md.us or 410-841-3600.

Domino Sugar Sign – Lighting and Fireworks Updates

- Paul Gable is the owner of Gable Signs, the company doing the Domino Sugar sign work. The old letters were made in 1950/51, thirty (30) years after the plant was built. Now 70 years old, they have been replaced.
- The original letters were made from steel with porcelain enamel and they were in poor condition.
- The neon lights have been replaced with simulated neon LED embedded silicon tubes.
- Digital photographs taken from a drone captured the existing dimensions. Supplemental measurements were taken by workers directly on the sign.
- Domino's is planning a private event at the BMI on July 4th for the re-lighting of the sign. More details for the community will follow.

LPCA Open Board Seats

- There are five (5) Board seats up for election; two (2) of them are being vacated by current Board members.
- Elections will be held in September.

Speed hump request on Decatur Street

- Councilman Costello's team is following up on this request.

Motion and Second to Extend the Meeting to 5 minutes past 9 PM, No Objections.

Motion and Second to Adjourn the Meeting

- Motion carries with no dissent.
- Reminder: There is no meeting in July! Join us at the Re-Lit City Party on July 8/9 (TBD) at BMI to celebrate the relighting of the Domino Sugar sign that lights up the Locust Point sky again, and then we will see you August 11th at 7:30 p.m. either on Google Meet or LIVE AND IN PERSON! (Fingers crossed!)
 - Visitors for August 11th Meeting: South Baltimore Community Land Trust/Zero Waste Coalition

Adjourned 9:05 pm