

Highlandtown Community Association

Meeting Minutes

November 17, 2014

Present: Brain Sweeney (President) has sign-up sheet for list of attendees/members/board members on file

Next meeting: November 17, 2014, 7:00pm, Salem UMC, 3405 Gough St

Agenda Items

1) **Call to Order/Pledge**-Brian Sweeney

2) **President's Report** (Brian Sweeney)

a) Changes will be made to HCA General Meetings to control length

i) Reading of Treasurer's Report will be limited to highlights and account totals; report will be posted to HCA website; written copies will be available upon request and Treasurer will be available to provide detailed review

ii) Meeting Minutes will be posted to the website; limited written copies will be available at meeting; Secretary will read highlights only

iii) Attendees were asked to focus on issues relevant to community at large, not repeat comments/questions, keep questions concise, and respect others by not talking over; specific problems will not be addressed; the HCA will serve as a resource; Attendees were asked to meet with like-minded residents after the meeting

b) Mike Dorsey was introduced as the new Greening Chair

3) **Reading of Minutes (Kara Miller)**

4) **Abbreviated Treasurer's Report** (Agnes Arnold) highlights will be posted to the HCA website; detailed report will be available upon request

5) **New Business/Announcements**

a) Highlandtown Train Garden thanked HCA for sponsorship – Opens Nov 29th

b) Coat drive – boxes will be available at the SECDC and Laughing Pint to collect coats by Dec. 5th

c) Officer Beall – provided updated on recent arrests and explained new system for police response; update on issues at 101 S. Conkling; encouraged owners of vacant properties to post No Trespassing sign with contact information

d) Jeff/Kraft's office

- bag ban and body cameras for police bill passed by City Council

- Citizens can register private cameras to police can ask to use in case of crime in the area

e) Request for a person to lead 'Trash Committee'

6) **Upcoming Events**

a) Tuesday, November 18th – Public Works Meeting at 6:00 at Mondawmin to discuss alley cleaning, dumping, trash can chip program

b) Tuesday, November 18th – Family Science Night at 5:30pm at 231 S. Eaton (237)

c) Wednesday, November 26th – family Thanksgiving meal at Breath of God at 6:00 with prayer service following at 7:30; guests can bring side dishes and are encouraged to RSVP

d) Tuesday, December 2nd – OrchKids fall concert at 5:30 at Breath of God

e) Tuesday, December 2nd – Light the Labyrinth at JH Bayview – celebration of light and diversity

f) Main Street Events:

i) Nov 29th – Jan 3rd – Train Garden

- ii) Dec 5th – Kickoff Celebration
- iii) Dec 7th – Shopping Spectacular
- g) Saturday, December 6th: 10am to 1pm – volunteers (particularly will construction ability) needed to help complete fence around garden at Highlandtown 237 – coffee, donuts, and pizza provided

7) Committee Reports

- a) Rachel – local community associations (Southeast Neighborhood Coalition) are collaborating to develop a program to foreclose on houses and generate Victim Impact Statements to address repeat criminal offenders
- b) Millie
 - i) summary of Basement Bar tour – 146 people attended, 7 hosts, local businesses were attended
 - ii) attendees encouraged to decorate for Christmas to continue Highlandtown tradition
- c) Erin – sign audit update for unnecessary signs
- d) Mark – Patterson Park is doing in-person surveys about park use. Volunteers, particularly Spanish-speakers, are needed

8) Guest Speaker (Kevin Bernhardt) – Community Garden update – 25 S. Conkling

- a) Plan for garden: 46 individual raised beds, 3 gathering spaces, area will be locked for members only, garden committee will develop rules/regulations; 3 phases – Phase 1 will be developing lower grass area for garden plots, other phases may include bocce courts, gating Dean St; mural is being planned for north side
- b) Budget needs and status were provided; applying for Healthy Neighborhoods grant; about \$12,000 needed
- c) volunteers will be asked to assist with projects after chain-link fence installed

9) Meeting Ended at 8:10pm