



RIDGELY'S DELIGHT COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION MONTHLY MEETING **June 5th, 2013, Slider's Bar & Grill 7:00 PM**

1) Treasury Report

- Ended April: \$18,322.13. Spent \$215.58 for printing and community clean-up costs.
- Ended May: \$18,106.55. Only spent \$20 in May.
- Of our current funds, \$4,139 is earmarked for Downtown Partnership, Ruppert, Farnham Memorial upkeep and the July movie night.
- Approval by vote was made for donation of \$100 towards the Mick Kipp memorial fundraiser putting money towards his daughter's college expenses. To make a donation or find out more about fundraising events go to www.MickTPirate.com

2) Safety Report

- Thirty-Day Report / Community Relations Liaison-Crime is down in Ridgely's though there were two shootings in Pig Town that were gang related.
- Homelessness in the Neighborhood seems to be on the increase. Brochures were given out at the meeting the offer resources for the homeless. For more information go to <http://humanservices.baltimorecity.gov/HomelessServices.aspx>
- Operation Crime Watch <http://crime.baltimorecity.gov/PreventCrime/OperationCrimeWatch.aspx> You can complete an application to get a confidential Crime Watch number assigned to you so you can report suspicious activity or crimes anonymously.
- South Baltimore Counter-Crime Task Force-Will meet once month and will report to respective Community Associations. Anyone with information re: crimes in the area can report them to Rob for dissemination of information. safety@ridgelysdelight.org
- Next month we will have a liaison officer back from the South Baltimore Police Department.

3) Casino Local Development Council (LDC) update/survey – Bill Reuter

- A certain percentage of the profits will go back into the surrounding communities. What do we want to do with the money? Bill solicited input from the attendees at the community meeting by having each person choose 3 of 6 general areas to focus on: Workforce development, health and education, recreation and parks, community sanitation and code enforcement, transportation, economic development. Next LDC meeting, June 15th at the Digital harbor High School 9:00 am to 1:00 pm. Contact Bill to volunteer.

4) The Master Vision for the Restoration and Rebirth of the Ekloff Building – Al Barry

- Proposal is to convert the building to 32 market rate apartment (rental) units. They have to go back to the Planning Department on June 25th in order to close on the property by the end of June as per the offer so they need letter of support from Community before that meeting if we do chose to write one.
- Parking concerns: There is a law that specifies that new multi-dwelling units (5 or more units) in the city will not be eligible for residential parking permits (RPP's) or visitor passes unless 60% of the community supports giving them this option. Concern has been expressed though, that if challenged in the courts, there may be a way to get around this. Al Barry agreed to put something in the contract and in the leases for the tenants, to the effect, that they would NOT be eligible for RDD permits. Ben Marks suggested it be put in as a covenant so no matter who owns the building this would still hold true. Al Barry did not agree in the meeting that they would do that. There are 6 spaces for tenants on the property and they are looking for additional garage or other off street parking possibilities in the area, including the garage under the Hilton as they have extra space and are interesting in leasing it.
- Plan is for the building to be owner managed with an on-site manager.
- Trash service will be provided in the back for the residents
- Storefronts along Washington Blvd would be used for non-alcoholic venues, e.g. a T-Shirt shop for sports related clothing. Something low key and appropriate to the location.
- The building is a non-conforming commercial building in a residential location so they will have to work with the city on the zoning specs for the property.
- It was generally agreed that everyone would like to see the property developed so would like to support efforts to do so. The board will discuss this further and write up a letter which will be sent after discussion and voting by the board.

5) Introduction of new owners of Hampton Inn - Fritz Brogan (Fritz@sunset-point.com)

- The Hampton Inn now has a liquor license but only for inside and for the small patio out front. They would like to extend this to include the entire property so they can eliminate the valet parking area during the games and use it for beer sales like Pickles and the other bars do on that block. The board will discuss this further before issuing any letter of support for this.
- They are working to improve the valet parking situation. They now have 20 spots behind the hotel and a lot a few blocks down the street.

6) Introduction of Shawn Tarrant, Maryland State Delegate, District 40

- With the re-districting, Shawn Tarrant will be our new rep. He is the Chief Deputy, Minority Whip. He came to the meeting to introduce himself and to solicit input from the community re: any concerns people may have about being part of the new district. He mentioned that Baltimore City has a task force working on setting up a grading system for restaurants similar to what NYC has in place that would require restaurants to display, prominently their grade (A-F) which takes into account, cleanliness, freshness of food, etc. Wanted to know if this is something people would be interested in.
- Primary Election for 2014 will be June 24, 2014.
- To read Shawn's End of Session Newsletter go to <http://www.shawntarrant.com/about-shawn/home/>

7) Parking Updates (Also in June's Record)

- New passes in effect July 1st, 2013. Can pay online now!
 - Neighborhood pass pickup night: June 26th, 6-7:30pm. 625 S. Paca St.
 - Update from parking authority - Annette Hopkins
 - o New parking board will be selected this year. Announcement to solicit reps will go out in July.
 - o Change in handicap parking will go into effect in October that will require users of these permits to pay for parking in designated handicap spots rather than have unlimited free parking as they have in the past. The time limits for these spaces will be twice as long as the given time limit for the area.
- Valet parking regulation will be going into effect soon which will require that valets be properly identified as such and anyone offering valet parking will have designated valet parking spaces in appropriate, legal, spots. It was noted at the meeting that Hampton Inn does now have such spaces and that any noted violations (e.g. parking cars illegally on Washington Blvd, should be reported directly to Peter Little, Executive Director of the Parking Authority
- o Call 311 to report cars noted to be in violation of parking regulations in the neighborhood.
 - o There is a new computer system under development for the Parking Authority that should help to cut down on the issuing of permits to addresses that do not meet the specifications for eligibility.

8) Civic Works – Baltimore Green Neighborhood Challenge and Cool Roof Initiative

- A cool roof is a long-lasting, light-colored roofing system that is installed on top of an existing flat roof. By deflecting heat instead of absorbing it, a cool roof lowers the temperature of a roof up to 70 degrees, thereby efficiently cooling the interior of the home. Unlike a tar roof, a cool roof offers significantly lower maintenance costs. Engineered to be lightweight, it never requires a tear-off and comes with a 10-year warranty for preventing leaks.
- For more information go to http://www.retrofitbaltimore.org/whole_house_approach

9) Introduction of Rob LaPin for Delegate of District 40

- Rob is running for office. Campaign kickoff will be June 15th. Backyard BBQ fundraised 1:00-3:30 at 651 Bankard Lane. Rob will make his official announcement to run for the Maryland House of Delegates.

10) Community Happy Hour – June 7th – Hampton Inn Beer Garden

- To be confirmed

11) Jazz in the Park, June 12th – 6-8pm. Elliot Levine

- Community cookout/catering/wine by The Corner (menu at <http://www.cbwinebar.com/Main.html>)

12) Saturday Cleanup – Saturday June 15th 2013 – 9am – 11am

- Taking suggestions for problem areas/projects to concentrate on. president@ridgelysdelight.org

13) Movie Night in the Park, July 13th – 7-11pm (rain date – July 18th).

- Received a grant from MECU to do Pigtown/Ridgely's community movie night.
- Pre-order dinners from local merchants available!
- Movie starts at dark, approximately 8:15 or so. Movie will be Men in Black

14) Ridgely's Delight Pirates! (Yarrrr!)

- August 2nd, 7pm sail time to coincide with local home game.
- Now sold out! If you didn't get tickets, there may be a few extra floating around – contact president@ridgelysdelight.org to see if any are remaining.