

SBNA April 14, 2020 General Membership Meeting Agenda



Item	Time	Minutes
1. Introductions and Welcome	7:00	5
2. Treasurer's Report	7:05	5
3. Police Relations Committee a. Crime Report i. Homicide on 1100 block of Charles b. Southern District updates	7:10	5
4. Design and Development a. 1800/1900 Hanover	7:15	5
5. Special Projects Committee a. On Hold – Dumpster/Cleanup	7:20	5
6. Community Interest a. Census b. Councilman Eric Costello i. COVID-19 support ideas	7:25	30
7. Old Business a. NTR b. For more details, see meeting minutes for referenced month at http://mysobo.org	7:55	5
8. SBGC South Baltimore Gateway Partnership a. http://www.sbgpartnership.org/ c. http://bit.ly/SBNA-LDC - Official LDC website	8:00	5
9. Adjourn until Annual Meeting Tuesday May 12th	8:15	0

Contact Information on Next Page

Contact Us

South Baltimore Neighborhood Association

P.O. Box 6474 Baltimore, MD 21230

Web Site: <http://mysobo.org>

Facebook Page: SBNA - South Baltimore Neighborhood Association

Or <https://www.facebook.com/SBNAPage>

<u>Officers:</u> President, Matt Unglesbee president@mysobo.org Vice President, Greg Morris vicepresident@mysobo.org Secretary, Tara McNulty secretary@mysobo.org Treasurer, Peter Bartels treasurer@mysobo.org	<u>Board of Directors:</u> Peter Bartels Gilda Johnson Karl Lowe Tara McNulty Greg Morris Michael Murphy Evan Pelecky Tim Skinner Matt Unglesbee
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Treasurer's Report April 14, 2020

FUND	LAST MONTH	CURRENT MONTH	DIFFERENCE
Petty Cash	\$100.00	\$200.00	+60
General Fund	\$1,647.84	\$1,375.29	
Heath Street Community Garden	\$1,945.28	\$1,945.28	
Balance	\$3,693.12	\$3,520.57	

Minutes from March 10, 2020 General Member Meeting

M I N U T E S

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the 02/11/2020 General Membership Meeting were reviewed and approved by the general membership.

2. OLD BUSINESS

The membership discussed what SBNA can do to create a community identity. Suggestions included flags on street lamps, an annual chili cook off, becoming the cleanest part of the city and American flags on houses. Additional ideas will be brought to the next meeting and discussed.

3. PRESENTATION

There was no presentation at tonight's meeting.

4. TREASURER'S REPORT

<u>Fund</u>	<u>Last Month</u>	<u>Current Month</u>	<u>Difference</u>
Petty Cash	\$100.00	\$140.00	\$40.00
General Fund Balance	\$1647.84	1375.29	(272.55)
SOBO Green Tree Fund	\$497.00	\$497.00	--
Heath Street Community Garden	\$1,945.28	\$1,945.28	--
Auxiliary Police Bike Fund	\$83.41	\$83.41	--
Balance	\$4,273.53	\$4,040.98	

Peter Bartels, Treasurer provided an update. Amazon Smile earned SBNA \$49 this month. Residents are encouraged to use Amazon Smile when placing orders to earn money for SBNA.

5. POLICE RELATIONS COMMITTEE

Our Police Relations Committee representative, Megan attended the February 22nd meeting held at the National Federation of the Blind to learn more about new camera bill. Eric Costello successfully introduced a bill to assist residents with the purchase of home security cameras. Residents would receive \$150 each for up to 2(residential) or 3 (commercial) cameras. Residents need to position the cameras in a public area, provide proof of purchase, and register with the City Watch program. Reimbursement is for new cameras only. There isn't unlimited funding available to reimbursements will be prioritized in areas of greater socio-economic need. Costello is also leading an effort to model a cataloging program after one implemented in the Patterson Park area of the city. There a resident has cataloged and rated home security cameras in the area helping to create partnership between the community and police. A resident in Riverside is going to try to replicate this for the peninsula.

Tom will follow-up this month on ways that the SBNA can show support for local law enforcement.

The next COP walk will be on Monday, April 6, 2020 starting at the gazebo in Riverside Park at 7:00 p.m.

6. DESIGN AND DEVELOPMENT

The executive board is trying to find additional information about the construction on the 1800/1900 blocks of Hanover. Residents have shared concerns about the project and previously discussed traffic concerns. Residents requested that Costello attend a general membership meeting to hear concerns and discuss how he will address them. Brett Flickinger with the City Department of Planning will be asked to attend as well. A resident asked if the developer will offer free parking in their garage. It was shared that they said no during a previous presentation.

Residents shared that the 1900 Block of Light needs to be paved. Residents were advised to address this with the developer for assistance when they present next. It was also suggested that the residents write to Costello and ask what steps need to be taken so the association can offer support and make a formal request for paving.

7. COMMUNITY INTEREST

SBNA membership voted in favor of SBNA writing a letter of support for the Church of the Advent so they can apply for a \$5000 grant to host a Summer Reading and Art camp.

Andrew Carter from Delia Foley's reminded residents about the 4th Annual Delia Foley's St. Patrick's Day block party to be held on Saturday, March 14th from 11am – 7pm. There will be 7-8 security people on staff, barricades to keep attendees contained to the approved area and 5 port-a-potties will be available. The live music will be a two- piece acoustic group.

Thiru Vignarajah, candidate for mayor of Baltimore attended the meeting to share his positions. He shared his background and qualifications. He addressed the excessive murder rate as one of the leading issues in Baltimore. Thiru shared that Baltimore is one of the only cities declining in population and will soon be lower in population than in 1920 and tax issues are part of the cause. He pledged to reduce the murder rate to under 200 annually or he will not run again. Thiru also shared he would like to legalize marijuana, provide universal pre-K, and provide free college tuition for city graduates, all while reducing tax rates over the next 4 years. He shared that he has devoted his life to public service and that he's not a politician. Thiru shared that he's an optimist that believes in the city and the assets that Baltimore can tap into that we are currently squandering because of the current leadership in city hall. He shared the importance of leadership in the first 100 years of America and that it's the kind of leadership we need again. He shared that he has no interest in other offices, he just wants to fix Baltimore. Thiru also acknowledged that if he is elected mayor, residents should blame him if the murder rate goes up, schools don't improve and water bills aren't right. Residents asked about the city response to the recent malware attack and what he would have done differently. He shared that he would have paid the \$70,000 rather than spend the millions it cost to fix the issues. He explained that as mayor he believes you need to consult with other folks and be able to ask questions speaking to what he believes is the prideful nature of current politicians when they didn't want to accept Governor Hogan's offer of additional city prosecutors. Thiru shared that a number of qualified individuals support his 26-page crime plan. A resident asked if his plan includes keeping the current police commissioner and he said it does. He believes that police commissioners execute crime plans, not write them. As mayor he needs a partner to work with, not someone to blame and fire. Thiru stated he believes continuity of leadership is important, acknowledges that it's not perfect. A resident asked if he planned to hire a City Manager. Thiru acknowledged that yes, you need a City Manager or Deputy Mayor to assist with running of daily operations but insisted that the buck still stops with the Mayor. A resident asked his position on the current Board of Estimates and how much power it yields in Baltimore City. Thiru shared that it allows donors to have their work "rubber stamped" and that he has asked for Comptrollers resignation. He went on to say that the agenda should be disclosed in advance and should be understandable by the general public. A resident asked if elected, is he is planning to cut property taxes in half? Thiru answered, yes. He proposed that property taxes are cut in equal increments over 10 years until the city matches the Baltimore County tax rate. He would also like to raise taxes on abandoned property and seize and sell properties with excessive code violations or back property taxes. He also acknowledged there are some high and low assessments throughout the city but his plan takes that into account. He also acknowledged that the proposed plan only works if the murder rate and car-jacking rate go down. A resident asked how will he will make Baltimore a contender for new businesses since we are positioned between DC and NYC. Thiru shared that he would need time to get ready for the conversations with CEOs to make this happen and that those CEOs need to know they have sophisticated partners in Baltimore City and we need to change the reality to change the perception in order to make those deals happen. Thiru suggested he will recruit "ambassadors" to large and small business to share a more positive narrative as the city improves. A resident asked what Thiru has planned to help hire police officers. Thiru said he would like to launch a college cadet program rather than high school cadet program, recruit and increase diversity on the force. His stated recruitment incentives include a "Teach for America" style with student loan repayment for new officers. He proposed transferring pensions to encourage lateral moves of police from other jurisdictions and military service and also addressing the overspending on police overtime. A resident shared the belief that we need to increase unity in the city. Thiru shared he believes his race may be his greatest asset because he represents diversity.

8. NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business discussed at this meeting.

9. SPECIAL PROJECTS

Andrew Carter presented about the 2nd Community Clean Up day to be held on Saturday, March 21, 2020. Friday night residents can pick up gloves, water, snacks and trash bags. The dumpster will be located on Ostend and Olive streets (between Hanover and Charles). Additional supplies will be available at the dumpster. Free lunch at Delia Foley's, Hair of the Dog and Riverside Tap House for participants who have pictures of themselves with bags of trash. Still looking for donations from local residents and businesses. Andrew will create a spreadsheet for people to sign up and indicate which block they are planning to clean in order to spread the clean-up coverage.

10. LIQUOR ADVISORY

Matt Achhammer presented from the Board of Liquor License Commissioners for Baltimore City. Matt is a resource for neighborhood associations and residents. The mayor will have an opportunity to appoint a new board member soon. He shared that Protests of Renewal are an opportunity for residents to share feedback to the board when a "bad neighbor" bar is reapplying. He asked residents to provide as much information as possible including, pictures, details, etc. when leaving a messages on 311. No drugs, prostitution, gambling or loitering complaints should be made. Matt reminded residents that the Irish Stroll did go through the appropriate permit process and will be held Saturday, March 14, 2020. The promotion company is responsible for completing the paperwork. A resident asked which is the most popular liquor license. Matt stated that B is the only new license that can be obtained. D is the oldest and least common license. A resident asked for information about the market liquor license. Matt shared that it was a legislative decision, separate from the current liquor licenses available. Hanover to Light and Fort to Montgomery is considered "The Box" and no new liquor licenses can be added.

11. SBGP & LDC

There will be a meeting at the end of the month.

12. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned. The next general membership meeting will be in one month at Delia Foley's on Tuesday, April 14, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Tara McNulty, SBNA Secretary