



Fells Prospect, Inc. P.O. Box 38291, Baltimore MD 21231

Agenda May 13, 2009

I. Introduction: Kate Richardson, Secretary, called the meeting to order at 7:35 pm. Meeting run jointly by Kate and Alana Ridge, Vice President

II. Committee Reports and Announcements

A. Treasurer's Report: \$3942 in account; \$600 spent out

B. Land Use Committee – 1840 Gough

Upper Fells Point and Fells Prospect will oppose this project; it wants to increase from 2 to 3 dwellings. Upper Fells will take the lead on this with their lawyer and we will be supporting them.

C. Social Committee – none

D. Crime Committee- Rich not present.

Bergeron reports that police have made some arrests. Be careful.

E. Traffic/ Parking Committee – Update of RAP.

Fairmont Ave this coming week, and Chester will follow.

Please be aware of No Parking signs when Chester St. is to be done; cars WILL be towed. Victor will let people know via email and fliers once the dates are set for Chester. Butchers Hill is taking care of Fairmont. Be advised Fairmont will become a one-way westbound, and Chester one-way street southbound.

F. Beautification Committee – Survey of tree pits

Please email Victor at victarcy@verizon.net with location, size, and status of tree pit. (Empty, dead tree)

G. Any other reports or announcements

Terrie – who wanted plastic bags?? She was not here.

- Tonight's raffle \$20.00 gift certificate of \$25.00 to Tir na Nog Bar and Grill at the Inner Harbor
- Cristo Rey- In April Fells Prospect received Good Neighbor Award from the school.
- Cristo Rey: presentation by Mary Beth Lennon about zoning board hearing for expansion of bldg. In Feb. association approved project. Zoning hearing last week. One business and one residence opposed. Knew about these two, but had not heard from them before hearing. Lengthy discussion with these two about the expansion. Talked with them for about 2 hours about issues. Cristo Rey is willing to talk with any residents about parking, etc., but it does not appear that the residents of 400 block Chester attend FP community mtgs. Suggested that residents meet and discuss issues. One issue: notify residents about events in advance. Post calendar on website and email about events. Have events scheduled this Fri. and Sat. But parking is

One suggestion was that the school close. That is not an option. We have made attempts to be good neighbors, and we serve the community. But we will not close. Zoning request was approved. May not have even needed the variance. But there is an appeal process. Any suggestions are welcome. Suggestion: additional security guard, traffic control to keep parents from blocking street. Traffic person or education of parents. Have neighborhood advisory committee to deal with communication. Another suggestion: know how many cars there are versus walking and bus drop-offs. Suggested loading zone for Polish Treasures. Suggestion: train students to cross according to lights. Concern about police cars coming to school. This happens when students are target of violence as they travel to and from school. School is under control.

- Dumpster Day- May 16, 2009 in front of Butts and Bettys, you will need to bring your membership card to use the dumpster, membership of \$10 can be purchased on May 16th if need be. Will arrive Friday evening. Will have surveillance that night for illegal dumping.

III. Old Business

Update of beautification grant- Roger Horn – nothing new. Bulbs are done; trees have leafed out. Need final report

Chubbies – Settlement Agreement – Kate outlined agreement and explained the need to be vigilant. Report violations to organization. Pictures are good for evidence of violations.

IV. New Business

Beans and Bread expansion – Alana explained situation.

- Uppers Fells Point Improvement Assoc, Douglass Neighborhood Assoc, Fells Point Residents Assoc, and Fells Prospect have all taken a stance at this time to oppose the expansion of Beans and Bread. We are working with the city to come to a happy medium. Bond bill states expansion from 23,400 to 46,000. Need clarification. Repeated request for presentation to Fells Prospect but no response, hence our opposition.

Comment: soup kitchens need to be somewhere. How was opposition decided? Vote of board? Ans: not sure. Why opposed? Not enough explanation provided for facilities. Not willing to talk with organization.

Comment: work the organization does is very important; don't want it killed for weak reasons.

Ans: Need facilities to handle concerns about violence, drug and alcohol problems, etc.

Comment by Debbie: Beans and Bread had meeting that was supposed to be a discussion. No discussion, questions sent to deal with 911, not directly with Breads and Beans. No one wants them to go, but are opposed to expansion without planning to deal with impact on community. At this time FP wants more answers.

Q: Where does J. Kraft stand? Need his input.

Ans: don't know. Will check.

New Logo

- The Fells Prospect community organization has a brand new logo. Check it out on the May issue of the newsletter. The new logo was designed by Maria Cavacos, one of Baltimore's most treasured artists. We think it perfectly captures the spirit of our neighborhood. Cheers, Maria!

New Website

- Victor has built a new website for us that will be launched by the end of the month. We hope to be able to pay dues via email and its got lots of great links and content for the community including breaking news, crime tips, etc.

Bags

- \$5.00 each: reusable grocery bags with our logo on them. Price will support organization. Logo on both sides of bag. Use for all stores.

V.

Presentations-none

Bill Pearson would like to volunteer for rat control. Community support for rodent control, assess problem, and create solution.

Suggestion: Put notice on newsletter in big print about rat control.

Another question: What is association stance on Red Line? Ans.: Don't have firm plan from City yet.

VI. Raffle: Winner is Jeff. Gift certificate to Tir na Nog.

Adjourn: at 8:33 pm.