

## 10-10-2017 MWIA Open Board Meeting Minutes

### Notes taken by Danielle Shapiro

- ❖ Meeting commenced at approximately 7:35pm
- ❖ Introductions and assignments: ➤
  - Julie Tong, introduced as new Vice President, Danielle Shapiro as new Secretary
  - Introduction of Visitor, Jakia Jason from Baltimore Cease Fire discussed the organization, which in August had first Cease Fire. Next one is November 3-5. Last one was 72 hours of murder free (made it 62 hours). Many events, Healing Friday event, Safer Saturday. Want to reach Park Heights more. Website is [www.baltimoreceasefire.com](http://www.baltimoreceasefire.com). People can pick up more flyers at the Community Mediation Center on Greenmount. Evan Serpick will send us information about a community event. Discussion about drug problem on Reisterstown Road Plaza. Community wants a job skills day. Question about guns exchanged for computers.

### Committee Updates:

- ❖ **Zoning Updates** (Lindsey White, Holly Coleman): Lindsey discussed 1700 South Road and the covenant that has been signed between Blue Ocean and MWIA.
  - Urban Renewal Plan: Holly discussed the URP change and the discussions with Planning about the business district.
  - Question about property on Poplar Hill that is going to be changed and developed. Lindsey: MWIA is not going to be involved in that.
  - Question: URP update postponed, is there a date when it will be updated? Answer: No, the merchant's indicated that they wanted revisions as well. It will happen in the future.
- ❖ **Trail and Parks Update** (David Nemerson.): ➤ Luckman Park, there have been some repair issues that have been dragging on, related to playground equipment, i.e. rubber repair. 311 multiple times. David has spoken to the Councilman's office, so hopefully get some action. Champions of that park are out there all the time, Ira Raskin and Ellen O'Brien. There is another cleanup this Sunday at 10am. it alternates Saturday and Sunday.
  - Northwest Park – Soccer game had volunteers helping with parking which was great. A little organization is needed for orderly parking. An issue in the fall with the mowing schedule, 2 week schedule. Questions about the concrete pipes on Wexford- These are storm water management structures, since the property is being brought up to code.
    - Part of the reason why the trees were cut down on Wexford, needed to be reengineered. David put into a call to Rec Parks tree expert, even though it looks rough, it was a lot of invasive trees. A tree planting plan will be developed. Got a suggestion from a public member, about the concrete stadium steps, a lot of parents run up and down, could they design

stairs or passageway to the upper field.

➤ The city put out a draft plan (previously posted on listserv) – got a lot of comments. Main concern about drinking fountain, keep trail and drinking fountain on the same side. David stopped by the Joes Falls Construction office to get an update.

➤ Right now, primary focus for city is to get section from Greenspring to Kelly complete. One of the goals of that part of the trail is to slow down the traffic on Kelly Avenue by narrowing. Question: deadline for the trail, they said 2019. Question about the upper field in disarray near the playground. Answer – they work in stages.

➤ Discussion about possible sewer line on Roxbury and where a bridge would cross over.

➤ When the Springwell expansion was an issue, the MWIA addressed community concerns. In those negotiations, Springwell agreed to fund a Friends of NW Park Group for 2500 a year for the next 5 years.

➤ Upper soccer fields – are there plans to expand parking? When there is a game it becomes hard to navigate Wexford.

➤ A point from the public, about a person had a different experience in the parking lot, lining the entrance, concern that the lot doesn't have enough spaces at the heart of soccer season. Worried about the ingress and egress.

➤ Lindsey: We need a 3 way stop at NW Park. It is dangerous at that corner. The councilman's office should know about this and it should be a number one priority.

➤ Lindsey noted that the upper park is from the hard work of MWIA members fighting for the slots funding. It is very exciting and a great benefit. Please thank David Nemerson for his hard work.

❖ **Councilman's Office:** ➤ Maxine Webb, 5<sup>th</sup> District Liaison liaison for Yitzy Schleifer spoke and said if you need anything call us 410-396-4819. There are two things I want to share, mention Baltimore City has partnered with Comcast if you sign up by October 31 for qualified low income households and seniors at 62 and older. They will work with you to get a computer. Website is: [www.Internetessentials.com](http://www.Internetessentials.com) or you can call 888-972-5983. Maryland Zoo invites one free child with one paying adult (distributed coupons).

❖ **Traffic:** Julie Tong, on October 3 scheduled a meeting related to traffic with DOT staff and met at the corner of Smith and Greeley. They discussed the concerns about traffic in and around the school.

➤ DOT has done a nice job of responding to our concerns. They have hired a new liaison which I am impressed with. Need to encourage drivers to slow down to 25 miles an hour. Have discussed traffic calming devices.

➤ Another issue is increasing the crossing guards in our schools, so that we can add another one, especially at Sulgrave, Kelly and Greely.

- Question: wasn't there 2 crossing guards? Last year there were 2. Julie: we are looking to increase the number at that intersection.
- We also have discussed installing speed bumps on Sulgrave and arrows on Lochlea.
- Question about speed cameras: overwhelmingly the residents want speed cameras. It is more complicated than it sounds.
- question: those electric signs that say "your speed is..." is that a good solution? Julie: Once you know that a speed camera is there, you will slow down.
- Discussion about speed of cars at Cross Country and Sulgrave, especially concerning school bus pick up and drop off. One person saw almost get hit by a car at the bus stop for Mount Washington School. There was discussion of another incidence of almost being hit at the bus stop at Sulgrave and Cross Country. A stop sign on Cross Country would be good.
- Question about progress on requests. Julie: At Smith and Greely, they are looking at getting lights timed. At both the Lower and Upper School, DOT was that it was chaotic in the morning.
- ❖ **Pimlico:** Jere Morel discussed Preakness. Clean up was good. Traffic was well handled, overall feedback was a big success.
- Moonrise festival in August. We worked hard with the city to implement things like traffic policies set up. Did have traffic modifications set up. Wasn't happy with the trash pick up, it got resolved eventually. Got good feedback on sound, not perfect.
- Have we done a geographical metrics of the sound. A discussion ensued about how loud it was. Some people's windows were shaking.
- Question about event related to the Caribbean festival, they had gotten permission from Pimlico. That should not have happened. There is a PUD, you are not supposed to have events that go past 11pm. How did they get a permit until 3am? Pimlico said it wasn't us. Are standards for events held in Pimlico, then outside has a different procedure.
- We need to follow up with the Pimlico folks about that event, there is a PUD. Talk to Yitzy and find out what happened.
- Lindsey, approaching phase 2 about whether Pimlico will continue to be used as a racetrack, slated to come out November of 2018. This was a big discussion, about getting organized and getting ahead of big changes and organizing with community members.
- Discussion: An attendee noted that they sold acreage to Sinai so that the staff can park. It would be silly for us to just look 2 years ago, have to get involved now through Sandy Rosenberg and look at he plans. Jere: What Lindsey was referring to is that we are looking to set up a Pimlico revitalizing committee to get a consensus on what Mt. Washington wants to see happen from that revitalization.

- Comment: Park Heights Renaissance is also a part of that so that we know what is really going on and being looked out. Lindsey: Yes, we need to get our ducks in a row. I am in touch with him.
- Chris Mincher: A report can come out quickly. My impression is that they probably will turn it into multiplex thing, that is what that company wants to do. Or tear the place down and there is a whole universe of things. There should be a discussion of realistic paths this can go on. Lindsey: Not suggesting that we are waiting for the report. We want to mobilize now. We want to solicit applications for non committee members.

**Announcements:** Lindsey: There is a walkathon coming up on Wed. October 18 at the Mount Washington School. People are advised to avoid Sulgrave between 9am-2pm. South Road will have one lane open.

Board members – make sure that you are on the MWIA Meeting google listserv. adjourned at 9:01 p.m., all in favor

**Attendance:** Lindsey White, Holly Coleman, Louise Cornell, Ira Kolman David Nemerson  
Danielle Shapiro Julie Tong Scot Vanderpool Josh Weiss Ryan Hopkins Chris  
Mincher Susan Manning Gwendolyn Jackson, Jacq Ziegler, Deb Kleiner, Chris Mincher,  
Eric Seaberg

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