

Riverside Neighborhood Association

Encompassing Neighbors from Lawrence Street to Light Street and from Key Highway to the Railyard

NEXT MEETING: Monday, February 27

7 pm at Salem Lutheran Church (corner of Randall & Battery)

Cross Street Market: We Need a Clear Vision – *John G. Paré Jr.*

Reactions to the news that Caves Valley Partners (CVP) terminated their agreement to

renovate and manage Cross Street Market were mixed. For some, jubilation that the current vendors would remain in the Market and that the jobs of people that work there would be safe. For others, disappointment in a missed opportunity for desperately needed renovations.

So what now? Baltimore Public Markets Corporation (BPMC) has been clear that it cannot afford the investments required for renovations

to the Market on its own. It seems that a public-private collaboration will be necessary in funding any revitalization project. Perhaps another proposal solicitation will garner a different developer to partner with BPMC. Although CVP was the sole bidder to their previous solicitation, recent attention on the Market may spark additional interest.

Or perhaps an unconventional solution will present itself.

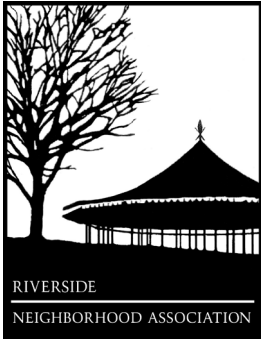
Mayor Pugh has said, "The Baltimore Public Market Corporation is reviewing it options and will reengage the community to fulfill the vision for Cross Street Market."

The Peninsula communities will be key in defining exactly what that vision is. We need to work together to clearly define the expectations of a redeveloped Cross Street Market. This means a consensus on acceptable down times for current vendors, liquor license parameters, configuration of vendors, and overall aesthetic of a revitalized Cross Street Market.

Arsh Mirmiran of CVP has said, "It has become evident to us that perhaps we misread the desire and the will to fully transform the market and that the vision we created was not one that was shared by as many as we hoped or believed."

Let's work together to define the vision and expectations for a transformed Market, so that when the next opportunity presents itself, we will be ready.

There is agreement that Cross Street Market needs an overhaul. I am optimistic that there is a "win-win" development plan that can balance the interests of all the stakeholders. But without clearly defining the vision for a revitalized Market, we risk repeating history. Clearly presenting a unified vision will leave no room for misreading the desires of our community, expedite development work, and result in a Cross Street Market that serves the needs and represents the values of our neighborhoods.



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ELECTIONS THIS MONTH!

All positions are open for nominations.



What is RNA up to?

February

- Plant and Tree acquisition
- BG&E Pipeline replacement updates
- Police updates on arrests of robbery suspects
- Cross St. Market committee meetings
- Anthem Committee meetings and MOU draft with Bozzuto
- Domino partnership for concerts
- Concert planning
- Movie Night planning
- Hanover St. Improvement meeting
- COP Walk
- Garden Club

ATTENTION BGE CUSTOMERS

As of January 30th, there were 300 homes not signed up for gas line replacement in Phase II. If you have not responded to hang tags on your door please do.

The faster the work is completed, the faster they will be moving on and paving our streets.

Recreation & Parks – *Jackson Fisher*

Leaf Raking

The leaves on Covington are slowly disappearing. Special thanks this month to the students at St. Ignatius Middle school, local residents Drew and Travis, and some of the neighbors who helped rake and bag the leaves. Balt City Rec and Parks has coordinated some city crews to come and assist with the effort. I am hoping that the sidewalks and gutter areas will be clear before we get into the spring showers.

Garden Club

March will be planting time. The plants from MANTS are still in storage so we will be working to plant them around the park and at several of the entrance gardens. I will announce planting dates/time through the RNA facebook account. Tentatively, I was planning to plant some on March 4 (9am-12pm) but there may be a scheduling conflict. In April, we will start our regular monthly work date on the first Saturday of the month (9am-12pm).

Daffodils

Keep an eye open for the daffodils along Johnson and Randall. In October, we planted several locations along Johnson and Randall. They should be starting to emerge in mid-March. Thanks to Civic Works for providing the bulbs and volunteers.

Concerts and Movies

Concert and movie night planning is underway. The committee is working on the bands and the food trucks for the concerts. There will be 4 concerts this summer and they will occur on the second Sunday of each month (June-September). This year, we are planning to have two movie nights; one at the beginning of summer (June 24th) and one at the end of summer (~Aug 24th). Stay tuned for details; if you would like to help with these events, please let us know.

PAID ADVERTISEMENT

Help TJEMS Avoid Funding Cuts!

Baltimore City schools are facing a budget deficit of around \$130 million for the upcoming school year. A reduction of staff at the school level by as many as 1,000 employees is possible. It is too early to know how this will affect Thomas Johnson but we are actively advocating for adequate school funding. TJEMS is just one of the reason living in Riverside is great, but it is a vital part of our community for the families that live here. We would appreciate the support of the entire community. Please call and write Governor Hogan as well as our Legislators:

Governor Larry Hogan
100 State Circle
Annapolis, MD 21401
(410)974-3901
governor.mail@maryland.gov

Sen. William C. Ferguson IV (D)
bill.ferguson@senate.state.md.us

Del. Brooke Lierman (D)
brooke.lierman@house.state.md.us

Del. Luke Clippinger (D)
luke.clippinger@house.state.md.us

Del. Robbyn Lewis (D)
robbyn.lewis@house.state.md.us

Check the RNA Facebook page or email Stefanie McKenzie (somckenzie@gmail.com) for calling scripts or form letter writing.

*Thank you for your support of our school as well as ALL city school students and staff.
We are all in this together!
The TJEMS PTO Budget Gap Committee*

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Road and Parking Update – *Dave Urbanek*

There are several planned roadway improvements, both within RNA's boundaries as well as the surrounding neighborhoods on the peninsula. Here is a quick run-down of proposed plans:

Traffic Calming around Riverside Park

At the request of RNA, the city Department of Transportation (DOT) has been pursuing a traffic calming project along the Randall Street and Johnson Street corridors for the past three years. Specifically, the project will provide "curb extensions" at several existing and proposed crosswalk locations to calm traffic and increase pedestrian safety. Currently, the project is on hold until the BGE Operation Pipeline project is complete in late 2017/early 2018.

Residential Permit Parking (RPP)

RNA residents voted in 2012 to pursue permit parking. A committee was immediately formed and the process began with the Parking Authority of Baltimore City (PABC). Believe it or not, the process has been slowly progressing since then. I last met with PABC over the summer, and we are now waiting for a peninsula-wide comprehensive parking study to be completed within the next few months. Upon completion of the study (after baseball season starts, to capture its impact) we will move forward with the RPP process – hopefully through legislative rather than administrative means.

Hanover Street Bridge Multimodal Corridor Study

RNA attended a meeting on January 18 as part of the Community Advisory Panel (CAP) for this planning study, and the second public meeting was held on January 31. The project limits are from Reedbird Avenue in Cherry Hill to Wells Street in SBNA. The study focuses on the future of the bridge itself, as well as connectivity for all modes of travel. The \$1.8 million study will last two years.

Baltimore Bike Share

Launched in the fall, approximately 500 bicycles placed at 50 stations are now available for short-term rental around the city. The nearest stations to RNA are currently at McHenry Row and the Cross Street Market, but additional stations along Fort Avenue at Covington Street and Charles Street should be online soon. The Baltimore Bike Share system is the largest Pedelec (electric-assist) bicycle fleet in North America, which provide an extra boost up the City's hilly terrain; standard 8-gear bicycles are also available at every station. Monthly passes are \$15, which provide unlimited riding up to 45 minutes per trip. Trips may also be purchased for a \$2 pay-as-you-ride fee, either through the "Go Pass" or registering at the kiosk. www.bmorebikeshare.com

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Shamrock Shindig

Live music, food trucks, beer and wine, Shamrock Alley for kids, strolling entertainment and more! Admission to the event is FREE and includes the entertainment. There will be a cash bar and kids passes are available for purchase in advance and at the door. The 62nd Annual Baltimore St. Patrick's Parade is kicking off at 2pm!

Sunday March 12, from 10:30 AM to 2:00 PM at Pierce's Park
716 Eastern Blvd

14th Annual MammoJam Music Festival Returns March 4th

The 14th Annual MammoJam Music Festival will be held on Saturday, March 4th, 6:30pm at Baltimore's famed 8x10. Proceeds support local breast cancer screening and treatment programs for low income women. This year's show has a distinct local flavor as Baltimore blues and funk band Spirit Parade featuring MammoJam favorite Ursula Ricks will headline the show. Brooks Long and the Mad Dog No Good returns on the heels of their hit single and WTMD #2 song of 2016, "Got Soul". They will be joined by South Baltimore's Roses n Rust with 33 West making their MammoJam debut. Festival tickets are \$45 in advance and \$55 at the door and can be purchased at the 8x10 or at www.mammojam.org. Last year's festival sold out. "What's makes our event so much fun is the way our neighbors and the local businesses come together with our bands to celebrate those touched by breast cancer," said festival founder Bill Romani.

MammoJam is proud to be working with great organizations like the Hoffberger Breast Center at Mercy Medical Center and the Breast and Cervical Cancer Center at Harbor Hospital to provide diagnostic and treatment services for uninsured and homeless women in the Baltimore area. Since 2009, MammoJam has funded a Translator at Harbor Hospital to help arrange screenings and review test results for Spanish speaking women. In 2016 over 400 women were served through this MammoJam funded program. Advance tickets are \$45 and can be purchased through at www.mammojam.org.



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Attorney at Law

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410-279-2348

MatthewFarr@cohendwin.com
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FREE CONSULTATION!

As a South Baltimore resident, I would be happy to meet at a location convenient to you.
Call Anytime!

Join the AVAM for a hands-on, drop-in, art-making workshop once a month in the AVAM classroom!

Supplies and boundless inspiration provided!

Dates: SATURDAYS: March 11 • April 8 • May 13 • June 3

Time: 1pm-4pm

Cost: \$5 per participant (museum admission not included)

Ages: All ages welcome (under 16 must be accompanied by an adult)

Where: 2nd floor Classroom, Jim Rouse Visionary Center

March 11th: Food-o-Rama

Create a food-centric scene in a small box! Our Education staff will help you explore new creative territory and make a project inspired by one of our beloved visionary artists.

**AMERICAN
VISIONARY
ART MUSEUM**



CONTACT US:

On the Web:

riversideneighborhoodassociation.com
facebook.com/rnabaltimore
twitter.com/rnabaltimore

Questions & Comments:

rnabaltimore@gmail.com

Newsletter:

RNA.Newsletter@comcast.net

Mail:

Riverside Neighborhood Association
200 East Wells Street
Baltimore, MD 21230

2015-2016 OFFICERS

President: John G. Paré Jr.
Vice President: Jen McLaughlin
Secretary: *Could be YOU!*
Treasurer: Joelle Woolston

2015-2016 COMMITTEES

Newsletter: Brent Burgess
Crime: Shannon Sullivan
Friends of Riverside Park:
Jackson Fisher
Development: Ann Fiocco
Trash/Clean-up: Dave Urbanek
Historian: Paul Stysley
Forestry/Street Trees: Jackson Fisher
Communications: Rachel Wagner



Students from St. Ignatius Loyola Academy volunteer to rake and bag leaves in Riverside Park. Thanks guys!



Proud to be part of our community.

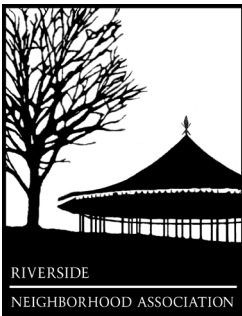
I'm pleased to support our local Riverside Neighborhood Association.

Jim Craig
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912 Light Street
South Baltimore
jimcraig1@allstate.com
www.allstateagencies.com/jimcraig/welcome/



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753014



2017 Riverside Neighborhood Association Dues Payment Slip

\$5 per person

Riverside Neighborhood Association
200 East Wells Street
Baltimore, MD 21230

Please note: You can now pay dues and make donations on RNA's website: riversideneighborhoodassociation.com.

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

Email/Phone: _____