

RNA Meeting 4/27/20 (Virtual via zoom)

Board Present: John, Jackson, Jeff D, Rebecca, Rachel, and Jen
Members Present: 28

Rachel: social media

- RNA Instagram account is advertising local restaurants and specials

Speaker: Eric Costello

<https://www.costelloforbaltimore.com/coronavirus11/>

On website- daily updates are made and a PDF version is also available. Updates are organized into a table of contents. (Also pinned to RNA FB page)

Some important topics to pay attn to:

- health guidance from city, state, and federal
- rumor control and misinformation
- mayor and governor executive orders
- food distribution, pharmacy, and super market hours
- city schools- go to their website
- senior citizens
- small businesses
- utilities
- city agencies
- who to contact for specific issues

Riverside Park- please follow the social distancing rules. Please follow the rules regarding which parts are closed. We do not want rec and parks to shut down the park

- Re: mowing- issues with contractor, right now being done by city and park staff (298 parks on a 14 day cycle).
- Jackson: mowers did mow playground, athletic fields, but stopped at pool house forward. Please update tmr.

Small business task force was formed by Mayor, Costello chairing. 80% of funds will go towards PPE production by local makers, 25% to local makers to transform business model to make sanitizer and masks, ect, the rest of funds are going to grants to local businesses and then retail main street businesses to expand outdoor seating options for economy reopening

Speaker: Delegate Clippinger

- Please pay attn to Costello updates. They are very informative
- Delegates have been focusing on unemployment insurance issues, including the website issues. If you are having problem with this please call me at: 410-989-3876, or email me at luke.clippinger@house.state.md.us
- Judiciary committee had a meeting re: juvenile services (available online) and public safety
- Eliminated the outdoor dining fee to allow restaurants more options to expand outdoor options

Public Safety: Jeff Dewberry

- re: game night murder. No willing witnesses. Police are confident it was drug related.
- main issues are larceny and burglaries. Please check you car, since you probably have not driven it in a while.
- bike thefts- issues in locust point, police were able to recover all the bikes.

Jackson: Parks

- City has been busy doing some pruning on street trees
- no group activities. But individual volunteers are doing work in entrance gardens.
- trash pick up is on normal rotation
- TJEMS gardens will also be cleaned up for fall opening

Rebecca: Pool update

- SBGP extended deadline to spend the remainder of the grant funds until fall 2020
- no pool updates as of now
- TJEMS was awarded a SBGP playground grant (tentatively) for fall 2020

General questions:

- Questions to eric: closing down streets to allow people to walk separately? DOT has started looking into the issue. Yes, streets closed = safe for walkers, but do not want to encourage gathering
- Question to eric: can we close sections of streets for restaurants to expand outdoor seating? Right now looking to remove parking in front of restaurants to allow for a sidewalk right of way, and then allow dining seating. Probably start programs in main street areas where there is a density of restaurants, and then move on to individual restaurants
- Will the open container law continue post cov-id? This will be on the table for the state in the next session.