

RNA Community Meeting Minutes

October 25, 2021, 7:00 – 8:00 p.m. via Zoom

Board Members: Rich Badmington, president; Jen McLaughlin, vice president; Becca Charlton, treasurer; Jeff Dewberry, Jackson Fisher, Rachel Wagner, Joelle Woolston

Number of Zoom Attendees: 24

Board Updates

Jackson Fisher, Friends of Riverside Park

- Sobo Halloween Bash on Saturday 1-5pm, big annual event and celebration for kids. There will be games, a band, activities, and crafts. RNA is selling beer and wine to fund park activities - profits go to next year's bash as well.
- BCRP and the City are looking to put in an EV charging station on Johnson St by TJEMS, just north of the staircase on the west entrance of the park. Expected sometime this fall.

Rachel Wagner, Public Safety

- 3 arrests were made, including 2 juveniles and 1 adult, police believe could be related to burglaries over the summer. While burglaries seemed to slow, there was one more Saturday 23rd at 3am.
- Reminder to deliver packages to Amazon Locker, other business, or neighbor with a vestibule.
- Rachel is working with a larger local neighborhood safety committee including other neighborhood groups and they are willing to support local crime victims as needed and requested, e.g. talking through next steps, options

Jeff Dewberry, Public Safety (cont'd)

Reminder: Lock windows and doors and make sure there's nothing of value in sight when you leave and lock your car

Rich Badmington, RNA President

Brief update on RNA involvement in local development and business, for awareness:

- Improvements at 420 E Randall
- Board supported liquor license transfer for Shotti's
- 1900 Light St with South Baltimore Neighborhood Association and Sam Cogan
- Rich is hoping to get in touch with Planning Dept to be aware of things coming our way.

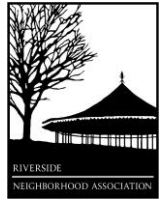
Guest Speakers

Officer Torres, BPD Southern District

Updates from last 28 days for Federal Hill area (including but not limited to Riverside):

- 9 larceny from auto
- 8 burglaries
- 0 Robbery/assault

Still investigating burglaries as Rachel mentioned



Derrell Frazier, Policy and Community Engagement Manager for the Mental Health Association of Maryland
dfrazier@mhamd.org

MHAM advocates for mental health, behavioral health, and addiction policies. Numbers of these types of events/crises are higher than ever in the last year.

MHA is working on agenda setting for years ahead and wants to get perspectives from communities across the state of MD. In the lead up to the gubernatorial race next year, they want to build their policy agenda and campaign.

They have been working with BPD, they have Crisis Intervention Teams that get called rather than calling Police. You can call 211 to reach these services. There will also be a national number next year, which will be 988. This is intended to help lower criminalization of mental health crises or events.

Question: (Jeff Kaplan) What about training for BPD regarding behavioral/mental health crises to protect lives?

Shannon Sullivan (next speaker) replied that policies and training have been updated as part of the Consent Decree at the federal level; a reminder that even when BPD tries to divert people in behavioral health crisis, there aren't always services available to divert them to and this is still a work in progress.

Derrell confirmed that MHA works and comments on policy, training, and advocacy but doesn't implement the policies or directly train BPD. They work on advocacy at the MD state level.

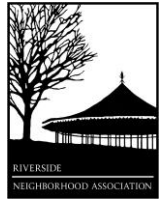
Shannon Sullivan, Consent Decree Implementation Unit at BPD

What is the Consent Decree? Federally (DOJ) mandated police reform including changes to policy, training, and accountability systems. This is not aligned with any political leaders but comes from the Department of Justice and is overseen by federal judge James Bredar with assistance from a Monitoring Team of experts.

Consent Decree is in Year 4 now. A lot of this is about culture change and sustainable change so it doesn't happen overnight. The process is Policy > Training > Implementation. Baltimore is largely in the Implementation phase now.

You can find documentation on their website under the Transparency tab (<https://www.baltimorepolice.org/transparency>).

You can check [Tinyurl.com/bpdreformcalendar](https://tinyurl.com/bpdreformcalendar) for policies that are available for public feedback. Shannon briefly shared a presentation on Know Your Rights info, which is what you can expect and what your rights are if stopped by the police.



Other Guest Comments, Announcements

Ondoria Harmon, Senior and 11th District Community Liaison , Mayor's Office of Neighborhoods

Ondoria.harmon@baltimorecity.gov 443-721-5906

- October 20 American Rescue Plan Act public feedback survey is open and the Mayor is asking residents to participate, this will help determine where to prioritize and appropriate funding
- Walk in the Park with the Mayor on November 6 10-11:30am. Start at Barney and Covington by the Riverside Playground. This will be time to see and chat with the Mayor in an intimate setting and the Mayor's Office will be giving out reusable grocery bags.

Colline Emmanuelle, South Baltimore Gateway Partnership

Upcoming Keys to Capacity event is free for anyone interested. Partner with Business Volunteers Maryland. Lunchtime roundtable, virtual Nonprofit Virtual Volunteering, it will be Thursday Nov 4 12-1pm.

Other Announcements

Next Meeting December 13