

Post 114/Market Center Coalition

February 1, 2021

Notes

Attendance: Thomas Akras, DPOB; Isabella Bennett, Mayson-Dixon; Gwen Brown, BHSB; Shannon Conway, BPD; Jon Constable, Seawall; Antwann Davis, BPD; Chad Ellis, UMBPD; Neil Friedlander, Councilman Costello's Office; Tamika Gauvin, Mayor's Office of Neighborhood Safety & Engagement; Ondoria Harmon, District 11, Mayor's Office of Neighborhoods (& Senior Liaison); Donovan Hatcher, SAO; Dwayne Holland, JenesaisQuoi, LLC; Carolyn James-Okpo, Seton Hill; Judson Kerr, Atrium Apartments, MCMA; Kenneth Jennings, HCD SIU; JR Jones, UMBPD; Jenny Kessler Klump, MCMA; Justin Leeb, Mayson-Dixon; Bill Marcus, DPOB; Bruce Panczner, BEAM, MCCDC, Paradise Management; Chantel Quarles, HCD Code Enforcement; Muriel Rich, DPW; Jane Scinta, Johns Hopkins; Diwee Sewell, G.R.O.W.; Pickett Slater-Harrington, Seawall; Perry Standfield, DPOB; Mike Watson, MCMA, Everyman Theatre; Robert Thomas, Lexington Market; Elway Williams, Williams Hunter Construction; Jayson Williams, Mayson-Dixon

The Compass – Jayson Williams (JW), CEO of Mayson-Dixon Companies, discussed The Compass, a mixed-use development planned for the block bound by Park, Howard, Lexington, and Fayette. In 2020, the city selected a development team comprised of Mayson-Dixon, Vitruvius, Partners, and Landmark Properties to redevelop the site. Three of the four partners are Baltimore-based, and JW's family has deep ties to Baltimore (his grandfather was James Carpenter, long-time bell ringer for Lexington Market and owner of several businesses in the market). They plan to launch a website soon, and they are interested in doing work on the block before development starts (such as cleaning, adding light, art).

Partner Connections – Tom Akras (TA) reported on behalf of Shelonda Stokes (SS). Several members of the Post 114/MC Coalition met with State's Attorney Mosby and her team on January 14. SAO Mosby agreed to join BPD and behavioral health service providers for a walking tour of Market Center. Bruce Panczner (BP) noted that we are working to get a meeting with Mayor Scott. He also noted that Post 114 is still looking for assistance in connecting with the faith community and the courts.

Action Items: Follow up with Tamika Gauvin (TG) and Ondoria Harmon (OH) to work toward a meeting with Mayor Scott. TG will invite Shantay Jackson, Director of the Mayor's Office of Neighborhood Safety and Engagement, to the Post 114 meetings.

Appearance & Cleanliness –

- Kenneth Jennings (KJ) reported that he has evaluated the 300 block of Park Avenue and is concerned about residents' trash disposal methods. We need to communicate with the landlords to make sure they provide a means for residents to properly dispose of trash. Carolyn James-Okpo noted that the same issue exists in Seton Hill.
- Kristen Mitchell (KM) reported on behalf of Ann Winder (AW).
 - KM, AW, BP and Diwee Sewell will put decals on trash cans on 2.3, and AW and KM will deliver them to the businesses on the 300 block of Park Avenue on 2.4.
 - KM and AW walked the unit-400 blocks of Howard, the 200-300 blocks of Eutaw, and 300 block of Paca with Liam Davis from DOT to identify needed sidewalk improvements, tree well grate installations, and tree well repairs.

- KM and AW have a site visit planned with Robert Fields from DPW to show him needed repairs to the Howard/Franklin intersection. The site visit is scheduled with him because the damage may have been caused by contractor work on Franklin Street. (Update: the damage was not caused by the contractor, and we have been redirected to DOT).
- At our request, DOT assessed the lights on the unit-200 blocks of Eutaw Street. They found three outages in the 100 block, four in the 200 block, and several in the unit block, all related to cable faults. They are working with BGE on repairs.
- Per Nikia Mack, DOT, Mr. Malinowski is evaluating our requests for changes to the on-street parking restrictions on Park Avenue, Franklin, and Mulberry Streets.

Business Health

- KM reported that the Business Health Action Committee is coordinating with Lexington Market to fill vacant storefronts near Lexington Market with businesses that applied for but didn't get into the new market.
- Pickett Slater Harrington (PSH) said that the second round of Lexington Market vendor applications is underway, and they are also accepting indications of interest in kiosks, though that application process will take place later this year. Paper vendor applications are available in the Lexington Market office. Seawall held a community meeting in January to request feedback on plans for branding and marketing. The Transform Lexington Team is working with Market Center CDC, Baltimore Heritage, Lexington Market, historian Dean Krimmel, and the Peale Center to document and archive the history of the Market, and to collect stories and remembrances of the Market from Baltimoreans.
- The Committee is evaluating mechanisms to facilitate two-way communication and finalizing a business resource guide. To view the spreadsheet, visit <https://www.marketcenterbaltimore.org/> and click on "Resources."
- The Downtown Partnership will launch the Black-Owned and Operated Storefront Tenancy program on 2.3.21. For information, visit <https://godowntownbaltimore.com/>.
- For metrics, we will focus on the micro zone, and then expand to all of Market Center.

Public Health & Safety

1. BPD Action Committee –

- Sergeant Antwann Davis (AD) reported that Post 114 experienced declines in robberies (48%) and larcenies (44%) between 2019 and 2020. In response to a question from Jenny Kessler Klump (JKK), AD said that none of the decline is due to Covid, because Covid hasn't stopped criminals. Bill Marcus noted that Post 114 has dropped from #1 to #16 in violent crime. DPOB is going to monitor displacement from Post 114 to other areas. Post 114 ranked #1 in total of all crime categories in Q4, 2020.
- BP stated that the BPD recognizes the BPD Action Committee members as representatives of the community and shared Post 114 Community Policing Plan with them but does not want it shared more broadly. BP noted that BPD understands that implementation of this plan may result in displacement of drug dealing and other criminal activity, and they will monitor this. Councilman Costello has agreed to be "the

Commented [KM1]: I am not sure that my notes on the stats are accurate. Please feel free to correct me!

face of the plan” after he sees it and will field questions from the community. The BPD Action Committee is encouraging the BPD to structure the plan so that it will not fall apart if someone leaves (to ensure continuity).

2. Behavioral Health Action Committee

- Gwen Brown (GB) reported that the legislature is contemplating a bill that would, among other things, establish a mandated appropriation through FY26 for the Behavioral Health Crisis Response Grant Program, require that 1/3 of this appropriation be used to support mobile crisis teams, and compels the Maryland Department of Health to prioritize proposals that minimize law enforcement interaction with individuals experiencing a behavioral health crisis. The bill # is HB108/SB286.
 - DS introduced G.R.O.W. (Getting Ready for Obstacles in the World), which conducts outreach to young people, teaches life skills and financial literacy (“Cash App Classroom”), and offers workforce development opportunities (“Earn and Learn”) in partnership with Williams Hunter Construction Company, JenaisaisQuoi, LLC., EMW Janitorial.
3. **Transit Action Committee** – PSH reported that Bromo, DPOB, and the Transform Lexington team are working together to figure out how to best integrate a bus stop with Lexington Market on Eutaw Street. He will convene the Transit Action Committee to discuss.
 4. **Discussion** – Robert Thomas asked whether the convictions (of people arrested in Market Center) stick, leading to a decrease in repeat offenders. Is BPD getting sufficient support from SAO to build cases against repeat offenders? Sgt. Davis responded that this question is not in his purview, but he is almost certain the answer is “yes.” Donovan Hatcher noted that he helps pull information together for the Assistant States Attorneys when they go to court, and that the SAO recently expanded its support for BPD.

Metrics Action Committee – Judson Kerr – We will collect metrics for the micro zone first and eventually expand to Market Center.

Communications Team – Post 114/MC is forming a communications team to work on messaging and listening to the community. The team includes representatives from MCMA, MCCDC, Seawall, and the Downtown Partnership.