



AHCA Community Meeting
February 6, 2018 - 7:30 PM
AcademyHeightsMD.org

Called to Order at 7:35pm with President Joe Shinault presiding.

Board members in attendance (7): Linda Barnes, Jeannette Bonomo-Thomas, Mischa Bowen-Kreiner, Joe Shinault, Becky Stoll, Chris Waterman, Seth Wheeler

Members absent: Chris Burk, Nikki Green, Beth McSweeney, John O'Ferrall, Patrick Young

Minutes from January 2, 2018 were approved.

Community Outreach – Sergeant Harpster reported that a vehicle left running had been stolen from the neighborhood. The vehicle was recovered, but no arrest was made. He reminds residents that leaving an unattended vehicle running is both against the law and tempting to prospective thieves.

A resident inquired about outcomes from the September shooting at the intersection of Regent Park and Harlem and from the December carjacking. Sergeant Harpster reiterated, as had been shared at previous meetings, that the former incident was not random, and indicated that in the latter case, the vehicle was recovered in fairly good condition. The offenders are believed to be the same involved in other area carjackings. In response to a recent incident at a nearby shopping center, four arrests were made.

Another resident reported panhandling in the neighborhood and vicinity and inquired as to how to respond. Sergeant Harpster indicated that residents can always call 911 if feeling unsafe.

Joe Shinault reported that he has emailed Officer Boone regarding an SUV at Greenlow and Northdale that has not moved for a month and may be abandoned. If the vehicle is legally parked, the neighborhood has no recourse to remove the vehicle unless there is indication of abandonment, i.e. flat tire, expired tags.

A resident asked whether to call to report a car blocking trash/recycling collection in an alley. Sergeant Harpster indicated that trash/recycling collectors will often call, but residents may, as well. Officers will come out and write tickets.

Operation Pipeline Presentation – Three representatives from BGE attended the meeting: a customer relations representative, a project manager, and a contractor. They shared a few slides and a video [video available [here](#); most of Academy Heights is included in East Catonsville Phase 2], then took questions. The purpose of Operation Pipeline is to upgrade the delivery infrastructure to support higher demand from newer appliances. The work has already begun on Overbrook. Overbrook and Medwick will be affected during the first phase. Weather permitting, and barring underground obstructions, the first phase will take approximately 2 months. Academy Rd will follow.

Scheduler (Michael Simmons) will attempt to make contact with each homeowner because homeowners will need to be present in order for interior work to be performed. He can let residents know what may need to be done to prepare. 3 feet of clearance around the meter will be required (per regulations), so cabinets and walls with small access panels may need to be removed. He will leave a door tag if a resident is not present when he canvasses the neighborhood. Residents should call ASAP once a door tag is left, particularly if their household has limited availability to admit service providers.

Additional communication will precede greater than anticipated disruption, i.e. trenching. A resident asked if holes would be dug in the street in front of each and every home. A representative responded that any holes will be patched or plated the same day. A resident asked about the anticipated impact on parking. A representative indicated that approximately 200 feet per day will be unavailable starting at approximately 7AM. A resident asked whether BGE vehicles will be left in the neighborhood. A representative indicated

that a minimal amount of equipment will be left overnight. A resident requested contact phone numbers for if any repair is not returned to prior condition and recommended that other residents take “before” photos. BGE will be the primary point of contact. The contractor recommended visiting the Charing Cross/Meridale neighborhoods to see examples of the quality of recently completed work. Additional oversight is in place since the last BGE project in the neighborhood. More information is available online [see link above].

Households will experience 1-3 hours out of service when interior work is performed.

Treasurer’s Report – Due to the recent influx of dues, a report will be provided at the next meeting.

Architectural – A storm door has been installed on the recently sold Northdale property.

Communication – Newsletter went out last week with proposed changes to the Bylaws and Architectural Guidelines included, as well as dues envelopes. Extra newsletters were available at the meeting if one was not received. The Facebook group has over 320 users now. A resident asked how many households these users represent. Since address verification is required to join the group, there is the capability of tracking households as opposed to unique users, but this has not been done to date. An online thermometer representing membership as a percentage of total households is possible.

Welcome Committee – 2 houses sold this week. No new for sale.

Dues – Off to a great start. To keep the momentum going, Volunteers will be collecting door to door when weather improves. Reminders will continue through Facebook, too. A resident suggested adding Venmo capability, in addition to the current use of PayPal.

Bylaws – Proposed changes were attached to the newsletter. Voting will occur at the March meeting. Please come.

Old Business

Citizens on Patrol – Mike Granito had scheduled a training, but did not receive confirmation from the precinct and had to cancel. There is sufficient commitment to get the training scheduled, though. A new date, once confirmed, will be advertised on Facebook.

Architectural Guideline/Covenant Revisions – will be put to a vote at the March meeting.

Royal Farms – Board members met with Councilman Quirk and representatives from both the Ingleside Association and Royal Farms last week. Process issues were addressed; Councilman Quirk has introduced a bill that would make changes to the process requirements. Cathy Engers provided additional information regarding the meeting and an upcoming work session on the bill. Constituents can submit written testimony. The property owner will likely be scheduled for the April meeting. Engers also shared that the outer-loop ramp to Edmondson Ave would be closed again the weekend of 2/10.

Dumpster Day – June 2 has been proposed.

New Business

Block Party – October 6 has been proposed. Email info@academyheights.org to join the committee.

Open Discussion

Air B&Bs – A resident inquired as to whether Air B&Bs are allowed in the neighborhood and was advised to check with the county regarding permit requirements.

Code Enforcement – A resident asked if there would be an upcoming inspection; it will occur soon.

Next Meeting: March 6. The date for the following meeting has been changed to April 10.

Adjourned at 8:55pm. Recorded by Jeannette Bonomo-Thomas.