

3/1/2021

Post 114/Market Center Coalition Meeting

Minutes from Zoom Meeting 10am-12pm

Discussion of Accomplishments/Revitalization of Market Center

Participants: Tom Akras, Gwen Brown, Shannon Conway, Councilman Costello, Sgt. Davis, Chad Ellis, Capt. Faulkner, Tamika Gauvin, Donovan Hatcher, Carolyn James-Okpo, Kenneth Jennings, Cpl. Jones, Judson Kerr, Jenny Kessler Klump, Justin Leeb, Bill Marcus, Robert Milner, Kristen Mitchell, Bruce Panczner, Chantel Quarles, Muriel Rich, Diwee Sewell, Pickett Slater-Harrington, Perry Standfield, Sam Storey, Robert Thomas, Nick Usher, Mike Watson, Kyree West, Ann Winder, Marva Williams

Immediate Goal: Formulate partnerships for the purpose of Market Center revitalization

Short Term Goal: Secure resources that promote a thriving inclusive community

Long Term Goal: Cultivate a safe, clean, and comprehensive business district known as Market Center

Communications Action Committee

JKK: Communications team had first meeting and discussed how the coalition defines itself along with how to communicate/disseminate information with others (stakeholders, government officials, and potential partners). Top priorities included understanding the needs of different subcommittees, policing plan, statistics, communication/positive messaging, record of accomplishments.

Appearance & Cleanliness Action Committee

AW: Trash Can Project kicked off 1st distribution of trash cans in the 300 blk of Park Ave. Nine trash cans were dispersed to businesses. Storage alternative, a locked alley also located in the 300 blk of Park Ave. DPOB along with PS assisted with this effort. AW, PS, CQ, and KJ have organized a plan of enforcement via inspection/citation of violators who fail to comply with cleanliness initiative. The next phase of the trash can project, will be on Eutaw Street. Infrastructure issue at the corner of Franklin and Howard will be addressed by DPW/DOT, however that date is TBD.

MR: Team has cleaned alley requested by KM located at Fairmount Ave., in addition to removal of dual trash/recycle receptacle located at 318 Park Ave.

Behavioral Health Action Committee

DS: Moving forward with Mental Health component. GROW is now located at 7 N. Eutaw St. Last meeting consisted of shaping and defining vision. JHU grant taking shape with instrumental assistance of SS. JHU grant will provide a plethora of resources for various opportunities such as job readiness programs with corporate partners. DS is also reaching out to CFUF regarding Job training/readiness. DS and BP are currently organizing 1st Market Center Community Day. Baltimore City youth will be paid to clean Market Center. Cash app classroom is currently underway. Food is delivered to students while learning financial literacy virtually.

PSH: Meeting with CFUF centered on how to effectively partner with them as we think about supporting individuals in and around Market Center. CFUF would like to attend next Post 114/MCMA meeting. They're currently analyzing various concepts for their organization.

BP: Learn to Earn is a 3- month cycle. 1st month, clients are working in a classroom structure working on obtaining proper identification (e.g., State of MD ID, Birth Certificate). 2nd month, clients will intern part-time with corporate partners/sponsors while working. 3rd month, clients will intern full-time with corporate partners/sponsors. Tracking progress is essential as we move forward with innovation pertaining to conflict resolution. Resources are needed for this initiative.

DS: In need of venue that will allow social distancing for hybrid event Art Taste, Art Exhibition via Culinary Experience. This event has proven to be successful in the past. Event is scheduled for May. JKK expressed interest in assisting DS with this event.

BPD Action Committee

BP: Meeting with BPD had positive as well as disheartening aspects. Environmental concerns and enforcement such as Project Trash Can have been initiated by KM and AW. Other issues of concern are lighting and sidewalks. BPD wasn't aware that Post 114 was addressing these concerns and would like to participate in micro-zone walk. However, much of task force staff has been promoted/reassigned. Maj. Gaines will reach out to Col. Worley to addressing this situation. If resources continue to decrease Commr. Harrison will be contacted.

Business Health Action Committee

PSH: Lexington Market Project Business Recruitment/Retention closed first round of applications with 160 applicants for various categories. Second round of applications is now open and available until 3/19/2021 with 170 applications pending. Data base should be shared with Business Health committee this month in an effort to connect businesses with resources and space in Market Center. Immigrant community is encouraged to apply.

SS: Request was submitted to JHU for a million-dollar grant. \$250,000.00 over the next four years to support safety related upgrades to the Market Center area. Categories consist of environmental upgrades, funding for GROW, as well as Youth Empowered Society, workforce development and youth safety ambassadors. This has been a collaborative effort with BP, KM, SS, JKK, and DS. BOOST program is progressing and accepting applications. New property owners have offered new store fronts at a reduced cost to winners. SS is a resource for Black Owned Business expansion.

KW: Baltimore Development Corporation recently helped coordinate the Baltimore Business Expo along with The Afro. The second round of restaurant grants just closed and currently review of application is in motion while trying to disperse funds to local restaurants.

KM: There's a list of properties that are available for sale/lease in Market Center for prospective businesses/developers. Progress has been made reaching property owners that have been difficult to contact. Fairly comprehensive list of resources are available to assist businesses and developers whether in need of financial/technical resources or seeking opportunities for collaboration (available on Post 114 website).

BPD Action Committee

Sgt. Davis: Most Crime has decreased during the first two months of 2021, with the exception of larceny. JK presented the question of what exactly this trend is attributed to? This trend is due to robust deployment and assistance from store owners. Extra patrol units patrolling the perimeter and UMB police have been omnipresent. GB also had questions regarding fatal and non-fatal overdose stats, however those numbers weren't available because not every overdose has a police report. Sgt. Davis suggested talking to BCHD for overdose data. PS would also like Sgt. Davis to participate in Micro Zone Walk 3/15/21.

Transit Action Committee

PSH: MTA subcommittee met with the purpose of building partnerships/relationships with MTA in order to improve appearance, safety, cleanliness that fall within MTA jurisdiction of Market Center. Discussed integration and relocation of bus stop(s). MTA doesn't want to create burden for passengers.

RT: Relocation of bus stop may create an issue due to MTA distance requirement. There is talk of moving bus stop back to its previous location.

Partner Connections

TA: Met with UMB, close to getting overtime funds for BCSP to patrol downtown area with MSP to support public safety. Nothing has been finalized as of yet. DPOB close to getting GIS Analyst for the purpose of safety data/crime patterns in Downtown area. MDOT stated \$500,000.00 -\$600,000.00 is needed for plexiglass at Metro station to deter illegal dumping, however they're currently unable to contribute to this project. Proposal has been sent to BP and PSH.

Citywide Violence Prevention

TG: September marked the kickoff of Citywide Violence Prevention Planning Process. BCHD is leading this initiative. Phase 1- Identifying goals, risk factors and protective measures as they relate to violence prevention. There will be a process for engaging community stakeholders in this process with more information to come. TG will keep KM informed regarding framework.

Announcements

PS: DPOB Spring Community Volunteer Clean Up 4/23/21