**Post 114/Market Center Coalition**

**September 8, 2020**

**Notes**

**Attendance:** Stephanie Bolton, DPOB; Rachelina Bonacci, MD Stadium Authority; Gwen Brown, BHSB; Jon Constable, Seawall; Aaron Faulkner, Lexington Market; Nate Fields, DPOB; Kevin Hayes, Councilman Costello’s Office; Neal Friedlander, Councilman Costello’s Office; Stacy Holmes, UMB Parking; Carolyn James-Okpo, Seton Hill Association; JR Jones, UMBPD; Kenneth Jennings, HCD Special Investigations Unit; Judson Kerr, Southern Management, MCMA; Kristen Mitchell, MCMA, MCCDC; Marianne Navarro, Mayor’s Office; Larry Nunley, DPW; Bruce Panczner, Paradise Management, BEAM, MCCDC; Yale Partlow, UMBPD; Chantel Quarles, HCD Code Enforcement; Muriel Rich, DPW; Pickett Slater Harrington, Seawall; Perry Standfield, DPOB; Shelonda Stokes, DPOB; Towanda Taylor, Second Chance Behavioral Health Center; Wanda Watts, Consent Decree Monitoring Team; Mike Watson, Everyman Theatre, MCMA; Ann Winder, The Place Lounge, MCMA, MCCDC

**Public Health & Safety**

1. **BPD Action Committee** – Participants include Bruce Panczner, Mike Watson, Bill Marcus, Perry Standfield, Chad Ellis (UMBPD), Ann Winder. They are writing a letter to BPD to outline recommendations for an Action Plan. At the same time, Major Gaines and Captain Featherstone have said that they are working on a plan.

Pickett Slater Harrington said that Seawall is sharing information about Post 114 publicly, such as at a recent meeting with the Greater Baltimore Committee, and in discussions with Brandon Scott and Nick Mosby. They have also added the work plan to their website.

Shelonda Stokes said that DPOB has met with UMB to discuss their mutual interest in public safety in the area and has a meeting with MTA soon. She asked whether MTA has been involved in Post 114. In response, Kristen Mitchell said that they are invited to every meeting and attend sporadically. They are not really engaged.

Shelonda Stokes said that DPOB is devising public safety plans geographically, so the strategy and partners will differ depending on location and needs.

Carolyn James-Okpo asked if Councilman Costello has made progress talking to BPD about issues in Market Center. Kevin Hayes will ask.

1. **Behavioral Health Action Committee** – The group has not met but is making progress:
   1. Behavioral Health Services Center has established a satellite office at BEAM. Towanda Taylor stated that six people from Market Center are already receiving treatment. The group discussed whether Market Center is known as a “safe zone” in which the police will not interfere with drug dealing if no one is killed, and the difficulty of making an impact if this is the case.
   2. Yale Partlow outlined the UMB Police Department’s homeless outreach work. They work most closely with LEAD, but also work with other service providers, such as Paul’s Place. He has noticed an increase in need, overlapping of homelessness with mental health crises, and severity of issues. There are not enough case managers and peers to handle the workload. They work with the BPD Crisis Response and Homeless Outreach Teams, as well as Nate Fields and the DPOB team. They focus on MLK, Eutaw, Paca, and Greene Streets. Baltimore attracts people from other counties and states because Baltimore City laws make it easier for substance abusers and unsheltered people to live. As an example, in Baltimore County it is illegal to panhandle in streets.
   3. Nate Fields agreed that he is seeing an increase in severe mental health cases, which are the people hardest to connect to services. He and his team are focusing on Park Avenue right now.
   4. Gwen Brown also agreed that there is an increase in severe cases. She shared information on the crisis hotline, Here to Help, and encouraged people to get this information out. They have asked Market Center to advocate for $ for mobile crisis units (MCMA is ready to assist with this). Baltimore Crisis Response now has a 24/7 Crisis Response Team.
   5. Gwen Brown noted that when the moratorium on evictions is lifted, we will see a further increase in homeless people.
   6. Perry Standfield suggested that a hybrid team visit Market Center regularly. Yale Partlow, Towanda Taylor, Nate Fields, and Gwen Brown agreed. The group can also include BPD. Shelonda Stokes suggested that if the group walks the district consistently and includes the BPD, this will fail to keep people on their toes.

**Appearance & Cleanliness**

1. Ann Winder is leading the appearance subcommittee.
2. Muriel Rich noted that there are twelve temporary recycling drop off locations which business owners and residents can use for the duration of the time when the city is not collecting curbside recycling.
3. Carolyn James-Okpo noted that some Seton Hill 311 requests are going unanswered and asked if it would be helpful to send them in a batch to the City. Muriel said that it is best to continue to submit requests individually via 311.
4. Shelonda Stokes noted that DPOB is working to connect with the City’s 311 system and is developing their own version of 311. Kristen Mitchell noted that she still submits almost all requests to 311 and only directly makes requests of DPOB when the request clearly falls within DPOB’s purview.

**Business Health**

The group did not focus on the Business Health aspect of the workplan during this meeting.

**Consent Decree Monitoring Team – Q&A with Wanda Watts**

Wanda Watts outlined the role of the Consent Decree Monitoring team. Her job is to report what she sees and hears. She holds weekly meetings with Central District stakeholders to review proposed policies and procedures aimed to address issues raised in the Consent Decree. All are welcome. Wanda sends recommendations and feedback to the Department of Justice. Gwen Brown offered to join the call to discuss the Behavioral Health Gaps Analysis.

Bruce Panczner asked about policies and procedures to address recruitment and retention of officers. Wanda said that this is still in draft form.

**New Business/Parting Thoughts**

Judson Kerr thanked everyone for their participation, particularly Shelonda Stokes and Downtown Partnership staff. He also encouraged us to measure the results of our work. He agreed to serve as chair of the State’s Attorney Office action committee.

Gwen Brown agreed to serve on the Behavioral Health Action Committee.

Shelonda Stokes asked if there is overlap between some of the work. Bruce Panczner replied that he did not think so, but the workplan and the action committees are evolving.

**October Meeting Date – Monday, October 5.**