



NAC 11 Meeting Minutes April 17, 2018

Recorder: M. Bowman

Location: Brewers Alley

Start Time: 7:00 pm **End Time:** 8:45

Attendance: 55 residents

NAC 11 Coordinators Present: Chairperson Barbara Dillon, Secretary Darcy Richards, Bruce Albaugh, Tom Evans, and Phil LeBlanc

City Staff Present: Michele Bowman, Gabrielle Collard Zack Kershner, and Cherian Eapen

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POLICE REPORT

Sgt. Tracey Wiles and Sgt. Andrew Alcorn gave the police report. There were no written police statistics because their system was still down.

Sergeant Alcorn and Sergeant Wiles reported that there were two strong-armed robberies one resulted in an on scene arrest (2018-019351). There was also a suspected rape and several burglaries in NAC 11 last month. There was an arrest in the graffiti series where the subject was charged with 28 counts. The department continues to do patrol checks and walking beats in the area of 100 South Market Street. There were no thefts from Motor Vehicles. There was a homicide on South Street that is still under investigation. The victim was shot several times and the police are asking anyone with information to please contact them. There was also an attempted robbery with a bb gun where the victim was uncooperative.

One resident reported that the area is still plagued with drug dealing and drug overdoses. A resident asked what they can do and the officers said citizens can share videos with police if they have them and should call Non-Emergency number (301-600-2100) when there is suspected drug-dealing, overdoses or suspicious behavior. When a citizen calls a concern into FPD they need the following information: a description of the person, race, hairstyle, clothing, the direction the person is traveling, and a description of their car (if applicable). There are cameras posted in Mullinix Park, which are supported by tech staff at City Hall. Sergeant Wiles explained when officers can and cannot do a search and seizure vs detain a suspect. There was a discussion of the drug spice and Sergeant Wiles pointed out that spice is easy to obtain because it is not illegal in Frederick County and in other nearby counties, though it is illegal in Frederick City.

There has been a change in police procedure regarding detention vs. arrest. Previously, police could give a citation to someone who appeared to be under the influence, but then the person was free to go. Now, if officer believes the person is a threat to themselves or is not following police orders, the officer can give a citation and send the offender to the Detention Center. This stops the cycle of the same offender being cited multiple times in one day.

Michele Bowman stated FPD would not be having any more Community Meetings regarding the concerns on South Market, South St and All Saints St. She stated that the NAC meetings are the already established mechanism by which FPD will share information with NAC 11 on this topic. A letter of thanks was presented to Sgt. Wiles for her assistance and work with the S. Market St. Corridor group. At the most recent Community Meeting at the Community Action Agency, a representative of the County Health Dept. stated the CAA will be adding a needle exchange program to the services offered to CAA clients. NAC 11 residents expressed concern that this will bring additional problems to the S. Market Street area. If you are concerned about the possibility of a needle exchange program coming to downtown Frederick, please contact the Mayor and Board of Aldermen and express your opinion.

PLANNING:

Project Name: 10 North Carroll Street
Location: 10 North Carroll Street
COF Staff: Gabrielle Collard 301-600-1883
Applicant: City of Frederick
PC Meeting: Workshop: May 21st Hearings: June 11th and July 9th
Description: The Planning Department is bringing forward the request to rezone the Property, the site of Great Stuff by Paul, from Downtown Residential (DR) to Downtown Commercial Residential (DB). The

Property is also within the Historic Preservation Overlay (HPO), which will not change if the Property is rezoned.

Staff has identified a mistake in the rezoning of the Property that occurred during the 2005 Comprehensive Rezoning and was perpetuated with the 2013 Comprehensive Rezoning when the City once again looked at the zoning of the entire city.

- **New Planning/Public Hearing Signs**
Gabrielle presented the new public hearing notice signs that will replace the presently used white and black signs that easily blow over and are not waterproof. The new signs are in bright and various colors, in a template that is sturdier and easy to read. The colors are aligned to specific entities like Planning, Historical Preservation Commission, etc. Signs will have a QR code on them, so citizens can point their smart phone cameras and be directed to an online listing of the hearing and details about the property (ies) in question. The plan is to start using the new signs this summer

GUEST SPEAKER

Zack Kershner and Cherian Eapen – Alley Way Discussion

Zach Kershner, Director of Public Works, introduced Cherian Eapen, Manager of Traffic Engineering, to report on the city's efforts to implement safety changes requested by the NAC11 Pedestrian Alley Safety group. There will be a pilot project in Maxwell Alley between E. Patrick and 2nd Street. The alley is 16' wide and will be marked to show two lanes. The lane for cars will be 10' wide and the lane for pedestrians will be 6' wide. The pedestrian lane will be placed on the west side of the alley. The pedestrian crossing area at intersections will be marked with hatched markings and there will be some signs. There was a discussion from residents who asked for the speed to be reduced by some means such as a speed bumps. Zack said they cannot put up speed bumps. He believes that speed bumps create a drainage problem. He also said he believes that they ultimately don't work as drivers speed up right after the speed bump. To change the speed limit for alleys requires special permission from the state. There are no plans to do this. There was discussion about whether bikes will use the lane for cars or be expected to use the pedestrian area, as bikes are considered a vehicle. City staff will return in fall to report on results of pilot project.

Cherian also mentioned that there was a meeting on Thursday at 6:30 pm at Clarksburg High School giving residents a chance to weigh in regarding adding toll lanes on I-270.

INTEREST GROUP UPDATES

NAC11 currently facilitates several interest groups comprised of NAC11 residents and coordinators. NAC11 meetings include updates from several independent organizations, committees and groups that operate in NAC11 and involve issues of concern to NAC11 residents. These are groups made up of NAC 11 residents who volunteer their time to research and discuss ideas which would improve their neighborhood. These are not official City of Frederick groups.

- **PEDESTRIAN ALLEY SAFETY GROUP** (NAC Coordinator Bruce Albaugh) Bruce responded to comments by residents during Zack Kershner's discussion on the alley pilot. Residents had other suggestions for improving alley safety. Bruce suggested that we let the city move forward with the first phase of the pilot and consider other possibilities once the pilot has been completed and results are known.
- **SHORT TERM RESIDENTIAL RENTALS GROUP** (Sharon Suarez and NAC Coordinator Barbara Dillon) There will be an open house for the public to discuss the work of the Short Term Residential Rentals Group. The event will be held at Serendipity at 4 E. Patrick St on May 19. Further details will be sent out prior to the event.
- **NAC 11 DOWNTOWN LITTER GROUP-** (Julia Schaeffer & NAC Coordinators Tom Evans and Phil LeBlanc) Julia reported that the Downtown Frederick Partnership received a \$5,000 grant from Keep America Beautiful for addressing tobacco litter. The monies will be used to purchase cigarette butt receptacles for the downtown area. The proposed receptacles will be reviewed by the Historic Preservation Commission. The Downtown Litter Group and the Sustainability Committee support recycling the cigarette butts.

In addition, the group reported that the City's Sustainability Committee is interested in working on amendments to City Code to hold property owners/businesses responsible for maintaining litter-free sidewalks.

The participants of the NAC11 meeting congratulated Phil LeBlanc on an outstanding effort of picking up over 28,000 cigarette butts over the past few months and tracking how many and where they are typically found.

- Bruce Albaugh reported that the Downtown Partnership's annual **Bring a Broom** event will be held April 21 and now includes an Alley Cleanup detail. He encouraged residents to come out and participate.

OLD BUSINESS

- **LIVE DOWNTOWN**, is a subcommittee of the Downtown Frederick Partnership - John Menke. John asked Kara Norman to discuss the latest elements of the Live Downtown initiative. The Live Downtown initiative is working on a measures to ask the city to provide financial (tax and fee waivers), HPC, and zoning changes to help commercial property owners and developers to create additional residential units in the downtown. Their latest efforts include financial incentives for developers relating to fire suppression and installation of sprinklers. See attached document. One of their requests would include a \$1000 tax credit for a small number of residents who install fire suppression walls in their homes. See attached.
- **SQUARE CORNER PROJECT** - Kara Norman reported that the designs for the enhancements to the intersection of Market St and Patrick St will be discussed at a Mayor and Board of Alderman workshop on April 25 at 3:00 p.m. At the initial meeting last August a cost of \$600, 000 was mentioned. Kara stated the cost could be as high as \$1,000,000 for this project. See design elements and costs at http://cityoffrederick.granicus.com/MetaViewer.php?view_id=12&event_id=2709&meta_id=86427
- **EAST FREDERICK RISING** No report
- **EAST STREET CORRIDOR SMALL AREA PLAN STEERING COMMITTEE** NAC11 Coordinator Darcy Richards is on the Steering Committee and reported that the Live Downtown effort undertaken by the Downtown Partnership was reviewed at the steering committee meeting.
- **MAYOR O'CONNOR'S STRATEGIC OPPORTUNITIES ADVISORY GROUPS - Several NAC 11 Coordinators and residents** (Phil LeBlanc, Kevin Sellner, Stella Seller, Darcy Richards, Barbara Dillon, Julia Shaeffer) have attended some of the Mayor's advisory group meetings to provide input into the process. There are five groups (Civic Engagement, Technology and Communication, Economic Resilience, Expanding Opportunity, City Operations and Organization) which will report findings to the Mayor in June. Meeting dates and times are on city website. Make your opinions known.
- **SEVENTH STREET FOUNTAIN AND PARK.** Kara Norman reported on the status of the plans for renovations of the Seventh Street Fountain and Park. The NAC 11 Coordinators sent off a letter of support for a grant for the park renovation which the Downtown Frederick Partnership is trying to obtain. Kara said the budget for the city's portion of the park renovation is due to be discussed on April 23rd at City Hall. She asked that residents come and support the park renovation budget. City funding is needed for park renovations to proceed. We await the results of the grant request.

NEW BUSINESS

- **Revisions to the Sidewalk Cafe Ordinance** - Darcy Richards reported that over the past year, a number of residents have complained about a few downtown restaurants whose sidewalk cafes have extended out and taken up more room than seems reasonable and safe for sidewalk operations. These cafes are presumably within the legal limit of 5' to the curb and meet other requirements of the ordinance, which was revised to allow cafes in 2016. Other residents mentioned their proximity to light poles, parking meters etc. Two other issues are general obstruction of the right of way and the board fencing used by another. Darcy showed photos of several of the cafes that are larger than the others and asked for additional public comments and volunteers to look into the issue of revising the sidewalk cafe ordinance. Please contact Darcy at darcyrichards01@gmail.com with your comments. The sidewalk ordinance G-16-09 can be viewed at: <https://www.cityoffrederick.com/DocumentCenter/View/5507>
- **LIVEABLE FREDERICK MASTER PLAN** - Kevin Sellner reported that the revisions to the Livable Frederick Master Plan will be discussed by the County Planning Commission every Wednesday into late May. Most meetings are 9-12 at Winchester Hall except May 9th which is 1:30-4:30.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- April 23rd 6:30 – 7:30 pm Coffee with a Cop – The Arc at Market Street
- April 28th 10 am – 2pm Drug Disposal Event – 6040 New Design Rd Michele Bowman / mbowman@frederickmdpolice.org
- May 10th 5 – 8 pm Alive @ Five begins
- May 12th 10 am – 4 pm Green Neighbor Forum www.hood.edu/2018greenneighborfestival.com
- May 30th 11:30 am Special Olympics Torch Run: Contact Sgt. Carrado for more info: rcarrado@frederickmdpolice.org
- June 15th Movie Night on the Creek, first night – FREE

CONTACTS:

Facilitators:

Barbara Dillon	barbara.w.dillon@gmail.com	Phil LeBlanc	leblancp01@gmail.com
Glen Ferguson	glenferg@gmail.com	Darcy Richards	darcyrichards01@gmail.com
Bruce Albaugh	brucealbaugh@gmail.com	Ricardo Bairan	rick.bairan@gmail.com
Thomas Evans	drtomresearch@gmail.com		

Public Information/Community Outreach/NAC Liaison:

Michele Bowman 301-600-2091 mbowman@frederickmdpolice.org

Frederick Police

Sgt. Tracey Wiles 301-748-6273 twiles@frederickmdpolice.org
 Cpl. Andrew Alger 240-409-3108 aalger@frederickmdpolice.org

NAC 11 MEETINGS – 7:00 pm

Brewers Ally

2018

May 15 th	June 19 th	July 17 th
August 21 st	September 18 th	October 16 th
November 20 th		

FREDERICK POLICE DEPARTMENT

Emergency: 911

Non-Emergency: 301-600-2100

Anonymous Crime Tips

301-600 TIPS (8477) – phone

240-674-TIPS (8477) - text

fpdcrimetip@frederickmdpolice.org

Frederick Police Department and the City of Frederick have Apps!