

**MIDTOWN COMMUNITY BENEFITS DISTRICT MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES - WEDNESDAY, MARCH 7, 2018  
MICA – 1300 MT. ROYAL AVE, ROOM 160 – 6:30 PM**

**Members Present:** Michele Richter, Linda Rittelmann, Audrie Woody, Steve Johnson, Ashley Chertkof, Mac Maclure, Wesley Stuckey and by telephone Adrian Harpool, Pamela Johnson, David Lapidés, Jennifer Mielke and Rachel Index

**Staff Present:**

Peggy Smallwood, Interim Executive Director, Midtown Community Benefits District  
Stacey Johnson, Community Relations Specialist, Midtown Community Benefits District

**Visitor(s) Present:** Sahand Yazdanyar, Community Liaison for Baltimore City Council – District 11

Adrian Harpool, Chair called meeting to order at 6:34 pm

**Approval of January Minutes**

**Chair asked for a motion to approve minutes.**

*Mac McClure motioned to approve the January minutes.*

*Michele Richter seconded the motion.*

*All in favor. Motion carried.*

**Peggy Smallwood, Interim Executive Director's Report**

Peggy Smallwood gave an update on the confirmed location for the 2018 Spring Town Hall Meeting (Mount Vernon Place United Methodist Church, 10 E. Mount Vernon Pl.). She notes that as a promotional tool and a thank you, properties agreeing to host the town hall meetings will have their photo featured on the postcard that is mailed out to potential guests. She also mentions the various invitations that has been sent out to the BPD to attend the meeting.

While giving the state of Midtown update, Peggy discusses the community partnerships Midtown has been engaging in, plans to push greening fee-for-service, publishing the greening and watering schedules in April, monthly safety strategy meetings with Deployment Coordinator Rob Morris, bringing back patrol ride-alongs, scheduling a CitiWatch tour and FY2017-18 fundraising efforts and goals.

Adrian Harpool suggests taking a look at current donation amounts from district institutions and seeing if the board can be of assistance in getting donations. Pamela Johnson adds that she has been in contact with Peggy and Stacey about ways to engage the faith-based institutions in Midtown. Peggy says a follow-up meeting will take place.

**Wesley Stuckey, Clean Committee Report**

Wesley reports that several topics were raised during a productive committee meeting on February 14<sup>th</sup>:

- **Pet Waste Stations with attached trash cans** – A meeting with OpenWorks will be scheduled to see if they would be more cost effective and more customizable
- **Dog Park @ UB lots** – A meeting with Brian Windsor will be scheduled to discuss the potential use of some of UB's lots as dog parks/pet friendly areas.
- **Cleanup and Re-landscaping of area behind UB's Law Building** – A request has been made to Brian Windsor with UB to get assistance with the trash and debris collecting in the sloping land behind UB's Law Building down to I-83.

- **Station North/Mount Vernon bridges** – Midtown is looking into who owns and maintains the bridges to discuss graffiti and creative ways to visually tie the two neighborhoods together.

### **Michele Richter, Public Safety Committee Report**

On behalf of committee chair, Adrian Harpool, Michele Richter reports that Midtown is in the process of bring the “We Want You Lit” grant program back for residents. She also reports that Midtown has introduced targeted safety patrols of hotspots and are discussing ideas for supporting National Night Out events in August.

### **Steve Johnson, Budget & Finance Committee Report**

*Proposed budget distributed prior to the meeting in board meeting packets. Copies are on file at the MCBF office in the minutes binder.*

- The payroll (salaries) line increased from \$695,596 to \$707,000 which is due to the mandated minimum wage increase.
- The equipment repair line increased from \$20,000 to \$26,000 due to increase in fleet equipment.
- The fuel line will remain the same although current usage suggests it could have been lowered.
- The insurance line will see a slight increase.
- Safety program has been increased from \$2,000 to \$3,300.

Steve further notes if all goes well, Midtown could have a \$22,000 surplus at the end of the year. Linda Rittelmann asks for an explanation on the parking and storage line. Steve says the in-kind fee was pulled out of the contributions from nonprofits to reflect revenue and expenses.

### **Adrian Harpool asked for a motion to adopt FY2019 budget and present at the Spring Town Hall Meeting for community input.**

*Michele Richter motioned to adopt the FY2019 budget and present at the Spring Town Hall meeting on Wednesday, March 28, 2018.*

*Motion carried with Ashley Chertkof abstaining.*

### **Executive Committee Report/Search Committee**

*Peggy Smallwood and Stacey Johnson excuse themselves so that the board can privately discuss Executive Director Search.*

### **New business and Announcements**

- Jennifer Mielke discusses the legislation that would allow Johns Hopkins to create a private police department with Peabody included.
- Peggy Smallwood discusses the “District Think Tank” section of the board packet that contains information that may benefit each district neighborhood.

### **Adjournment**

*Chair asked for motion to adjourn the meeting.*

*All in favor. Meeting adjourned.*

*\*\*\*Next Midtown Board of Directors meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 4, 2018 at 6:30pm at the MICA Gateway building.*