

HarborWalk *Happenings*

Bulletin of the Harbor Walk Townhouse Association

September 2010

Visit our web site www.theotterbein.org for all kinds of information about Harbor Walk

Indy Race

AUTO RACING COMES TO THE STREETS OF BALTIMORE...LABOR DAY WEEKEND 2011. Indy style cars (those that run at the "Indianapolis 500")...will be racing down Pratt, Light, Conway and Russell Sts. The City expects thousands of spectators and millions of dollars of revenue from the event. The City and Baltimore Racing Development (BRD is the local group that is sponsoring the race) have involved local neighborhood groups in the planning for the last several months. Our City Council member, Bill Cole, has established the **Community Impact Group** to advise the City and BRD and to keep local residents informed as the race plans proceed. This Group is made up of representative from the directly impacted neighborhoods (including Harbor Walk) and representatives from the City and BRD. Bob Muir is our representative to this Group. The Board is in the process of establishing an online resource that Harbor Walk residents can go to ask questions and/or get current information concerning plans for the race. Information will also be in upcoming issues of *Happenings*.

Board Highlights

There was no Board meeting in August. Below are highlights from the July 14 meeting.

- Board approved two applications recommended by the ARC. 600 block of S. Hanover approved for roof replacement using energy efficient tiles of an ARC Guidelines color; 100 block of W. Hill: approved for replacement of rear windows and slider.
- Bill Rose reported that one "No Parking" sign has been replaced and another repaired in the Hughes Street parking lot.
- It was decided that the newsletter would continue to be delivered to residents rather than emailed.
- John Geist attended a meeting about placing a roundabout traffic circle at the corner of Light and Key Highway. The Board agreed to support this proposal and will also request that Hughes Street, between Light and S. Charles, have its direction reversed. The latter will prevent the dangerous traffic situation that occurs at S. Charles and Hughes as drivers disobey the "right turn only" sign.
- The lighting situation on the walkway between 416 and 418 S. Hanover was discussed. John Geist, along with neighbors, will explore options to improve, enhance and/or update fixtures

Green Thoughts in Harbor Walk

John Geist

Tree Steward: A special warm welcome to Dave Kirby who has stepped forward to serve as the HWTA Tree Steward. Dave will be working to preserve the health of Harbor Walk trees and secure replacements for street trees that have been removed by Baltimore City.

Wheel Park: The cause of the water accumulation at the south end of the park is a leaking water meter. The City will undertake this repair but the completion date is not known. Likewise, the Department of Housing and Community Development will repair the fence sections where posts have rusted through.

Replacement Trees: A grant request has been submitted to the Parks and People Foundation for funds to replace two crabapple trees at the west end of the unit block of W. Hill Street

Bulb Bazaar: Looking for bulbs to plant for spring 2011 bloom? Cylburn Arboretum is the place to go on October 8-9

Use Care

Two residents were recently victims of crime as they walked in the neighborhood, one on a Friday evening and one on a Thursday morning.

Unfortunately, we must be ever vigilant any time we are out walking. If you see anything that looks suspicious, call 911. The police have been very responsive to neighborhood residents when called. On the second Thursday of each month, residents are encouraged to join the Citizens on Patrol (C.O.P.) walk. Invite two or three of your neighbors and gather at the corner of S. Sharp and W. Henrietta (by the Otterbein Pool) at 7pm, meet a police officer, walk the neighborhood and have questions and concerns addressed. This is both an interesting community activity and an opportunity to meet one of our Southern District police officers.

Finally, we hope to develop a system in which a Board member is notified by the police if a crime in committed in our neighborhood. When notified, the list serve will be used to send out information. If you are not on the list serve, join by sending an email to harborwalk_news-subscribe@yahoogroups.com. Follow the instructions in the confirmation. This system is used sparingly and accessed by three Board members.

All of this being said, we live in a wonderful and safe area with caring neighbors and in great proximity to the many good things the city offers.

Bits and Pieces

- If you are considering a new roof, GAF Timberline “Cool Series” qualifies for a federal government eco-rebate until the end of the year. Contact ARC coordinator for more information.
- **September 6:** Maryland v Navy football, M&T Bank Stadium, 4pm (expect crowds!)
- **September 11-12:** Defenders’ Day activities and reenactment of Battle of Fort McHenry – 10am-9pm (with fireworks) Saturday; 10am-3pm Sunday
- **September 11:** Dragon Boat Races – Inner Harbor – 9am-6pm
- **September 17:** Target \$2. admission Family Fun Night at Port Discovery – 4-7pm
- **September 19:** Federal Hill Street Beat – all day
- **September 24:** Book Festival – Mount Vernon – all day
- Other Baltimore activities: www.baltimore.org

Housekeeping Items

Before beginning any exterior repairs or alterations to your home, please check with the Architectural Review Committee regarding the need for Association approval. You may also need permits from the city and, if you are an Otterbein Association member, from the OCA as well. Contact Bob Muir, ARC coordinator, at archwta@aol.com.

Trash: Every Wednesday morning. Use solid, lidded containers only. **Recycling:** Every Friday morning. Consolidated pickup of bottles, cans and paper in covered container (no plastic bags). **Bulk Trash Pickup:** First Tuesday of each month (next September 7) at your regular pickup point. **You must call 311** (city services) three days in advance to request a pickup. **Removing:** Residents in the lots off Conway or Hughes Street and behind the west side of the 600 block of South Hanover Street who find cars illegally parked in their space may call Greenwood Towing at 410-669-1661. You must provide the code G-2288. There is no charge to residents for this service.

Harbor Walk Townhouse Association Contacts

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At-large Board Members: Nancy Notaro, (410)752-0418; Lori Pearson von Coelln, (443)449-5809, lorigpearson@hotmail.com; David Robertson (410)783-7578; Bill Rose, (410)727-2379.

Coordinators – Architecture: Bob Muir (410)547-9077, archwta@aol.com; Newsletter and List Serve: Rosemary Muir; Community Relations: Chair needed; Facilities: Bill Rose; Landscaping: John Geist; Social: Nancy Notaro; Webmaster: Bill Jacob, wjacob@verizon.net, (410)727-3390; Welcome: Emma Stokes, (410)685-6435 emma.stokes@verizon.net

Next Board Meeting: Wednesday September 8, 7 p.m., University Specialty Hospital, 611 S. Charles Street. Preliminary agenda on website 9/7. www.theottrbein.org