

York Road Partnership
General Meeting Minutes
November 1, 2017

Enoch Pratt Free Library – Govans Branch 5714 Bellona Avenue

The November meeting was called to order at 7:22 P.M. by President Donna Blackwell

President Blackwell welcomed all present and asked each member to introduce him/herself.

Former Deputy Attorney General, Thiru Vignarajah, Candidate for Baltimore State's Attorney, presented himself to the Membership. For more information: WWW.THIRUFORBALTIMORE.COM .

Daisy Heartberg, Prevention Coordinator in the Mayor's Office on Criminal Justice discussed the Opioid Epidemic in Baltimore City, existence of Naloxone, and training on how to use it to save lives in our city. For more information WWW.DONTDIE.ORG .

YRP Treasurer and Recording Secretary, Francesco Legaluppi reported on two of our recent successes: YRP received both a BOPA Grant sponsored by MECU for the Guilford & Walter P. Carter Elementary Middle School Neighborhood Unity Event in the amount of \$810.00 and also a Clean Up & Green Up Maryland Grant from the Maryland Environmental Trust as part of the Keep Maryland Beautiful program in the amount of \$2,250.00. Membership was reminded that as a client of Strong City Baltimore, 9% of all gross receipts are paid to them to cover administrative fees as our financial sponsor. As such we need to make an effort to solicit as many funds as possible to offset the administrative costs of our grants and to fund our other programs.

President Donna Blackwell spoke about Community Land Trusts and Grounded Solutions as a means to affordable housing as also the desire to ask the City of Baltimore to allocate annually 20 million to deconstruct non rehabable property and 20 million to build new affordable housing through Capital Bonds. Unfortunately, Baltimore already has Capital loans on the books of 64 million per year and even raising that to the Mayor's new debt ceiling of 80 million makes this program a disproportionate ask given that schools are also in need for a 17 to 20 million dollar increase. Another funding avenue would be additional transfer taxes of property in the City that are already of the highest in the region.

Malik Jordan, Program Coordinator for the York Road Initiative announced a program of surveys of Greater Govans and York Road Communities.

Major announcements:

- BEC – Kirwan Commission November 29th
- Birdland Bash – November 8th at Zen West 5-7 PM
- Govans Presbyterian Church – Free Community Meals each Sunday 6:30 PM

Meeting was adjourned by President Blackwell at: 8:38 PM.

Respectfully submitted:

Francesco Legaluppi, Recording Secretary/ Treasurer