



**York Road Partnership
General Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, January 6, 2021
7:15 pm
Via Zoom**

1. YRP President Chris Forrest opened the meeting and a prayer for national unity was led by Andy McNeely.
2. Committee Chairs/Co-Chairs quickly described their committees:
 - Marie Anderson - Public Spaces and Greening
 - Andy McNeely - Youth Development
 - Leila Kohler-Frueh - Housing and Neighborhood Revitalization
 - Chris Forrest/Lisa O'Reilly - Business Engagement
 - Chris Forrest - Public Safety
3. Councilman Mark Conway provided an update:

New staff: Chief of Staff Vidushani Jayalal
 Director of Community Engagement Kashawna Duncan (KD)
 Director of Policy and Communications David Pontious

Mark is chairing the Public Safety and Government Operations Committee and is a member of the Economic and Community Development Committee. One of his first actions in the council will be an investigatory hearing on the water billing process. He is also working on the citywide green network, slowing traffic on Northern Parkway and York Road signal changes and striping crosswalks on the corridor.

. Mark also shared that he wants to revisit the BID - the Business Improvement District. He announced that Jan 28, 6 pm is the 1st 4th District Meeting of his term - more info to come.
4. Captain Shorter gave an update from the Northern District Police. His email is: Jeffrey.shorter@baltimorepolice.org
5. Karen DeCamp and Chris Forrest gave an update on proposed Human Crematorium at Vaughn Greene Funeral Home. Because there has been no outreach to the community by the funeral home, YRP volunteers flyered all the blocks around the funeral home seeking the opinion of the most affected residents by email or phone. Chris received many emails and calls and there was overwhelming opposition to the human crematorium. The next step is to put together a meeting with Vaughn Greene and residents. The 43rd delegation sent a letter to MD Dept of the Environment opposing the crematorium. Rodney Burris asked for more information on the pollution from crematoria. Deborah Givens asked if a petition against it could be started. Unfortunately, in a meeting with Councilman Conway and Senator Washington, Vaughn Greene officials stated that they have been working on this crematorium for 2-3 years and are unwilling to consider another location.
6. Leila Kohler-Frueh highlighted the work of Carolyn Anewich at Soul Kitchen, which

provides meals at Govans Presbyterian Church every Sunday Night. Councilman Conway presented Carolyn with a City Council Citation for her work. Here's where to sign-up for Soul Kitchen volunteering this month:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f054eaaaf2ea6fe3-soul2>

7. Announcement: January 20th at 7pm: Loyola University's Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Convocation with Dr. Ibram X. Kendi. Register here: <https://www.loyola.edu/join-us/mlk-convocation>

Next Meeting:

Wednesday, February 4, 2021