

This quarterly newsletter is brought to you by the Waverly Improvement Association, Inc.

Waverly Newsletter

March 2016

WaverlyImprovement.org

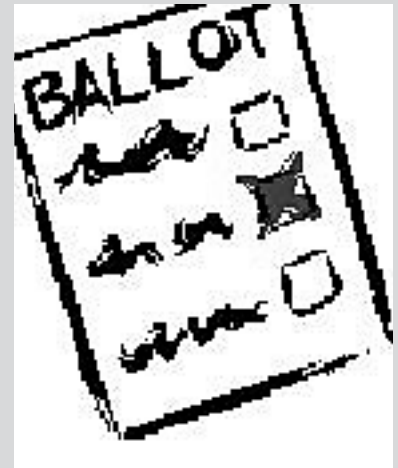
Baltimore, MD

General Meeting
for
Waverly Improvement Association
March 1st

Tuesday, March 1st, 6:30-8:30 pm
Waverly Elementary Middle School
Enter on 700 block of E 34th St

Meet your Candidates
Cast your vote for the 2016 WIA new Board

All are invited, including owners, renters, prospective residents, and kids under adult supervision. Hear the latest scoop on the neighborhood and have a chance to voice your comments and concerns!



PRESIDENT'S NOTES

THANK YOU!!! THANK YOU!!! THANK YOU!!! THANK YOU!!!

It is an honor to serve the community. You see, "President" is only a title, but acting on the responsibility of the office of President was my obligation. Making a few people happy was not my goal, instead it was seeing relationships grow within the community. We have had a lot of tragedy, and we have come together to make a difference.

Your smiles, words of encouragement, support and prayers have kept me going. Sometimes, it was very hard and I wanted to give up, but my love for the community would not let me. There was also support and help from outside of the community. Many told me, "do not give up, you are not alone," and I knew I was not.

I would like to thank all who have helped our community and me in the last two years. Thank you for your ways with words. Thank you for moving forward with a master plan. Thank you for organizing and planning events to benefit and showcase our community. Thank you for sweeping and picking up trash. Thank you for reaching out to your neighbors. Thank you for your spiritual support. Thank you for calling 311, 911, and reporting on unkempt properties. And a huge thank you for the information you gave me to help me make some critical decisions.

It would be impossible to name everyone that has helped throughout the years, but I am hoping you will find yourself appreciated in the above statements. I will continue to be on the board and give my support to our community.

UPDATE ON COMMUNITY EFFORTS

WAVERLY YOUTH/FAMILY/CULTURAL/COMMUNITY CENTER

Neighbors who are educators and resource providers are asked to join us to open a Waverly Youth Family Cultural Center. We are building a team to look for spaces, educators and service providers, and grants to fund programming. SUPPORT OUR YOUTH!!! Do you have a suggestion for what you'd like to see? Do you have children that you want in the programming we plan? Call 443-226-0538 (TC Greene) or email wia21218@yahoo.com

COMMUNITY MASTER PLAN

We have just begun these efforts - starting with taking bids on the 'Venable School' - the old Waverly Middle School. Do you want to be a part of working on a Master Plan? Email wia21218@yahoo.com or call 443.416.7415 to get involved. We will look at our community as a whole and develop a plan for each of our vacant houses and buildings, empty lots, institutions, and more. Planning for the neighborhood we want as owners and renters in the community, to keep the neighborhood affordable while it grows and to attract the investors we need. This includes the possibility of creating a Community Land Trust, planning small and large Greening Projects, and sharing our unique cultural perspective through Arts Programming. PLEASE COME JOIN US.

PEACE IN THE COMMUNITY

We are planning Peace in the Community events and vigils for our community beginning in the spring. To volunteer to help with planning email, Merrick Moise: mmoise@sattorney.org

SAFETY

Every single one of us deserves to live in peace. With an uptick of violent crime, we ask that all neighbors really look out for each other in a way they perhaps, didn't before. When walking, try to take a buddy with you. Keep your porch light on every night! And pay attention to who is around you! We have an incredible community, full of truly beautiful, brilliant, hard working and skilled people, from young to old and in between. Let's do our part to bring opportunity, healing and non-violent solutions to our homes and our neighborhood as a whole. Every single one of us deserves to live in peace.

WIA Safety Committee is currently tracking our vacant and nuisance properties, is currently in need of people willing to keep an eye on a property and report to the committee once a month or when they see changes. For questions, concerns, or to get involved

contact us at WaverlySafety@gmail.com or call Alicia at 443-722-2024

PORCH LIGHT DECREASE CRIME

It's true: streets with most of their porch lights on at night experience up to 30% decrease in crime compared to when the same street is dark. Fewer home and car break-ins, less car theft, fewer muggings. At the same time, lighted porches give a pleasant welcoming atmosphere to the neighborhood. Street lights just are not enough.

And it costs almost nothing! Keeping your porch light on for 12 hours dusk to dawn using a modern compact fluorescent bulb in your existing fixture costs about a nickel a day -- much more energy efficient than old incandescent bulbs, and they last up to 10x longer. So join in! Turn on your porch light at night. This spring/summer WIA is going to have a campaign to encourage residents to turn on their front porch lights. Simple, and effective. If you'd like to help with the effort, contact anyone on the WIA board. Or come to the March 1st General Meeting --- we'll be giving away compact florescent bulbs to kick things off!

CONCERNED ABOUT A VACANT OR PROBLEM PROPERTY?

Waverly residents involved in the WIA Safety Committee continue to work with city partners and neighbors to resolve problem and vacant properties in our neighborhood. Given the need to respect owners' property rights, bureaucracy, and lingering effects of the foreclosure crisis, the process can be lengthy. BUT, you might have noticed a number of Waverly houses that now are being rehabbed. We're making progress!

Yes, we have a long way to go until all vacants are turned into welcoming homes for new neighbors. But there are many things we can each do to help push things forward. One of the most helpful is to make 311 reports (web or phone) about problems you see: unsafe structures, vacant homes that are open, illegal dumping, etc. We're happy to help you do this if you'd like. It really does make a difference. If you are concerned about a property near you or want other ideas for how to help, please get in touch with us!

Calendar of Upcoming Events

March

- March 1, Tuesday, 4pm Waverly Elementary/Middle School Resource Fair
- March 1, Tuesday 6:30-8:30pm – Waverly Improvement Association General Meeting and Annual Elections @ Waverly School (use entrance on 700 block of E 34th St)
- March 12, Saturday, noon -Waverly Library Free family flick
- March 19, Saturday, 12:30-4:30pm -Waverly Library. Job Seeker Workshop
- March 26, Saturday, 11am- Waverly Library CAN THIS RELATIONSHIP BE SAVED?
- March 28, Monday, 5pm - Waverly Library Teen Movie Night

April

- April 14 - 21 EARLY VOTING
- April 17, Saturday, 12:30-4:30pm -Waverly Library. Job Seeker Workshop
- April 26, Tuesday - PRIMARY ELECTION for MAYOR, CITY COUNCIL, Etc.
- April 30th, Saturday, 9am - 12pm Community Clean-up. Meet at Venable and Old York!

FREE INCOME TAX PREPARATION
LESS THAN \$54,000 INCOME
Northern Community Action Center
5225 York Road, 21212
Baltimore City Residents Only
CALL FOR AN APPOINTMENT
410-234-8008

2016 DUMPSTER DATES

March 26th, 38th and Ellerslie
May 14th, Chestnut Hill and Frisby
July 9th, Venable and Frisby
September 17th, Old York and 35th

New City Trash Cans Coming!!!

Baltimore City is distributing one free trash can to every residential address. Using these cans will help keep our neighborhoods and waterways clean. Please begin using your can as soon as it arrives. Your collection day and pickup location will remain the same.

Waverly Library Open Weekly Events

The Waverly branch of the Enoch Pratt Free Library, located at 400 E. 33rd St,

The library has free wi-fi and 54 public computers available. Its programming is in full swing now, and some highlights of the weekly schedule include:

- Mother Goose Baby Steps – Thursdays 10:30am – Ages 0-2 with adult
- Preschool Leaps – Tuesdays 10:30am – Ages 3-5 with adult
- Family Reading Circle – Mondays 5:30pm – Ages 9-12 with adult, registration required
- Teen Chess – Wednesdays 5:00pm – Ages 13-18
- Line Dance Fitness Class – Mondays 12:30pm – Adults

Neighborhood Church Events

All are welcome to take part in events and services offered by our Waverly churches.

New Waverly United Methodist Church

644 E 33rd St, Rev. Kevin Slayton, Sr.

Events every Saturday:

- Soup kitchen: 11:00am - 1:00pm
- Free clothing: 11:00am - 1:00pm
- Zumba: 10:15am - 11:30am, \$5 per class

Mt. Oliver Missionary Baptist Church

513 E 36th St, Bishop Dwight D. Dodd, Sr.

- Free counseling services, call 410-235-4778
- Food pantry and free clothing available 2nd Tuesday of each month, 4:00pm - 6:00pm
- Gospel Skate November 21, \$10 per person

Resources & WIA Notices

Baltimore City Primary Elections

April 26th (Early voting April 14th - 21st)

Very important local elections! Use your vote to make a difference! Go to

<https://voterservices.elections.maryland.gov/PollingPlaceSearch> for more info.



Our mediators mediate any community conflict that includes:

- Neighborhood disputes i.e. noise, parking trash, harassment, property damage, etc.
- Community Associations and Business disputes
- Landlord/Tenant disputes
- Interpersonal disputes i.e. co-workers, roommates, friendships
- School-based disputes i.e. truancy, student/student, student/teacher, etc.
- Parenting Plans
- Prison Re-entry
- Police Complaints

Mediation is a free, voluntary and confidential process in which a neutral mediator helps people find solutions to their conflicts.

To learn more about Community Mediation and the work that we do email crs@communitymediation.org, call (410) 467-9165 or check out our website at www.communitymediation.org

Community Resources

N. District Police Liaison: Officer Doug Gibson
410-396-2455, douglas.gibson@baltimorepolice.org

4th District Councilman: Bill Henry
410-396-4830, bill.henry@baltimorecity.gov

14th District Councilwoman: Mary Pat Clarke
410-396-4814, marypat.clarke@baltimorecity.gov

City Council President: Bernard C. "Jack" Young
410-396-4804, councilpresident@baltimorecity.gov

Mayor: Stephanie Rawlings-Blake
410-396-3835, mayor@baltimorecity.gov

Waverly Improvement Association, Inc.

The mission of the WIA is to coordinate and bring together the people of Waverly to help build a clean, safe and drug-free neighborhood. We welcome new ideas and participation on the Board.

Connecting Online

The newsletter is quarterly, but there's always something new happening in Waverly! Stay up to date and connect with neighbors through our Facebook group, Yahoo group, and Nextdoor. Find links to join the groups at www.waverlyimprovement.org.

Paying Dues

Annual dues are \$5 per person and give you voting rights in WIA elections. Dues help cover the cost of newsletters, socials, neighborhood cleanups, and other initiatives that benefit Waverly. Pay at the quarterly meeting or by mailing a check to WIA at P.O. Box 7115, Baltimore, MD 21218.

Contacting WIA

wia21218@yahoo.com
410-591-3503
P.O. Box 7115, Waverly Station
Baltimore, MD 21218

WIA Officers

President: Patricia Taylor

WIA Board Members

Mona Addison
Natalya Brusilovsky
Bishop Dwight Dodd Sr.
Rev. Jacqueline Dodd
Joi Drake
Marian Johnson