EBDI Community Project Update Meeting
Wednesday, May 25, 2016
5:30 pm

1731 East Chase Street
1st Floor Conference Room

Agenda

I. Welcome  Raymond A. Skinner
II. Frontline Management Update  Angela LaPrade
III. Resident Communication Resource for Security Notifications  Denise Whitfield
IV. EBDI Updates  Raymond Skinner
V. Questions
VI. Adjournment

Next Meeting:
Wednesday, September 7, 2016 @ 5:30pm
EBDI 2016 Community Meeting
Notes

May 25, 2016
5:30pm – 7:00pm

Welcome
With a start time of approximately 5:35pm, EBDI’s President and CEO Raymond A. Skinner welcomed community members to the third EBDI Community Update Meeting. A preview of the agenda items was provided to the community members for review. Mr. Skinner spoke briefly about the security and maintenance efforts within the EBDI area that are provided through Front-line Management Services. Mr. Skinner quickly moved forward by introducing Angela Laprade, Frontline Management Services, who was presenting updates in the absence of Andre Bonaparte.

Frontline Management
Angela Laprade was able to apologize to the group on behalf of Andre Bonaparte for his inability to attend today’s meeting. The group was presented with an update on some of the crimes that had taken place in the EBDI area in the month of April 2016. Mrs. Laprade was able to talk the group about the importance of individuals taking the appropriate precaution to maintain their safety in the community. It was also noted that there is a monthly “Coalition Meeting” that takes place the 2nd Tuesday of the month from 11am-12pm where several representatives attend to discuss crime issues within the area. It was stated that resident are invited to attend the meetings if desired. Mrs. LaPrade then talked briefly about an “Escort Handoff” between John Hopkins and P-Chain Security for those individuals that may need an escort within the EBDI area for safety purposes. Mr. Skinner asked for clarification as to who would be eligible for the service. Mrs. LaPrade confirmed that all residents in the 88 acres are eligible for the service. It was stated that resident could call 410-707-1467 if escort services is needed. The group was also given an update on officer Negron who now have access to a patrol vehicle as he is servicing the EBDI area. Mrs. Laprade then encouraged the group to take advantage of the “Day at The Market” which is held every Wednesday at Northeast Market where residents can access resources pertaining to health as well as other areas. It was also reported that there is a Community Health Forum coming up on Monday June 6, 2016. Residents were provided with a flier that outlines the details. Mrs. Laprade also presented resident with several other flier that addresses Neighborhood Crime Watch, Keys to Preventing Vehicle Theft, Street Sense, Recycling, Scholarship Opportunities, as well as the East Baltimore Historic Library. There was a conversation in reference to the membership fees for the Historic Library. It was suggested that the conversation in reference
to the library should be tabled until a representative can be present to talk more about the details.

**E-Mail Chain for Security Notifications**
Mr. Skinner was able to introduce Mrs. Denise Whitfield who is a community resident that interested in offering her support to in getting Johns Hopkins Security notifications out to community residents that are interested. Mrs. Whitfield was able to present community residents with a copy of a notification that she had received from Johns Hopkins Corporate Security for review/ discussion. It was noted that Johns Hopkins employees receive notifications as things are going on in the area. Mrs. Whitfield states that she is proposing to set up a voluntarily e-mail group so she can forward the notifications to residents in the community that may not be Johns Hopkins employees as a courtesy. It was stated that the e-mail group is totally voluntary for those individuals that would like to be a part of the e-mail group. Mrs. Whitfield states that this is truly an attempt to improve communication among residents. There was a sign-in sheet passed around to community residents so that individuals that are interested in taking part in the e-mail group could sign.

**EBDI Project Update**
Mr. Skinner provided an update on the status of the following projects within the EBDI project area:

1. **Eager Park** - Mr. Skinner was able to give the group the location and boundaries for the park. It was noted that Eager Park is scheduled to be completed in late fall 2016. Mr. Skinner indicated that the park is currently on land that is owned by EBDI. Once the park is completed, it will be turned over to the New East Baltimore Community Association who will be the owners and will be responsible for providing maintenance and security. There was a question from a resident who asked what would be in the park. It was stated that there will be an amphitheater, play area, track, exercise area, etc.

2. **Windermere (49 Townhomes)** - It was noted that the first 7 units are scheduled to be completed by July 2016. In September 2016, there is going to be a big event with the thought of selling as many of the units as possible. It was stated that there will be tents set up with lenders present. There was a question as to the cost for the units. Mr. Skinner stated that the units would sell in the price range of $269,000.

3. **Hotel** - It was noted that the hotel is scheduled to open in late 2017.

4. **Water & Sewer Line, Night Lights, Sidewalks, and trees will start being installed in specific areas of the project area within the next few months** - Mr. Skinner was able to talk to resident about the specific areas that will be affected. It was noted that the infrastructure work is going to be very disruptive at time as repairs are being made. Karen Johnson stated that there is going to have to be a conversation...
within EBDI about how the infrastructure information will be passed out due to its high sense of urgent when it gets to that point.

5. **1812 Ashland** - Forest City is close to signing a lease agreement with Starbucks

6. **Sumer 2016** - It was noted that there are two “Fast Casual Restaurants” coming.

7. **Pizza Shop** - It was noted that there are efforts taking place to get a pizza store in the graduate student housing building.

Open Discussion

- Community members outside of the EBDI footprint voiced numerous concerns regarding damaged to street after construction, increased property taxes due to property values going up after construction is completed to other units in the neighborhood. It was stated that the area discussed are not under EBDI’s authority. The resident was directed to the City of Baltimore to discuss the issues with the damages to the streets and SDAT to see if he qualifies for the homestead and/or the homeowner’s tax credit.

- Councilman Elect, Robert Stokes, asked about employment opportunities since the EBDI workforce pipeline is no longer in existence. There was an update on the relationship that EBDI has with the Mayor’s Office of Employment Development where residents can still access opportunities (It was stated that residents can contact Yvette Clark at MOED for workforce needs). It was also reported that there is a “Jobs HUB” that is in the planning stage to connect residents’ to employment opportunities (Additional information to come).

- Councilman Elect, Robert Stokes, asked about future to prepare residents for the upcoming employment opportunities that will be available within the EBDI area. It was stated that there will be additional trainings to prepare residents. There was a conversation about trainings through Jump Start, Bio Science, Bio Tech., and Hospitality trainings.

- There was a question in reference to the amount of jobs that will be created through the hotel. It was stated that there will be 300 jobs.

- There was a question in reference to the community re-investment fund. Cheryl Washington was able to address all concerns.

- Donald Gresham presented Ray Skinner with a form with some information that he/the community would like EBDI to present for the next meeting (Mr. Gresham was able to give a copy of the form to the group). No additional comments were made in reference to the request.

- Resident asked why the EBDI center is not available for community meetings at this time? It was stated that there is an attempt to migrate the meetings to the Henderson Hopkins Shared Space process which is what it was set up for. There was a brief discussion about other reasons that the meetings are unable to take place at the EBDI center (Funding is no longer available to cover security and janitorial services). It was also stated that there would be insurance liabilities.
- Resident asked what the plans are for the units that remain standing in the 1800 Block of Chase St. It was stated that EBDI has an agreement with MHT where the properties will be rehabbed and there will be infilled new housing around the units.
- Resident asked about the status of the housing on Madeira St. It was stated that the units will be rehabbed (There was no response to the RFP that was put out).
- Resident asked if there was anything scheduled to take place with Dee’s Place (Substance Abuse Center). It was reported that the participants have been seen walking through the neighborhood dropping needles and going into vacant units using drugs. It was stated that it is not known what will happen to Dee’s Place. The resident was also able to talk to EBDI staff after the meeting about safety measures to take when illegal activities are happening.
- Resident asked if there is going to be a community garden in the Eager Park. It was stated that there will be a garden in the northern region of the park.
- Resident asked when the results will be received in reference to the Right To Return Survey. It was reported that the results should be received on 6/6/2016.
- There was question in reference to there being a grocery store placed in the EBDI area. It was reported that Forrest City is still talking to potential vendors. There was a brief discussion about past efforts to solidify a grocery store in the area.