

Save Middle East -

501 c3 / incorporating
as membership org → community association

open to anyone

B'way / Patterson Plk /
Biddle / ~~Manhattan~~ (?)
Orleans

membership \$1

\$333.00 now

business / church \$5

associate #

* 1025 N 21205 Boardley
1000 N. Castle - Violet's ^ block
people buying The block right now

6pm MON → School #101

1013 N Castle

930 N Wash

1008 N. Castle

933 N Wash Ms Bergman

1036 N. Castle

1009 N Castle

a

June 15, 2001

Hi Violet,

Enclosed are the sheets on the properties you wanted.

Here's what I'm sending:

The four properties on Castle Street – 1008, 1009, 1013 and 1036. They all turn out to be owned by the same or similar companies (I'll check ownership, too) and then I printed out some others on the 900 block and 1000 block that are also owned by them. It kind of looks like they are buying and selling to each other. I wonder if money even changes hands -- if they are just shifting from company to company and they are all really the same one. They might be creating dummy sales to force Hopkins to pay them more \$\$\$. Note that all the properties in the 1000 block of Castle (including your own which I also included) are assessed at \$ 9,000. This makes it strange that they are "selling" for \$ 42,000 - \$ 50,000. What do you think?

I also enclosed the two properties on Washington Street, 930 and 933 N. as well as the lists which have ownership of every property in certain blocks of Castle and Washington St. This is how I figured out what MORORM, LLC, NAVI, LLC and Gideon, LLC also owned.

Please let me know if there's anything else I dig out for you. I'll be away, though, from June 21st to July 3rd but will be back after that.

Keep up your fight! There's lots of people who are with you all the way.

Betty Robinson

410-539-1369 (work)

410-366-2631 (home)

Betty Robinson

From: Betty Robinson
Sent: Thursday, May 24, 2001 8:10 PM
To: 'regclark@aol.com'
Subject: Save Middle East

Hi Rev. Clark, I've been thinking lots about the Monday meeting and the work that needs to be done! I'll just write down some thoughts off the top of my head that I as an organizer would be thinking about --

First, the meeting: The city had clearly already made their plans even though they denied it. They didn't disclose much -- in fact deliberately and cleverly kept information from people -- the SUN article showed us that because the SUN clearly had access to the Abell report (for example, the 1,000 market rate homes at \$115,000) -- and they tried to give the appearance of inclusion. Also by inferring with their maps that the bio-tech park would only be three city blocks, they were manipulating people. All these businesses that the bio-tech park needs to "grow" will also need land. Land that will be taken for the most part from elderly homeowners. Hattie Harrison was completely out of order in saying that the residents had contributed to the downfall of their own neighborhood and then trying to shame people into thinking they hadn't been responsible because they didn't make citizens arrests! That was another splitting tactic. [People sometimes need an organized opportunity to discuss meetings like this and share their anger and frustrations about it.]

SMEAC could request a copy of the feasibility study from the city and/or from Abell Foundation (410-547-1300, Robert Embry, Abell Foundation, 111 S. Calvert St, 21202). First, ask Laurie Schwartz's office. If they refuse that's a good base on which to question the city's real interest in including residents. Abell will probably say they did this for the city and they can't give it out. Somehow, however, there will be a way to get it!

On the SMEAC side: Residents there had their first and second victories when the city hadn't come with enough packets and when they forced the city not to split people up in groups. There was another victory when you asked people to stand up if SMEAC had been the ones to tell them about the meeting. To me this showed the power of the people! These will be important lessons to draw for people and will help to gather city-wide support. Now people have to work on winning some bigger victories....

[BTW - It was pretty clear that Hattie Harrison and her son Skip think that alot of the people will move to the houses in the Oliver community. I wonder where this \$\$ is coming from? They are renovating 50 at this time.]

ORGANIZATION BUILDING

Organization building is key at this time. This might include finishing the survey, building a data base, having some regular contact with people with information (a newsletter?) and inspirational ways to keep people together and seeing that they really can rely on eachother. The city and the politicians have kept people so passive and divided, this will be an uphill battle but not impossible. It could include having some regular contact with people (a one page newsletter?), community wide information meetings -- on the experience of other communities, on whatever that word was that Carl Clark told us about (the word that meant residents insisting that their demands are met to let the city have theirs), another on the Federal relocation rules, etc.

ORGANIZING SUPPORT AROUND THE CITY

If you think about all the places support can be drawn from, it is enormous -- first would be families and friends of the people affected. Residents need to encourage families, etc to give support and get involved. SMEAC might want to provide an opportunity for this to happen -- a big fundraising event or something like that -- or even a smaller thing like a 50-50 raffle which can be used as an organizing tool as well. Then there are other neighborhoods who may be facing this same issue; churches, college groups, other organizations -- especially ones that the homewoners belong to -- their unions, churches in other parts of the city, etc are alos potential supporters. Each resident has to become an advocate for themselves and for SMEAC and can be asked who they have relationships with who could join this fight.

INCLUSION IN THE CITY PROCESS

The first (possible) one that comes to mind is to SLOW DOWN the city's time table by coming up with a PLAN from SMEAC of how the community can really be involved and then going to the city to insist that they follow the SMEAC plan. (with whatever process you all want). It will be really hard to really organize the community in 6 weeks, ie by mid-July when the city will be having its "charette" .

Another option --to start work on a planning process that SMEAC does independently of the city -- kind of an agenda that people agree they want to fight around -- and then go to the charette prepared to really stick to certain of the demands while still being open to discussing options. The city was good (and will continue to be) at splitting people from eachother

Monday -- people may get scared and will be frustrated and may go along with offers the city makes because of their fear of what will happen. Sometimes a low offer sounds good if there hasn't been discussion of what people deserve for their hard work as stable tax paying, law abiding citizens. SMEAC will have to work hard to make sure this doesn't happen.

Other types of demands:

JOBS

What kind of jobs will be good ones? What are the employment needs in the community currently? What do young people think? A guarantee of xx number of jobs for EB residents, as well as the training programs having to take into account the skills people need to even qualify for the jobs as well as to get them? For example, someone told me that those sterilization jobs they kept talking about which have a 12 week training program are not going to be jobs which everyone can easily qualify for. I think the figure was of 300 applicants, only 40 passed the mental and dexterity tests which were required to actually get the training. A guarantee of certain % of all construction jobs for EB residents? -- getting people into apprenticeship programs NOW so they are in responsible positions by the time the construction begins.

HOUSING

What do the senior homeowners want their community to be like -- would there be blocks specifically renovated for the present homeowners? What do the people estimate "making them whole" would be? Certainly not the market value of their houses. Maybe people should be encouraged to add up all the improvements they've made in their homes like the lady paying for a \$6,000 furnace. Also, low income homeowners need to share in the city's revitalization -- one way would be for the city to make them "Whole" by being sure that whatever home they have provides them some equity. [At some people could learn the history of government sponsored programs which kept black families for developing this equity in their homes: examples are many but one is government policy is the VA loans after WW2 and Korean War -- you had to buy houses in stable areas. White vets bought in new subdivisions which were defacto segregated, blacks had to buy in the city. White's homes are now worth > 100,000; black homeowners are lucky if they can get 10,000. This was government sponsored racial inequality. (Not to mention blockbusting, red-lining, etc).]

Sorry if I rambled. I just wanted to get this out on paper to you. I have every trust and confidence that you and SMEAC will develop great ideas and plans and I am ready to help in anyway you need me to.

Betty Robinson

Tel: 410-539-1369 Fax: 410-625-7895 e-mail:bettyr@cphabaltimore.org home: 410-366-2631

If you give me a fish, you feed me for a day...

If you teach me to fish, then you have fed me until the river is polluted or the shoreline is taken for development

But if you teach me to organize, then whatever the challenge I can join together with others and we will find our own solution

Save Middle East Action Coalition

The following questions/statements have been placed under categories to group issues and concerns that Middle East Baltimore residents have regarding their continued residency status in Middle East Baltimore.

Housing Issues:

- How can we be guaranteed a relocation home/situation equal to what they will be leaving?
- How can we be guaranteed that we can stay in Middle East if that is where we want to live?
- Why are families dislocated and not able to get the houses that Hopkins owns? Why aren't these dislocated residence placed in the newly renovated homes owned by Hopkins?
- What is the plan for housing for Middle East residence?
- What type of relocation package will Hopkins offer?
- Who decides which houses get taken?

Community Issues:

- Can Johns Hopkins commit to do minutes of meetings with elected officials regarding the fate of Middle East and share those minutes with the residence?
- Can community representatives on the Steering Committee be at meetings to share their views.
- How will community representatives be accountable for bringing information back to the community?
- What is the plan for Middle East? Where in the process does that plan stand?

Bio-Tech Park (Johns Hopkins)

- What is a Bio-Tech Park?
- Why not put the Bio-Tech Park in an industrial area, not residential area?
- What will be the boundaries of this Bio-Tech Park?

Legal Issues

- What are our legal options? (Engage a lawyer)
- What is happening to notices that are supposed to go to homeowners?
- Will eminent domain be used to acquire residents' property without just compensation? If so, how can it be used legally?
- Council Bill 00023 - What has happened with this Bill?
- What Bills have already been passed?

Money Issues

- Where has the money that went to HEBCAC gone?
- What has happened to the Empowerment Zone Money for Middle East Baltimore?

Betty Robinson

From: Greg LeRoy [goodjobs@ctj.org]
Sent: Tuesday, June 05, 2001 10:02 AM
To: Me
Subject: Landmark L.A. Victory!

A landmark subsidy-accountability victory was announced last week, in which a coalition of more than 30 community groups and labor unions won numerous concessions from the developers of the L.A. Sports and Entertainment District. The Figueroa Corridor Coalition for Economic Justice was organized in 1999 by Strategic Actions for a Just Economy (SAJE); it includes the community groups and unions as well as 200 local residents who will be affected by the massive redevelopment project.

The agreement calls for many community and job benefits that will reduce the harm and increase the benefits of the project for local residents, including 20% affordable housing set-asides, 70% living wage job targets, open space subsidies, parking set-asides, and monetary assistance to local non-profit development corporations.

Gilda Haas, of FCCEJ, said: "This agreement is historic. It is the first time that a developer in Los Angeles has taken the full breadth of community issues into consideration, including housing, employment and quality of life. The reason it was possible is because our coalition includes that diversity and because STAPLES Center was willing to negotiate with us."

Besides SAJE, signers of the document were the Central American Resource Center, Coalition for Humane Immigrant Rights of Los Angeles, Coalition LA, Concerned Citizens of South Central Los Angeles, Environmental Defense--Environmental Justice Project Office, Esperanza Community Housing Corporation, Hotel Employees and Restaurant Employees Local 11, and the LA Alliance for a New Economy.

Greg LeRoy
Good Jobs First -- www.goodjobsfirst.org
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Los Angeles Times
May 31, 2001

Community, Developers Agree on Staples Plan;
Deal: The proposed entertainment and sports district could become a model for urban partnerships.

By Lee Romney, Times Staff Writer

Ending the threat of widespread opposition, the developers of a major hotel and entertainment center around Staples Center have agreed to an unprecedented package of concessions demanded by community groups,

environmentalists and labor.

The developers--including billionaire Philip Anschutz and media mogul Rupert Murdoch--agreed to hire locally, provide "living wage jobs" and build affordable housing and new parks. The deal is scheduled to be announced today after months of confidential negotiations.

The billion-dollar project is seen as vital to the revitalization of downtown Los Angeles. Known as the L.A. Sports and Entertainment District, it would be anchored by a 45-story hotel with at least 1,200 rooms at Olympic Boulevard and Georgia Street. The project also would include a 7,000-seat theater for musicals, award shows and other live entertainment. Restaurants, nightclubs and retail stores would be built around a plaza.

A 250,000-square-foot expansion of the adjacent Los Angeles Convention Center also is in the plan, as well as two apartment towers with a total of 800 units and a second smaller hotel.

The deal brokered with the coalition of activist groups, unions and residents, which will become part of the development agreement, is believed to be the first of its kind nationwide to take such a broad array of community concerns into account, according to economic and community development experts. Union and neighborhood leaders are hopeful that it will serve as a blueprint for similar projects, particularly when hefty public subsidies are involved.

"I've never heard of an agreement that's as comprehensive as this," said Greg LeRoy, director of the Washington-based Good Jobs First, a national clearinghouse that tracks the public benefits of economic development projects. "What's unusual here is that [housing, employment and open-space provisions are] all together. . . . It's really a model."

The development partnership, led by the Los Angeles Arena Land Co., also owns Staples Center. That project received Los Angeles city approval in 1997 on the condition that the developers eventually build the massive complex to help the Convention Center attract more business.

But community opposition posed a serious threat, in part because the hotel project likely will require a city subsidy that could exceed \$75 million. While scattered resistance may yet emerge, the developers now can claim the backing of the groups most affected by the development, including 29 community groups, about 300 predominantly immigrant residents of the neighborhood and five labor unions.

"I think the City Council has to be pleased with that . . . because those are the people who will be most impacted," said John Sheppard, land use planning deputy to Councilwoman Rita Walters, who represents the neighborhood and arranged the first meeting between community groups and Arena Land President Tim Leiweke last fall.

Next week's city elections added urgency to the mix. Marching orders for Ted Tanner, senior vice president of Staples Center and Arena Land--the main

developer--were to secure all city entitlements by the end of June. Getting the community on board, and avoiding a protracted fight, was "extremely important," he said.

The city Planning Commission approved the plan May 23. It is scheduled for a vote before the Community Redevelopment Agency next week and then moves to City Council.

The approach on both sides of the table stands in marked contrast to the way things went down when Staples Center rose from the ground just two years ago. Then, the community was neither organized nor informed enough to act, and Staples officials now concede they were insensitive to community needs.

Still, the new deal did not come easy. Many coalition members are more accustomed to protest than to the 100 hours of labor-style negotiations that ultimately produced the package. Early relations were rocky. When Leiweke canceled plans to attend the first meeting with residents last October, organizers placed his name placard on an empty chair, addressing him angrily in his absence.

But the tone changed over time as mutual trust built. By March, Tanner--who had been anointed lead negotiator by Leiweke--delivered an update to residents in accented Spanish, and was met with applause.

Tanner said the difficulty in negotiations was in striking a balance--to meet the demands of the coalition without burdening the development or its tenants with costly conditions not required elsewhere.

"Our goal in continuing negotiations was to win true support and advocacy for the project," said Tanner, an architect who early in his career sat across the table from community groups on urban planning projects in Philadelphia. "Their goal was the same--to see if we could make this project better and improve benefits for the community."

For community groups, unions and residents, however, the deal has even broader implications. The effort, they say, has yielded the most tangible results yet of a nascent strategy to serve the overall interests of neighborhoods.

"It's a huge step forward," said Madeline Janis-Aparicio, executive director of the Los Angeles Alliance for a New Economy and one of the lead community negotiators. "Bringing all these groups together showed how housing relates to jobs relates to environment. These are holistic people with holistic needs, and to have a developer take that into account . . . is just amazing."

Among the highlights of the deal:

* More than \$1 million for the creation or improvement of parks within a mile of the project, with community input; a one-acre public plaza and

other
public open space.

* At least 70% of the estimated 5,500 permanent jobs to be created by the project--including those offered by tenants--will pay a living wage or better. Those are defined as paying \$7.72 an hour with benefits or \$8.97 without, or covered by collective bargaining agreement. The deal also calls on the developer to notify the coalition 45 days before signing tenant lease agreements.

* A local hiring and job training program for those displaced by the arena, living within three miles of the project or living in low-income areas citywide. Developers will give \$100,000 in seed funding to create specialized job training programs through local community groups and ensure that appropriate residents are notified first of jobs.

* A residential parking permit program, financed by developers for five years, that will reserve street parking for residents. Common in affluent areas, officials say it will become the first parking permit zone in a low-income neighborhood.

* Construction of between 100 and 160 affordable housing units, or 20% of the total project. Those will be affordable to residents earning below 50%, 60% and 80% of the area's median income. The units exceed Community Redevelopment Agency requirements in number and serve families with lower incomes. Developers also will provide up to \$650,000 in interest-free loans for nonprofit housing developers in the early stages of developing projects in the area.

Some of the 29 community groups that came together as the Figueroa Corridor Coalition for Economic Justice had worked together before, helping to organize union efforts at USC. The alliance broadened beginning last summer to include everyone from local churches and housing activists to environmentalists, tenant organizers and immigrant rights groups.

Meanwhile, residents began to organize too, coming together to air concerns over conditions around the existing arena, where reckless drivers, costly parking tickets, and vandalism have plagued their lives.

Labor, too, played a key role--with two unions representing hotel and restaurant workers and janitors joining the community coalition as part of an effort to expand their influence beyond wage issues.

They are among five unions negotiating jointly for union jobs and the right to organize at the new center under the direction of Los Angeles County Federation of Labor leader Miguel Contreras.

Realizing that the window of opportunity was small and closing, coalition members opted to link up with labor to further leverage their power,

said
Gilda Haas, director of Strategic Actions for a Just Economy, one of the
lead organizations in the coalition.

When disagreements stymied the progress of the janitors' union,
community
negotiators stood in unison with labor. In turn, labor chimed in on
issues
such as affordable housing, which affects their membership but was not
technically on their agenda.

"I kept thinking of this as two airplanes approaching an airport at the
same
time," said David Koff, a hotel union research analyst who served as an
official County Federation of Labor observer in the community
negotiations.

"The idea was to get both to make a soft landing at the same time."

The unions, which also represent parking lot attendants, stagehands and
operating engineers, are expected to announce their finalized agreements
soon. But labor sources said most of the core issues have been resolved,
due
in part to the coordinated approach to negotiations.

"What we're hoping is to get work, to get housing, to have a better way
of
living," said Manuel Pacheco Galvan, who hopes to trade his job at a
Hollywood market for one closer to home. "Almost everything we asked for
we
got. . . . In the beginning it didn't seem possible, but now we see that
it's a reality. This will mean some change for all of us."

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Los Angeles Times
June 1, 2001

Staples Plan Spotlights 'Invisible' Communities;
Real estate: Groups, first-time activists may have changed the rules for
similar projects.

By Lee Romney, Times Staff Writer

Ana Valenzuela doesn't consider herself an activist. Her form of
organizing
has been private: keeping her seven children fed and clothed, tidying
the
three-room apartment where they live with Valenzuela's husband--a
gardener
and day laborer--and taking on the landlord on everything from roaches
to
threatened rent hikes.

But the Guadalajara native, who speaks little English, found herself in
a
radically different setting in recent months, across the negotiating
table
from Staples Center developers in suits.

A coalition of community groups, labor and residents won an
unprecedented
package of benefits this week from the developers of a massive hotel and
entertainment complex in return for a promise by coalition members to
support the project.

Developers--including billionaire Philip Anschutz and media mogul Rupert
Murdoch, who are also owners of the arena--agreed to build affordable
housing and parks, hire locally and pay "living wages," among other

concessions. The deal has been hailed as the first of its kind nationwide in its scope and could set forth a new model to ensure that low-income communities are taken into account by major developments in their midst.

Behind it all were people like Valenzuela, who live in run-down buildings throughout the neighborhood and have never pulled together to form such a united front. The coalition of 28 community groups, five unions and about 300 residents came together in a period of months, community activists said.

It brought people such as Valenzuela into a world where they have often felt invisible. It also forced many activist groups to radically alter their culture, succumbing to corporate-style negotiations and signing away their right to protest in exchange for the benefits package.

"I don't know how I arrived at this point. It was little by little," Valenzuela said in Spanish as two of her daughters played near her in matching blue-and-white dresses. "I said to myself, 'If I don't get involved to help myself, I'm not sure who will.' "

Valenzuela was among a core group of residents who spread the word of the impending development to others beginning last fall. A friend who had been displaced by construction of the sports arena two years ago first told Valenzuela of the plans. She in turn notified neighbors at her worn 11th Street apartment building and owners of a nearby dry cleaners.

Together, they attended meetings at the First United Methodist Church on Flower Street, sometimes with Staples Center officials. The early gatherings were venting sessions. Fresh in their minds was the Democratic National Convention in August: the tear gas, the rubber bullets, the fear that kept them cowering in back bedrooms or near-frantic when they were denied access to their apartments by police battling protesters.

Life after the DNC brought its own parade of problems. They spoke of the danger posed by reckless motorists to their children, who have no parks to play in. They detailed shattered car windows, stolen radios and beer bottles thrown from car windows by rowdy fans after sports events conclude and police officers leave.

And they presented stacks of \$60 parking tickets to Staples brass, fallout of the traffic congestion that has permanently altered their lives. The four adults living in Severiana Ortiz's Olympic Boulevard apartment, for example, have racked up \$1,500 in tickets since the arena opened--equivalent to three months' rent.

"There's . . . a lot of traffic and a lot of noise that doesn't allow us to sleep," said Ortiz, 50, also among the resident organizers who helped

craft
the neighborhood demands and sat in on negotiations.

As plans for the massive new development--known as the downtown L.A. Sports and Entertainment District--unfolded, talk shifted from problems of the day to demands for the future.

The project, expected to come before the Los Angeles City Council this month, would be anchored by a 45-story hotel with at least 1,200 rooms at Olympic Boulevard and Georgia Street. The project also would include a 7,000-seat theater for musicals, award shows and other live entertainment. Restaurants, nightclubs and retail stores would be built around a plaza. A 250,000-square-foot expansion of the Los Angeles Convention Center is also in the plan, as well as two apartment towers with a total of 800 units and a second smaller hotel.

In exchange for the coalition's support for the project--which probably will require a substantial public subsidy for the hotel--developers agreed to the broad benefits package that now becomes part of the development plan.

Ortiz, a grandmother who is unemployed, hopes to land a better job through the training programs that developers agreed to. Her daughter, a garment worker, also is dreaming of higher-wage work.

When formal negotiations began in March, Ortiz pushed hard for the job concessions, as well as a residential parking permit program that will be funded by Staples developers. Valenzuela, whose seven children sleep in bunk beds in what would otherwise be the apartment living room, pushed for affordable housing. Developers agreed to dedicate 20% of total units--between 100 and 160--to low-income residents, and Valenzuela helped ensure that some of those will be reserved for large families.

Spearheading the resident organizing was Enrique Velasquez, a former tenant organizer who now works for Strategic Actions for a Just Economy, one of the lead groups in the coalition. He helped conduct a survey of neighborhood conditions shortly before the Democratic convention and, in doing so, identified potential resident leaders such as Ortiz and Valenzuela. They in turn recruited others.

Meanwhile, Strategic Actions got to work to broaden the Figueroa Corridor Coalition for Economic Justice, a group of community activists, churches and labor unions that had worked together on other neighborhood issues surrounding USC.

The 28 groups that ultimately came together--one dropped out to focus on concerns about liquor licenses affiliated with the project, an issue not addressed by the benefits package--were wildly diverse, with sharply differing styles and experiences.

They included immigrant rights groups such as the Coalition for Humane Immigrant Rights of Los Angeles and Central American Resource Center; housing advocates such as Esperanza Community Housing Corp.; health advocates Clinica Oscar Romero and Coalition for Community Health; and the Environmental Justice Project office of the national organization Environmental Defense. Other economic justice organizations--the Los Angeles Alliance for a New Economy, Agenda and Coalition L.A.--were also heavily involved, said Strategic Actions organizer Sandra McNeill, who helped pull those groups together. Labor organizations negotiating separately but as a block also backed the group, and vice versa.

Different organizations brought different strengths to the table. Environmental Defense staff attorney Jerilyn Lopez Mendoza, for example, helped the group craft a 42-page comment to the developers' draft environmental impact report.

Still, the negotiations were a culture shock to some, and the prospect of muzzling future protest wasn't easy to swallow.

"Usually, we support people when we support them, and we yell at them when we yell at them," Strategic Actions Director Gilda Haas said.

But organizers say the result was more than worth it.

"If they comply with everything they agreed to, then we get something that we've never been able to get before, from any developer," said Victor Narro, workers' rights project director for the Coalition for Humane Immigrant Rights. "If they don't comply with even one portion of the agreement, then the whole thing is void."

GRAPHIC: PHOTO: Resident Severiana Ortiz, with granddaughter Evelyn Sanchez, is among the organizers who helped craft the neighborhood demands and participated in the negotiations. PHOTOGRAPHER: AL SEIB / Los Angeles Times

Betty Robinson

From: marisela gomez [rabbit21229@yahoo.com]
Sent: Tuesday, May 08, 2001 2:48 PM
To: regclark@aol.com; rdeacon@ssw.umaryland.edu; Betty Robinson; Stan markowitz; dottye burtmarkowitz
Subject: Calvert School to pay tenants

Hello all,
please take a look at the article from Baltimore su below (some of you might have seen it already). It's about displacement in Baltimore and how folks were compensated, and what it took.

We should keep this in mind when we have residents weight in on what plan should be part of it. I also have another article from Oliver com. and what they were asking for as far as renovated existing abandoned houses.

If anyone else has email for other members of SMEAC(Save Middle East Action Com), please forward it to them (ie. Pat).

Also, Rev. Clark we discussed having spokes people for SMEAC for when we put a press release out. You and Pat came up...however, given that Pat is currently employed by KKI/JHMI, she might not welcome this..perhaps John Hammock would be interested...someone might ask him. In thinking about the media campaign peice...some ideas

- 1) spokes persons
- 2) points for press release
what, why, where,when
- 3) establishing a list for where the
release would be sent

Perhaps some this can be brought up at the SMEAC steering com. meeting tomorrow and folks can decide about this.

Peace

Marisela

> Calvert School to pay tenants
> -----
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> Apartment dwellers would leave, pave way for
> expansion
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> By Jamie Stiehm
> Sun Staff
>
> May 8, 2001
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> Representatives of a venerable North Baltimore
> private school and a posh garden apartment complex
> agreed yesterday to end a conflict that escalated
> from polite picketing to politicking before the City
> Council and the State House.

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> Residents of 4300 N. Charles St. would receive
> \$6,000 to \$8,000 in compensation for moving out by
> Aug. 31.

>
> Calvert School would proceed with plans to demolish
> the apartments, which it acquired eight months ago,
> and build a middle school and two playing fields.

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> Although the deal won't be final until residents
> sign it, their representatives expressed confidence
> that that would occur in the next 10 days to two
> weeks.

>
> The row divided an affluent community that has sent
> many children to the elite private school but was
> torn over what some saw as an unseemly expansion
> plan. Residents, including retirees who thought they
> would live happily surrounded by their antiques,
> dogs and genteel neighborhood, initially rallied by
> picketing the school.

>
> With backgrounds in business, various professions,
> arts and academia, they then put their time, money
> and influence to work. They hired an attorney and
> took their cause to council members and state
> legislators, who introduced bills that could have
> jeopardized Calvert's plans.

>
> Dozens of nearby home owners protested Calvert's
> plans for building on 6 acres in Tuscany-Canterbury,
> on the border with Guilford.

>
> But yesterday, conceding that the school has
> prevailed, a negotiating committee of five residents
> met with their lawyer to approve the fine points of
> a compensation package that would give 58 equal
> payments to residents of the 58 units occupied on
> March 1.

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> "Elected officials made it clear they wanted us to
> be fair to tenants," said the school's lawyer,
> Michael H. Davis, referring to Mayor Martin
> O'Malley's advice on how to resolve the tempest.

>
> Some said the end of the struggle to save their
> homes was bitter at best.

>
> "It's a tragedy. Look around you," Allan J. Mead
> said, sweeping his hand toward bright forsythia
> bathed in spring light, part of a landscape designed

> to be easy on the eyes and aging legs. "It's
> unbelievable to take all this away."
>
> Davis spelled out the terms of the eight-page
> settlement agreement yesterday.
>
> "Calvert has signed the agreement and now they have
> to get the tenants' signatures. The bottom line is
> that it's effective only if they run down the
> signatures," Davis said. "A lot are agreeing to
> leave earlier than the end of their lease and not
> oppose expansion. They can't oppose us, period. The
> drop-dead date is Aug. 31."
>
> The attorney for the residents, John C. Murphy, and
> Davis said the deal hinges on the city planning
> commission's approving the expansion design. Calvert
> plans to present the latest drawings to the
> commission June 7. Half of the money would be paid
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>
>

FAX COVER
TRANSMITTAL

Name: Rev Reginald Clark
Organization:
Phone:
Fax: 410- 235-8720
From: Betty Robinson (410-539-1369-work)
Date: June 7, 2001
Subject: Exciting story about organizing in Los Angeles
Pages: 9 including cover

Hi All,

Attached is a pretty exciting story about the work of a Los Angeles coalition which was able to get concessions from a develop^{er} and the city of LA, including job training guarantees, parks, playgrounds, affordable housing.

I think this is possible in Baltimore although it would take time to build it. Certainly the neighborhood groups around Middle East and churches should be interested in joining a broad campaign as well as some of the city-wide unions.

Once Save Middle East develops itself and figures out what its program/demands/issues are, then I see you being able to go to other groups and get support for your agenda.

Betty



Betty Robinson

From: Randa Deacon [RDEACON@ssw.umaryland.edu]
Sent: Monday, April 23, 2001 9:30 AM
To: BettyR@CPHAbaltimore.org
Subject: Update on meeting

Betty,

I want to thank you for your advice and patience in assisting us to be ready for the Thurs. nite meeting.

Dottie did a great job. We had at least 70 people there--including Laurie Schwartz, Izzy Patoka, Sylvia Paylor, Jeff Thompson and 2 others (?) from HEBCAC, and Lucille Gorham.

I was very proud of the way the 'crowd' handled themselves- it was a gripe session of sorts but voices never became strident. We ran out of time to try to get an action plan together- but ideas were put forward, a small committee is meeting on Wed. evening and they will have a larger meeting- inviting all residents who came to return (with neighbors) on Thurs. 4/26 at 6 pm.

I have not had a chance to talk with Dick but I wondered if you would be willing to contact Rev. Clark with some pointers on organizing tactics for the group. I think there are some very dedicated, levelheaded people who seem committed to doing something. I will be in on Monday- so if you have time give me a call or email me and we can discuss things in more detail.

PS Laurie Schwartz was very unhappy and told me -in leaving- that "this was a disservice!"- I know she meant to herself but I think it was a 'shot in the arm' for residents of Middle East.

Thanks again,
Randa

FAX TRANSMISSION

425 SOUTH CHESTER STREET
BALTIMORE, MARYLAND 21231
(410) 327-0134
FAX: (410) 522-0012

To: Betty Robinson **Date:** May 16, 2001
Fax #: 410 625 7895 **Pages:** 5, including this cover sheet.
From: Stan Markowitz
Subject: Demolition Mting Notes

COMMENTS:

Hey Betty,

Here are my notes for the meeting last night. I did not focus on the information they gave about the various hazards and how to address them as you can see. I was interested in what people were asking and issues that came up.

Talk to you soon.

Stan

**Demolition Meeting 5/15/01 MECO (Sponsored by CHHC and Kennedy Kreiger)
(Stan's Notes)**

{Third meeting by two folks from Kennedy Kreiger. Speaking to neighborhood groups to help people understand how to deal with the results of demolition--how to deal with dust, water, rats, ticks, roaches and other demolition hazards. They gave a lot more specific information about these and other hazards ~~they~~ are in my notes }

About 40 people were present. A number of them seemed to think that the focus was going to be on why demolition was going on--what was the plan and why didn't they know about it? Why aren't people notified? ETC. Some folks left when they learned what the topics were going to be.

Pat Tracy introduction: Kennedy Kreiger wants to find out what people fear about demolition--want to find out what information to provide to people that will help them deal with demolition "fall out". Kreiger is going to put out brochure that will answer the kinds of questions that people raise (information about how to deal with "fallout"). Kreiger also wants to find out if people understood the language they were using on a chart describing various impacts of demolition so that the brochure will be understandable to community people. She and other women (Aina?) said they would take the questions people asked to a committee that would try to put pressure on City to do things differently. She also noted that KK was working with the City to develop a protocol that contractors would have to follow in order to demolition in the safest way.

Before Pat and Aina could get into their presentation a number of questions were asked that made clear that a number of people wanted information about why was the demolition happening; what was the strategy for decisions about where and when and why demolition occurred; why weren't people notified before demolition occurred; and stories about how contractors had not dealt with demolition properly.

Pat indicated that the City had a protocol for safe demolition and they were supposed to notify people but they did not notify people and they were not following their own protocol. KK was trying to get them to do those things. She also said they all know that demolition was picking up.

One man asked why is the community being asked to help the City, KK, Hopkins develop a plan to help protect them--they (Hopkins, City, Kreiger) already know how to protect people.

Pat said again that the City is supposed to follow a process that is already in place to inform neighborhoods about demolition and to help people prepare themselves. The City is not doing that. The plan is not being enforced. KK trying to get peoples stories so it can go to City and say "this is what people are experiencing--you have to enforce the process. PAT SAID SHE DID NOT KNOW WHY PEOPLE AREN'T BEING INFORMED. WHEN I TALKED TO HER AFTER THE MEETING I SUGGESTED THAT IF DEMOLITION WAS GOING ON IN SOME

OTHER PARTS OF THE CITY--LIKE ROLAND PARK OR THE HARBOR--PEOPLE WOULD BE INFORMED. SHE AGREED. ONE GENTLEMAN TALKED ABOUT WHAT WAS DONE IN LOCUST POINT. MUCH MORE PROTECTION THAN IN EAST BALT.

The City does not have the resources to go door to door to inform people about demolition--so neighborhoods must inform selves. KK trying to help. (CITY DOESN'T HAVE TO GO DOOR TO DOOR--OTHER WAYS TO INFORM PEOPLE)

(WHY IS DEMOLITION GOING FORWARD IF PEOPLE NOT INFORMED GIVEN THE HAZARDS THAT KK DESCRIBED DURING THE MEETING? CITY IS KNOWINGLY PLACING CITIZENS IN DANGEROUS SITUATIONS WITHOUT GIVING THEM NOTIFICATION AND PROPER INFORMATION. PEOPLE IN HEALTH AND HOUSING DEPTS KNOW WHAT HAPPENS WHEN PEOPLE DON'T KNOW DEMOLITION IS GOING TO OCCUR AND CAN'T PREPARE--THEY KNOW ABOUT THE DUST ISSUES, WATER ISSUES, RATS, ROACHES, TICKS, ETC)

Also clear during the meeting that most of the people present did not know about the meeting on May 21st where city was going to "answer questions".

One person made comment that by the time all the demolition and building is finished their won't be a middle east.

Pat reiterated that this meeting was about how people can protect themselves from the demolition that was going on and would continue to go on in accelerated fashion.

One person asked how far did the dust from demolition go. Aina said major problem was the backyards and the backs of houses that faced demolished area. One man pointed out that he lives two blocks from an area demolished two months ago and dust is still a problem. The city did not plant grass and so dust still blows into his house, his yard, his car when its windy.

Another person asked why is the city doing the demolition? What's the purpose? Pat said lots of reasons: sometimes its because houses are not in good shape, often its because of redevelopment. But we know demolition is going on at Wolfe St. and Rutland Ave--its going on all over.

DUST: Dust has lead in it. Stay away from demolition site. Definitely keep young children away. People claimed dust got into their homes. Even if stay away from the site it's still a danger. Pat pointed out that allergies and asthma can be caused by dust (wet mop floor, hose down outside, wipe dust off walls, furniture, etc.--need to do this a few times a day)

Question was asked--why don't people who are doing the demolition water the site down. Several people said that contractors are not doing that. Pat agreed that they weren't and that they are supposed to. They are trying to change that.

DEBRIS: Dangerous because it can contain needles, nails other sharp things that can injure people. Also contains dust. Again--stay away--especially children

If people see a problem they need to call the Dept of Housing and tell them that they have created an unsafe situation and need to do something about it. When a few people said calls are not returned Pat said people have to keep calling--lots of calls and lots of people. They have a right to be safe. Asked people not to be passive. "We don't have to put up with this".

SHE REITERATED AGAIN THAT PRIVATE CONTRACTORS ARE NOT DOING WHAT THEY ARE SUPPOSED TO BE DOING AND THAT THE CITY IS NOT ENFORCING THE PROCESS THAT IS IN PLACE.

One person said that all of this should be addressed before demolirion. This kind of meeting and information is like closing the stable when the horse is gone. Pat and Aina agreed. Said people were asking the right questions and encouraged them to ask the same questions of city people on May 21st.

Pat and Aina said that KK want to do a major survey on the impact of demolition--study dust, water situation, debris, rats, roaches, ticks, etc. but they could not do that until the City tells them when a major demolition is going to occur so they can do a survey--City hasn't done that. City is not going to stop demolition.

Question was asked if you tear down 10 houses what do you put in their place. Answer was nothing. Again, people interested in the overall plan for the community and the overall impact on the community.

RATS, ROACHES, TICKS: Discussion turned to this topic and how demolition looses all of them in neighborhood and they will invade homes nearby. People told to call Rat Rub out (410 545 1916.

Pat noted that the city is downsizing so Rat Rub out and other offices that can provide help regarding demolition might not have the staff to help.

One person asked--who can be held responsible for not enforcing the laws and safety practices?

Someone asked how can you find out who owns a property. Told to call Property Assessment Office--they know who owns all houses in the city.

Summary:

1. City is going to be continuing to do demolition and that demolition will accelerate.
2. City has a protocol that it is supposed to follow:
 - a. notify residents that demolition is going to take place

- b. help prepare residents for demolition--they have plan to do that
 - c. ensure that demolition is done safely--enforce plan/laws on contractors (regarding dust, proper watering, clearing out debris, rats/roaches/ticks, etc)
3. City does not follow its own protocol in any of the above areas
 4. Consequently, City knowingly places people in "harms way"
 5. Kennedy Kreiger is trying to help people protect selves because city is not doing its job. They are in position of having to gather information so they can convince the city that it should enforce its own plan to notify and protect people.
 6. City is not cooperating with them--needs to be convinced their is a problem
 7. In addition, as hard as it is to get the city to deal with the "fallout" from present demolition projects--downsizing may make it even less likely that the city will do what it is supposed to do to protect peoples safety and follow up when a problem is identified.
 8. People present at the meeting were clearly interested in issues of safety and appreciated the effort BUT clearly they were angry and frustrated that demolition is going on without their knowing the plan--why it is necessary, where its going to happen and why, what is going to be the future of their neighborhood, does the city even care.
 9. Folks doing the presenting seem to be of the mind that the demolition can't be stopped. Did not seem to think that the community can have a say in how the demolition proceeds --where it might happen, whether there are options, etc.

Betty Robinson

From: marisela gomez [rabbit21229@yahoo.com]
Sent: Tuesday, May 08, 2001 2:48 PM
To: regclark@aol.com; rdeacon@ssw.umaryland.edu; Betty Robinson; Stan markowitz; dottye burtmarkowitz
Subject: Calvert School to pay tenants

Hello all,
please take a look at the article from Baltimore su below (some of you might have seen it already). It's about displacement in Baltimore and how folks were compensated, and what it took.

We should keep this in mind when we have residents weight in on what plan should be part of it. I also have another article from Oliver com. and what they were asking for as far as renovated existing abandoned houses.

If anyone else has email for other members of SMEAC(Save Middle East Action Com), please forward it to them (ie. Pat).

Also, Rev. Clark we discussed having spokes people for SMEAC for when we put a press release out. You and Pat came up...however, given that Pat is currently employed by KKI/JHMI, she might not welcome this..perhaps John Hammock would be interested...someone might ask him. In thinking about the media campaign peice...some ideas

- 1) spokes persons
- 2) points for press release
what, why, where,when
- 3) establishing a list for where the release would be sent

Perhaps some this can be brought up at the SMEAC steering com. meeting tomorrow and folks can decide about this.

Peace

Marisela

> Calvert School to pay tenants
> -----
>
> Apartment dwellers would leave, pave way for
> expansion
>
> By Jamie Stiehm
> Sun Staff
>
> May 8, 2001
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>
> Representatives of a venerable North Baltimore
> private school and a posh garden apartment complex
> agreed yesterday to end a conflict that escalated
> from polite picketing to politicking before the City
> Council and the State House.
>
> Residents of 4300 N. Charles St. would receive
> \$6,000 to \$8,000 in compensation for moving out by
> Aug. 31.
>
> Calvert School would proceed with plans to demolish
> the apartments, which it acquired eight months ago,
> and build a middle school and two playing fields.
>
> Although the deal won't be final until residents
> sign it, their representatives expressed confidence
> that that would occur in the next 10 days to two
> weeks.
>
> The row divided an affluent community that has sent
> many children to the elite private school but was
> torn over what some saw as an unseemly expansion
> plan. Residents, including retirees who thought they
> would live happily surrounded by their antiques,
> dogs and genteel neighborhood, initially rallied by
> picketing the school.
>
> With backgrounds in business, various professions,
> arts and academia, they then put their time, money
> and influence to work. They hired an attorney and
> took their cause to council members and state
> legislators, who introduced bills that could have
> jeopardized Calvert's plans.
>
> Dozens of nearby home owners protested Calvert's
> plans for building on 6 acres in Tuscany-Canterbury,
> on the border with Guilford.
>
> But yesterday, conceding that the school has
> prevailed, a negotiating committee of five residents
> met with their lawyer to approve the fine points of
> a compensation package that would give 58 equal
> payments to residents of the 58 units occupied on
> March 1.
>
> "Elected officials made it clear they wanted us to
> be fair to tenants," said the school's lawyer,
> Michael H. Davis, referring to Mayor Martin
> O'Malley's advice on how to resolve the tempest.
>
> Some said the end of the struggle to save their
> homes was bitter at best.
>
> "It's a tragedy. Look around you," Allan J. Mead
> said, sweeping his hand toward bright forsythia
> bathed in spring light, part of a landscape designed

> to be easy on the eyes and aging legs. "It's
> unbelievable to take all this away."
>
> Davis spelled out the terms of the eight-page
> settlement agreement yesterday.
>
> "Calvert has signed the agreement and now they have
> to get the tenants' signatures. The bottom line is
> that it's effective only if they run down the
> signatures," Davis said. "A lot are agreeing to
> leave earlier than the end of their lease and not
> oppose expansion. They can't oppose us, period. The
> drop-dead date is Aug. 31."
>
> The attorney for the residents, John C. Murphy, and
> Davis said the deal hinges on the city planning
> commission's approving the expansion design. Calvert
> plans to present the latest drawings to the
> commission June 7. Half of the money would be paid
> to residents upon approval, they said, and the other
> half would be paid when the last person left by Aug.
> 31.
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>
>

Betty Robinson

From: Betty Robinson
Sent: Thursday, May 24, 2001 8:10 PM
To: 'regclark@aol.com'
Subject: Save Middle East

Hi Rev. Clark, I've been thinking lots about the Monday meeting and the work that needs to be done! I'll just write down some thoughts off the top of my head that I as an organizer would be thinking about --

First, the meeting: The city had clearly already made their plans even though they denied it. They didn't disclose much -- in fact deliberately and cleverly kept information from people -- the SUN article showed us that because the SUN clearly had access to the Abell report (for example, the 1,000 market rate homes at \$115,000) -- and they tried to give the appearance of inclusion. Also by inferring with their maps that the bio-tech park would only be three city blocks, they were manipulating people. All these businesses that the bio-tech park needs to "grow" will also need land. Land that will be taken for the most part from elderly homeowners. Hattie Harrison was completely out of order in saying that the residents had contributed to the downfall of their own neighborhood and then trying to shame people into thinking they they hadn't been responsible because they didn't make citizens arrests! That was another splitting tactic. [People sometimes need an organized opportunity to discuss meetings like this and share their anger and frustrations about it.]

SMEAC could request a copy of the feasibility study from the city and/or from Abell Foundation (410-547-1300, Robert Embry, Abell Foundation, 111 S. Calvert St, 21202). First, ask Laurie Schwartz's office. If they refuse that's a good base on which to question the city's real interest in including residents. Abell will probably say they did this for the city and they can't give it out. Somehow, however, there will be a way to get it!

On the SMEAC side: Residents there had their first and second victories when the city hadn't come with enough packets and when they forced the city not to split people up in groups. There was another victory when you asked people to stand up if SMEAC had been the ones to tell them about the meeting. To me this showed the power of the people! These will be important lessons to draw for people and will help to gather city-wide support. Now people have to work on winning some bigger victories....

[BTW - It was pretty clear that Hattie Harrison and her son Skip think that alot of the people will move to the houses in the Oliver community. I wonder where this \$\$ is coming from? They are renovating 50 at this time.]

ORGANIZATION BUILDING

Organization building is key at this time. This might include finishing the survey, building a data base, having some regular contact with people with information (a newsletter?) and inspirational ways to keep people together and seeing that they really can rely on eachother. The city and the politicians have kept people so passive and divided, this will be an uphill battle but not impossible. It could include having some regular contact with people (a one page newsletter?), community wide information meetings -- on the experience of other communities, on whatever that word was that Carl Clark told us about (the word that meant residents insisting that their demands are met to let the city have theirs), another on the Federal relocation rules, etc.

ORGANIZING SUPPORT AROUND THE CITY

If you think about all the places support can be drawn from, it is enormous -- first would be families and friends of the people affected. Residents need to encourage families, etc to give support and get involved. SMEAC might want to provide an opportunity for this to happen -- a big fundraising event or something like that -- or even a smaller thing like a 50-50 raffle which can be used as an organizing tool as well. Then there are other neighborhoods who may be facing this same issue; churches, college groups, other organizations -- especially ones that the homewoners belong to -- their unions, churches in other parts of the city, etc are also potential supporters. Each resident has to become an advocate for themselves and for SMEAC and can be asked who they have relationships with who could join this fight.

INCLUSION IN THE CITY PROCESS

The first (possible) one that comes to mind is to SLOW DOWN the city's time table by coming up with a PLAN from SMEAC of how the community can really be involved and then going to the city to insist that they follow the SMEAC plan. (with whatever process you all want). It will be really hard to really organize the community in 6 weeks, ie by mid-July when the city will be having its "charette" .

Another option --to start work on a planning process that SMEAC does independently of the city -- kind of an agenda that people agree they want to fight around -- and then go to the charette prepared to really stick to certain of the demands while still being open to discussing options. The city was good (and will continue to be) at splitting people from eachother

Monday -- people may get scared and will be frustrated and may go along with offers the city makes because of their fear of what will happen. Sometimes a low offer sounds good if there hasn't been discussion of what people deserve for their hard work as stable tax paying, law abiding citizens. SMEAC will have to work hard to make sure this doesn't happen.

Other types of demands:

JOBS

What kind of jobs will be good ones? What are the employment needs in the community currently? What do young people think? A guarantee of xx number of jobs for EB residents, as well as the training programs having to take into account the skills people need to even qualify for the jobs as well as to get them? For example, someone told me that those sterilization jobs they kept talking about which have a 12 week training program are not going to be jobs which everyone can easily qualify for. I think the figure was of 300 applicants, only 40 passed the mental and dexterity tests which were required to actually get the training. A guarantee of certain % of all construction jobs for EB residents? -- getting people into apprenticeship programs NOW so they are in responsible positions by the time the construction begins.

HOUSING

What do the senior homeowners want their community to be like -- would there be blocks specifically renovated for the present homeowners? What do the people estimate "making them whole" would be? Certainly not the market value of their houses. Maybe people should be encouraged to add up all the improvements they've made in their homes like the lady paying for a \$6,000 furnace. Also, low income homeowners need to share in the city's revitalization -- one way would be for the city to make them "Whole" by being sure that whatever home they have provides them some equity. [At some people could learn the history of government sponsored programs which kept black families for developing this equity in their homes: examples are many but one is government policy is the VA loans after WW2 and Korean War -- you had to buy houses in stable areas. White vets bought in new subdivisions which were defacto segregated, blacks had to buy in the city. White's homes are now worth > 100,000; black homeowners are lucky if they can get 10,000. This was government sponsored racial inequality. (Not to mention blockbusting, red-lining, etc).]

Sorry if I rambled. I just wanted to get this out on paper to you. I have every trust and confidence that you and SMEAC will develop great ideas and plans and I am ready to help in anyway you need me to.

Betty Robinson

Tel: 410-539-1369 Fax: 410-625-7895 e-mail:bettyr@cphabaltimore.org home: 410-366-2631

If you give me a fish, you feed me for a day...

If you teach me to fish, then you have fed me until the river is polluted or the shoreline is taken for development

But if you teach me to organize, then whatever the challenge I can join together with others and we will find our own solution

Betty Robinson

From: gin ferrara [ginferrara@hotmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, May 23, 2001 8:49 AM
To: BettyR@CPHAbaltimore.org; urbanartsins@aol.com; rabbit21229@yahoo.com
Subject: Re: Baltimore Community Foundation

Betty:

Thanks for all your work! I really appreciate what a champion you are!

At this point our next step is setting up a meeting with Reverend Clark, and discussing the project further. Wide Angle just got our 501c3, so we can

fiscally sponsor grants, what a relief!

Marisela and I went to the rally on Thursday, which seemed very promising. Reverend Clark was welcoming and interested in talking more about the project with us. Since Marisela and I are out of town this coming week, we'll have to wait until we get back.

The issue of working with youth has been a tricky one. I want to work with whomever is feeling the impact of the situation, and wants to do something about it. I have lately thought that working with adults, training them as producers, would make more sense, seeing as there were only a handful of

young people at the rally, I don't know if they consider it their battle. On the other hand, that was exactly what one older adult said, and it made me wonder if get young adults involved might not be the way to go. I think Spoon is more interested in youth for his piece of the project, correct?

Thanks for the names, too, Betty. I've talked with my board president, Paul, who has heard horrible things about the Rockefeller proposal, much more work than there is money, and he's recommending we go for local support. I think the newsletter is a great idea, too.

As I said, I'm leaving town and Marisela is already gone, so neither of us will be much help this week. I am going to call Rev. Clark to check in, and Spoon, if anything else goes on this week, can you please send us and update?

Thanks everyone, and especially Betty,

Gin

-----Original Message Follows-----

From: Betty Robinson <BettyR@CPHAbaltimore.org>
To: "urbanartsins@aol.com" <urbanartsins@aol.com>, "ginferrara@hotmail.com" <ginferrara@hotmail.com>, "rabbit21229@yahoo.com" <rabbit21229@yahoo.com>

Subject: Baltimore Community Foundation
Date: Tue, 22 May 2001 17:31:40 -0400

Hi Spoon, Gin and Marisela,

I had a call yesterday from Melissa Warlow at Baltimore Community Foundation. I had e-mailed Cheryl Casciani, my former boss at CPHA, about your East Baltimore project. I didn't know when I sent the e-mail that Spoon had been in touch with BCF. Just so everyone is on the same page, this will sum up what she said:

First she said that they didn't have any funding for community arts at this time; when I explained further that Cheryl had told me that she would be interested in projects pertaining to health and that this included health, she (Melissa) said if you have a fiscal agent you could apply for a grant from the William G. Baker Fund. The application would be for \$5,000, due June 15, 2001. Send to attn: Melissa Warlow, BCF, 2 East Read St, Baltimore 21202. You need to send 5 copies with a project budget, what the Baker Fund would be paying for. She also said to include any other funding sources where you have received funds and have applied for funds. The fund meets on August 2 to make its decisions. (She will be leaving town on May 31st and won't be back until July 2, so she will read it when she gets back and any questions have to come to her before May 31.)

The other important things would be to let them know your track record (I kept emphasizing that you were all professionals but you wanted to have the youth involved before you moved forward with the project -- and you needed funding to recruit the youth.) She did tell me that she had talked to Spoon in this context. She seemed to be saying that because you all don't have a track record they will be reluctant.

She also said that she might be able to include it in a newsletter which will go to all their donors -- who might send in \$ for the project. This should be 3 sentences about the project and organization with a line that says what \$250, \$500 or \$1,000 will buy. Something like, \$500 will make it possible for three teenagers to learn x, y, z. I think she said this would not go out until she returns July 2.

Please let me know what I can do to help you move this along. I really see how very important your work is. FYI they (probably Hopkins) demolished the arabbers stable on Castle Street yesterday. Another piece of history GONE!
I can also talk with Cheryl more once you've got the proposal done.

When I asked Melissa about other places to apply she suggested the Franz Merrick Foundation which has a specific commitment to East Baltimore.

The name of the Exec Dir is Bob Schaefer and the EB Project Director is Jack Bovaird. If any of you know Ed Rutkowski, he know Franz Merrick well. Unfortunately that's a foundation I have no contact with.

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That's it for now. Please keep me in your loop so I know where things are.
Betty Robinson

Betty Robinson
Citizens Planning and Housing Association
Tel: 410-539-1369 Fax: 410-625-7895

If you give me a fish, you feed me for a day...
If you teach me to fish, then you have fed me until the river is polluted or the shoreline is taken for development
But if you teach me to organize, then whatever the challenge I can join together with others and we will find our own solution

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Betty Robinson

From: Betty Robinson
Sent: Tuesday, May 22, 2001 5:32 PM
To: 'urbanartsins@aol.com'; 'ginferrara@hotmail.com'; 'rabbit21229@yahoo.com'
Subject: Baltimore Community Foundation

Hi Spoon, Gin and Marisela,

I had a call yesterday from Melissa Warlow at Baltimore Community Foundation. I had e-mailed Cheryl Casciani, my former boss at CPHA, about your East Baltimore project. I didn't know when I sent the e-mail that Spoon had been in touch with BCF. Just so everyone is on the same page, this will sum up what she said:

First she said that they didn't have any funding for community arts at this time; when I explained further that Cheryl had told me that she would be interested in projects pertaining to health and that this included health, she (Melissa) said if you have a fiscal agent you could apply for a grant from the William G. Baker Fund. The application would be for \$5,000, due June 15, 2001. Send to attn: Melissa Warlow, BCF, 2 East Read St, Baltimore 21202. You need to send 5 copies with a project budget, what the Baker Fund would be paying for. She also said to include any other funding sources where you have received funds and have applied for funds. The fund meets on August 2 to make its decisions. (She will be leaving town on May 31st and won't be back until July 2, so she will read it when she gets back and any questions have to come to her before May 31.)

The other important things would be to let them know your track record (I kept emphasizing that you were all professionals but you wanted to have the youth involved before you moved forward with the project -- and you needed funding to recruit the youth.) She did tell me that she had talked to Spoon in this context. She seemed to be saying that because you all don't have a track record they will be reluctant.

She also said that she might be able to include it in a newsletter which will go to all their donors -- who might send in \$ for the project. This should be 3 sentences about the project and organization with a line that says what \$250, \$500 or \$1,000 will buy. Something like, \$500 will make it possible for three teenagers to learn x, y, z. I think she said this would not go out until she returns July 2.

Please let me know what I can do to help you move this along. I really see how very important your work is. FYI they (probably Hopkins) demolished the arabbers stable on Castle Street yesterday. Another piece of history GONE! I can also talk with Cheryl more once you've got the proposal done.

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~~Charters~~
~~all business comm~~
~~relating to~~ ~~Committee~~

~~HUD~~ CDBG \$ is public info
City of Balto submits to
HUD Consolidated Plan
- 5 yrs of spending HUD
funds - how will be
spending it.

Yearly ^{annual} report to HUD.

Consolidated plan
what they will do This year
says who

CAPER

Consolid Annual Perf Eval Report
or **GPR** & Grantee Perf Report
this past year This is who we
funded.

DHCD

if they won't
give it, file
~~for~~ FOI
request

with ~~the~~ city

Middle East/ April, 19/ 6:00pm

The meeting was held in a local church and began shortly after six, as people slowly filtered in. About forty-five people were in attendance, including Izzy Pataka and lauri Schwartz from the city.

Randa began the meeting with an introduction about Making Connections.

Reverend Clark followed her with a prayer. He stated, [I just want to give you a] brief overview of why we are here... You probably have concerns, as I have concerns. The AECF is starting an initiative.. They have done a great job of researching the problems and the changes that need to be made” He mentioned how, at the many meetings that have been held, the topic kept creeping back to the Biotech Park and people’s housing concerns. He mentioned an article in the Sun that mentioned the Biotech Park, which caused a great deal of concern among residents. He stated that people kept feeling, “Why should we work on these other things, like sanitation and tree plantings, when we don’t even know where we are going to live.” He continued, “We are concerned being in the community as a church...This is a community building effort in a community where rumors are running rampant.” He mentioned that the meeting was convened to get “answers to where the process is and where it is going.”

Randa introduced the facilitator for the meeting, Dottye Burk-Markowitz. She began first suggested that the group look at the agenda (which was developed from discussion with Rev. Clark) “to see if this is what everyone came here for.”

She continued, “My understanding in hearing about the previous meeting is that what really needs to happen first is to really get accurate information. One goal is to agree to make a plan to get accurate information and to agree on a way to get that information. So one goal of the meeting is to outline a plan of action to get that information, who is going to get it, and when will we get it by.”

She asked each person to introduce themselves and say one short sentence about a concern that brought them to the meeting.

Introductions

Pastor – “I’m interested in what’s going to happen to this community.”

Resident – “I want to know in what way we can help.”

Clark – “I’m concerned about the community and our church”

Resident – “I think the community needs to start writing the script rather than reacting to it...We have a lot of things that we have built.. We’re tired of being moved”

Glen Ross - "came to learn about the biosphere park and to see how our side of the coalition can help." He mentioned how he would like to identify the present homeowners and potential homeowners in the neighborhood and help them transition to living in McEldery Park.

Resident - "I participated in some of the plans [for the park] but now I hear that things have changed and want to know what's going on."

Resident - "I'm here to see if we cannot start from the beginning but start from where we left off. I've been coming to meetings for five years... I want to know how the city can do eminent domain and then sell the property to JH."

Resident - "I'm concerned about what JH has to offer folks who have been dislocated."

Resident - "I'm a renter and I'm here to find out how this is going to affect renters."

Resident - "I'm concerned about the disrespect of Hopkins and the city in how they take over an area and then tell the residents [what they are planning to do]."

Dotty restated what she had heard the group saying and what she thought some of the most common concerns were. She made a point to say that some people stated that they wanted to help and that she thought this was "great." She then went over the groundrules for the meeting:

- 1) Listen
- 2) Participate - every person here , your voice is very important. Big meeting - keep it short
- 3) Take turns, share the time
- 4) Avoid repeating what others have said to save time
- 5) Raise your hand if someone says something that you agree with
- 6) End on time - "The end of the process will be the most important because we will need to see who want to take responsibility [for making things happen.]"

She introduced Lauri Schwartz and asked that she give an update of the biosphere park planning from the city's perspective. She began, "When the mayor came into office he began reaching out to organizations in the community...That was based on a philosophy that he has. He wants the city to build upon its strengths...He actually is the one who asked Hopkins [seeing it as a strength] to work with us to be a more positive player in the city...He uses examples - the roles that colleges, universities and hospitals have used in other cities...That they should be positive players in community development." "The Mayor asked us to reach out to HEBAC to see what was being done... We've seen the vacancies increased during the last 5 or years....The Mayor asked us to develop a plan that would be more targeted... We raised money to hire an urban design company. [mentioned some name]. In the city they are responsible for constructing the Church Homes site:...The first phase of that work got underway and is just about to conclude. Each of the HEBAC communities brought in plan that they had developed... We wanted

to take the plans that you all developed and [then do a marketing assessment to determine if the plans were feasible. Because the mayor wants us to base our plans in market realities]. We realized that the plan required a significant amount of demolition. [She gave the boundaries of the "target area"]. We developed a steering committee that included representatives from the city, JH, and community representatives from HEBCAC. The first phase included preliminary investigations into two possible uses [for the area]. She went into an explanation about how the biotech park idea was chosen because it was feasible and provided all levels of jobs "The jobs are not only for phd level people" but "for high school graduates, college graduates and PhDs – about a third for each." "Just this week we have been talking about a community engagement process. We don't have a plan. We will be working through HEBCAC and Lucille Gorham... The next [community] meeting will be in the third week of May...[We] encourage groups to find the time to participate in the meeting. We will be prepared to make a presentation..[We would like to] hear from you how this could work or how it wouldn't work in this community..We'll be making a number of meetings. Then we have an all day session where people can come together to share ideas...[The] expectation is that a plan can be completed by mid-summer." She apologized for not having more information for people, stating that she didn't know about this meeting until the last minute, which was true. She stated that they were not ready yet to answer questions because they had planned to do that in a few weeks.

Resident – "What I would like to ask [is that] I didn't hear in that plan where people who are going to leave their homes will go. What is going to happen?"

Resident angrily stated, "I feel cheated...I've spent 20 years to fight crime and grime [in this community]...I don't think the city has any plans to wait [to really listen to residents]. He relayed how from his perspective the city always makes decisions about plans and then tells the residents about what is going to happen without involving residents. Lauri responded by saying "Well, I'm sorry if this is just causing you more frustration" indicating that this meeting was premature for her because they had not planned to meet for a few more weeks. He responded, "I'm not accusing you, its' the institutions" – referring to the city.

Resident – "I've been at a lot of meetings. I've been through this process for years. What happened to the money that was given to this community to improve it."

Resident – "Why isn't this process being shared properly with the community? Why are you standing there informing us of a process that is going on? Let us be a part of this process. I looked in the dictionary and there's no definition for a bioscience park."

Lauri – "We weren't prepared for this meeting. I'm sorry if it's more frustrating to you."

Resident – "John asked a question that ahs not been answered. Where has the money for HEBCAC gone? I've been hearing that question for years." He stated that he wants to see an accounting of the money that was given to the community in the past wnas what has been done with it – "an accountant report – not a summary!"

Another resident mentioned that she resented the fact that JH renovated a bunch of housing and only put their own employees there rather than helping the community.

Resident - "I wonder if JH can make a commitment [to share the process with the community]. "If JH met with our so-called elected officials, if we can get minutes to hold our officials accountable."

Someone asked about the specific boundaries again and Lauri said generally from Madison to Broadway to Railroad tracks to Chester street.

One resident mentioned how the dollar program worked before and questioned why money was going to Hopkins to demolish housing rather than renovate historic buildings. He asked what has happened to the federal money that was supposed to go to these homes?

Lauri said that that would be a question for the empowerment Zone people and that she would try to get a representative from the empowerment zone to the next meeting.

Resident "I know what's going on.. what I keep hearing is that they don't have plans for the people"

Lauri responded, "They will."

Resident "I want to say that part of the problem [is that] the method of getting information to residents has been through the community associations and not everyone's a member of a community association and some associations don't distribute information to residents!"

Resident - "The people say they are frustrated!" "Let you start to hear what our concerns are... We want you to know that we will follow up."

Resident - very angrily "I'm ashamed for the role that you are playing because you well know that there have been many meetings where the community is welcomed [but that] the decision has been made already. We know there is a process in place and you stand there telling us that if we don't want it, it won't happen. We want honesty. A person in your position has answers. You're Deputy Mayor. You have answers. You may not choose to provide those answers...People need to be respected!" "Who decided which blocks need to be demolished...There's a strong state and business relationship..so let's stop pretending that that relationship [doesn't exist]...There's a pattern here that's going on. We're not stupid!"

Lauri - "I'm sorry that you insult my integrity. You can believe that I tell the truth. People who know me know that I tell the truth [indicating that she has told the group all that she knows].

Resident – “Why can’t someone like Rich Gatty (sp?) from Hopkins come to a meeting and explain what’s going on.

Resident – referring to the next meeting asked, “Is it possible that we could have members of the steering committee present so that we can see what their positions are?”

A resident told of his experience in the area where he “noticed all my neighbors disappearing one at a time.. You end up with one or two people per block – it’s dangerous.” He indicated that he felt that people were being picked off one by one to reduce the community’s power.

Resident – “Is there a way that you can get the Mayor to stop giving all this property to Hopkins hospital. I thought the Mayor was supposed to be helping the people”

Dotty stopped the group and stated that all the questions that were raised were posted on the wall and asked the group to try to articulate what information they felt that they needed to move forward.

Resident – “I need to know where I’m going to live.”

Resident – “I’ve been living in this neighborhood for 40 years and I want to stay”

Dotty summarized saying, “so one question is, “How are we going to be relocated to a place that is the same as what you have.” And “How can we be guaranteed that we can stay in the community if we want to stay.”

Resident – “I want some of the city council members at these meetings.”

Another resident mentioned immanent domain and Dotty summarized saying “Is immanent domain going to be used and can it be used legally in this way.”

Resident – “How can we get the city to clean the city up. Our alleys are atrocious. I called for a whole month. For them to just remove a mattress that other people put there.”

Resident - “I’d like to suggest that this meeting gets a lawyer to put together a formal disclosure. That we get a full accounting of what the money was used for” [referring again to the money that has been given to the area already.

Resident – “When do they buy houses – one at a time? Who decides whose is buying”

After hearing residents say that they have called city numbers about trash and haven’t gotten through, Izzy said, “If you ever have to call a city office more than once, call me” Several people in unison said, “ok, what’s your number!” He gave it to them – 396-4735.

Dotty said, “Ok, I’m going to take three more questions.”

Resident – “Every administration comes in with a plan. Where’s the plan. Please present the plan.”

A resident told the story of either the city or Hopkins offering a woman \$4000 for her home, which was worth a lot more but that she took it because she felt that she had not other choice. He stated, “And she’s white!” Everyone laughed.

Resident – “I would bring a lawyer in as soon as possible.”

The room broke down into chatter and people all trying to speak at once. Dottye responded, “We have to have one person speak at a time or we won’t be able to hear what people are saying.. If you leave here without a plan, all this good energy and concern is going to potentially disappear. So I want to move on to deciding [where to go next]. One group of you is going to have to look at all the questions and prioritize. Does anyone have an idea about how to move forward?”

Someone yelled out - “Get a lawyer”

Someone mentioned going to Casey for money. Another resident responded, “Why do we have to go to Casey for money. Why can’t these neighbors put up their money. A woman responded, “You have a lot of people who are in this community who are on a fixed income.”

I think Dottye or Rev. Clark stepped in again at this point and said, “Who’s going to get on board with us and stop the talking and do some serious work. The first thing is, “Who’s willing to identify with that.”

Dottye said, “How many agree that in order to move forward you need to be a group that is committed to the group.” “What needs to happen next?”

Someone mentioned setting another meeting.

Dottye said, “I think there is a step tonight, which is to get the commitment – who’s going to commit the time. People began mentioning things again – mentioning both forcing existing organizations to be accountable as well as building a separate organization. One resident mentioned that existing organizations should be used because “if every resident has to get a lawyer we’re dead.” and Dottye said, “Which direction would people want to go? Either use your power to build an organization or use an existing organization.” After people didn’t really respond to this a resident said, “How are we going to move the questions off the wall into people’s hands?” Dottye said, “Are there people here who will take responsibility to take on that task?” The woman who asked the question raised her hand as well as a few others. Dottye asked them to come up after the meeting was over to take the sheets.

Rev. Clark stepped in and reiterated that the group convened because at all the previous meetings about safety and sanitation people kept asking why they were focusing on that

stuff when the one general question everyone had was about the park. He stated, "We're going to back off the tree planting and refocus on specific questions – on these specific questions.. Do we have a real grassroots meeting or are we not going to do anything?"

Dotty stepped in and said, "I'm going to make a suggestion that everyone here comitt to go to the meeting that Lauri Schwartz mentioned and bring other people. And also that you have a separate meeting to decide on which of these three options you are going to go for [referring to starting a new group, using an existing one]. "the goal is action. To have action you need to be organized. There are all different ways to be organized and how you decide is really important...How many people would come to a meeting to decide how to do that?" A few people raised their hands. "I'm going to ask you to stand and really show your comittment. [several people stood and then virtually the entire room stood]. Can we have a date? April 26th at 6:00. One week from tonight.

Dotty concluded, "I want to thank you and acknowledge and honor that you are taking control and showing commitment".

Grant proposals in

Rev. Clark - wants to come up w planning
focus.

* Rulph away June 3-13.

②

3rd reason - Have technical training here - Comm colleges, etc.

Many jobs @ all levels of training in Biotech Companies want stable work force who live in comm good career paths. High density of jobs.

4 jobs/1000 sq feet.

Are we dreaming? city, state, foundations + JHU.

tape cut off. See packet for more details.

Paul Brophy - Dr. Zahoni making case that BT could be created here bec. Hopk. presents a competitive edge. Promising. No tenants yet. No public approval yet.

- Can it be built?
- How well it fit in neighborhood?

4-5000 jobs.

What's case that this idea could benefit neighbor + Baltimore? How much land?

3 stories + parking = Bway to Wolfe/Hopkins up 3 blks
2 other options going East to West.

Could be taller. What's best location from standpoint of user + neighborhood. (↓ relocation)

How about new housing, recreation space?

1 million sq ft built over 7-10 years. 2-3 city blocks north of Hopkins. Plans worked out. ^{Dec 2000} Jan 2001. Now worth putting energy in -

Biotech would be owned by a non profit. Start up companies would be private + grow other businesses.

1/3 HS degree jobs would make 29000 to 40,000/year

Statements by comm.

3

♀ How come they're tearing down houses now?

♂ If we oppose everything what are we for?

Skips - East side looks a mess. What are we going to do about it? Need to look @ how we're going to be relocated. Can we stay? Let's find housing in comm comparable if not brand new.

Hattie - haven't seen this many property owners tog in a long time. Approx. 200 residents have owned their property. ~~How~~ You used to control - you have to take control again. How many live across/near ~~you~~ grandchildren who are doing illegal stuff. How many of you know you can make a citizens arrest? How many of you are official to make citizens arrests. Hebrac Community police - no one came out + helped. You can walk out or you can decide to be a part of this.

Biotech - all connected to a hospital.

Who would like mail contract? (This is a negub-business which could be started)

Voices in audience - Could we get that contract?

There are people Hebrac relocated. Still some available. People glad they love their houses.

~~All~~ Everyone made whole. - ex mortgages. No added expected. Some want to leave etc. Before anyone is asked to move, you'll get to pick house you want or we'll fix one for you. We have to do this together. Let's look at what we can do with our homes. Who said no? The only way we'll

Preceptur
Card

500 blk
WAS H.
Oliver
houses
no live
Bunaf

(4)

~~will~~ grow (allowed our families to destroy it in resistance - she said we allowed other families to destroy it). Hattie lived here 31 years / 1500 Madison / Dunbar.

Stood up for one reason - we have oppty. to redevelop E Balto. - people here been worried about property but also been you want community to improve. Don't have to love you to work with you. We can do it right / listen to Borophy + Nottingham + hear how we'll benefit when you look at the mess - look @ map -

In area on the map, most of it is already vacant. Look @ where you want to move. Look @ houses they are redoing - they are beautiful + the price is right. You have people here who are getting help but won't tell you what they got.

♀
in red
jacket

Not fair that people were not informed. We don't know what's going to happen to our homes. Only reason we are here is bec of a meeting last week.

Sometimes you see police / sometimes you don't. We need more cooperation.

Hattie on Debcae - 3 sections. Reps that represent your area are supposed to tell you.

We have to start talking together to see what you want to happen. 3 way partnership

♀ - but it has n't

(5)

Bob Embury paid for study. Brought it to us.
Son wrote story ~~um~~ if you talk to Mr
Nottingham ~~um~~ person who said take it to the
Comm. was me (Hattie) — Not a plan —

♀ - It is a plan already - telling us what's
coming.

♀ - 2600 E Chase / 26 years. Should she invest
more? Keep up to date? Paying for new
furnace, \$6000 — what do I do next?

If we would slow it down, figure it out.
Let's do some thinking / some research, I don't
want to lose my house. We need to be
educated about what's happening.

Hattie proposing Jeff + ? Set up a series of
housing relocation workshops — to talk about
relocation / when it's coming or if it's coming.

410-614-4216. Give us ~~2~~ 3 weeks to schedule
housing relocation info workshops.

One gentleman spent 90,000 on his home & he'll be
made whole. He's a SR citizen.

♂ blue shirt. Get back to original purpose. There are 13
faith based insts to be affected. With all due
respect.

No man can serve 2 masters. (Council persons)
^{eg Young / JHW}

Hattie Prop — Israel doing massive bldg job.

♂ you wouldn't be talking about displacement
if plan wasn't complete.

Rev. Clark — process has been flawed / need to make
our case to participate → want to be included →

6

we need to come up with our own plan -
How many of you came

♀* JH Notorious to paying us

How can she get a copy of research
need other websites/ addresses

agrees w. Rev - need to put plan tog on
own territory. Hebcac is ~~is~~ closed -
Coleene Daniels - who is on school

in Writing That our children are guaranteed
jobs. We don't want sweepings jobs.

How many are ~~registered~~ registered? Next
yr is elections. 2nd Council district / Can we meet
@ Curran Room
we have ability to organize!!

Laurie - closing out - fill out form w name
address etc espec if you are a homeowner.
Recog it is frustrating to not have all the
answers but we wanted to include you in the
beg.

Cons. will be back in June for mtgs w
faith based, political, Comm leaders
next Middle East meeting - 3rd MON June
mid July = commn wide charette

Coming out of that will be physical plan,
New housing where ~~is~~ biotech will be.
open space, play space, etc Workforce
initiatives.

(7)

Are beg. to put tog the relocation options so
you can determine what your ~~re~~ options are.
Looking to City Council in fall.

Throught summer will be dev comprehensive
plan for EBalto.

of 300 people/
only 40 qualified,
mental/dexterity ←
Skills

Skip is doing 50
houses in his area.



FEDS INVESTIGATE THREE HOPKINS RESEARCH PROJECTS

Government demands improvements in human experimentation at Johns Hopkins

BALTIMORE, April 2, 2001 – Allegations that Johns Hopkins Medicine violated the rights of human subjects in three research projects are being investigated by the federal Office for Human Research Protections (OHRP). The OHRP told *Hopkins Watch* that the probes involve allegations that Johns Hopkins did not obtain informed consent for subjects in studies of Alzheimer's disease and mechanical ventilators and that illicit drugs were used in another study.

The new probe follows an earlier review of clinical trials of cancer patients which led OHRP to demand, in October 2000, that Hopkins strengthen protection provided to research subjects by its Institutional Review Board (IRB). Federal law requires every institution conducting human experimentation to establish an IRB.

OHRP's October letter (http://ohrp.osophs.dhhs.gov/detrm_lettrs/oct00a.pdf), addressed to Johns Hopkins Hospital President Ronald R. Peterson and Medical School Vice-Dean for Research Chi Van Dang, said:

- Hopkins' consent forms for research subjects should tell them who to contact for questions about their rights.
- Consent forms should specify "that refusal to participate will involve no penalty or loss of benefits to which the subject is otherwise entitled (underlining in original)."
- Hopkins must ensure that its IRB adequately describe procedures for reviewing research, reporting findings, demanding independent verification of claims made by researchers and assuring prompt reporting of any violations of the rules governing clinical trials.

Following OHRP's action, Hopkins revised its human subject research guidelines. A January 12 memo from Van Dang to all faculty and staff researchers (ohrp.osophs.dhhs.gov/detrm_lettrs/jan01e.pdf) states:

- Hopkins' consent form for research subjects has been revised to specify: "If you refuse to join this study, you will not suffer any penalty or loss of benefits to which you are otherwise entitled."
- A paragraph on "Questions About Your Rights as a Research Subject" was added to the form and the "In Case of Injury" paragraph was revised.
- Everyone conducting or recruiting for human experimentation will now be trained on the rights of subjects.

OHRP is the division of the Department of Health and Human Services responsible for safeguarding the rights of people who volunteer for human subject research. Informed consent – the requirement that institutions provide subjects full information about the nature of testing and its potential risks – is a central focus of OHRP's work. An OHRP guide to informed consent issues is available at ohrp.osophs.dhhs.gov/humansubjects/guidance/ictips.htm.

The Hopkins news raises troubling questions. Have some patients agreed to be research subjects because they thought they would otherwise be denied health services? How many untrained researchers and recruiters conducted such research? Have research subjects been harmed or suffered rights violations due to the actions or inactions of untrained investigators?

Have you or has anyone you know been a research subject at Hopkins? Go to www.hopkinswatch.org to fill out an important questionnaire and obtain more information about your rights and risks.

SAVE MIDDLE EAST ACTION COMMITTEE (SMEAC)

Block Captain Job Description

SMEAC block captains are an important part of our organization. If we want to have a strong organization of residents to be sure we are treated fairly in all areas of this redevelopment, we must have strong participation on each block. Our block captains are the ones with special information about how to solve problems on each block – who to call, how to get ACTION!

The captains have three important jobs.

1. Communication link between residents and SMEAC

Block captains will distribute meeting flyers, newsletters, other important SMEAC announcements and information about resources for residents. Block captains can also help with rumor control since they will be the first to hear resident concerns.

2. Monitor Complaints

Block captains will encourage residents to make complaints and assist with follow up and will collect information from residents on what is happening on each block to give to the SMEAC staff.

3. Resident Recruitment and Community Building

Block captains will be the ones to encourage and support residents to get involved and stay involved. They will be the ones who know the needs of residents and who can offer support when needed. They will be helping to build a strong Middle East community where we take care of each other.

Qualities of Good Block Captain

not a boss

compassionate

a good listener

a good communicator

not judgmental

SWCOS Questionnaire

[Need an intro]

Questions 1 and 2 are filled in by interviewer

1. Neighborhood: _____
2. Interviewee category:
 - ____ Resident/not organizational leader
 - ____ Resident/organizational leader
 - ____ Non resident/employed in neighborhood
3. Are you a resident of this neighborhood? ____ yes ____ no
 (*ask this of everyone, for verification*)
 - a) If yes, how long have you lived in this area? _____ years
4. Are you employed? ____ yes ____ no
 - a) If yes, what is your job? _____
 - b) Is your job full or part time? _____
 - c) How long have you been employed at your current job? _____
 - d) Is your place of employment in this neighborhood? ____ yes ____ no

All communities have strengths and all communities have problems. We are interested in knowing what you think are your neighborhood's strengths and problems.

5. What do you see as this neighborhood's three greatest strengths or assets?
 - a)
 - b)
 - c)
6. What do you see as this neighborhood's three greatest problems or challenges?
 - a)
 - b)
 - c)

We have a list of areas that influence community life. In thinking about this neighborhood, we would like you to indicate if you strongly agree, agree, are neutral, disagree, or strongly disagree with these statements:

	SA	A	N	D	SD
7. The public schools are doing a good job educating this neighborhood's children.					
8. There are good employment opportunities in this neighborhood.					
9. There are safe and clean areas for children to play in this neighborhood.					
10. Housing is affordable in this neighborhood.					
11. The housing stock is of good quality in this neighborhood.					
12. This neighborhood has good relationships with the police.					
13. Crime is NOT a major problem in this neighborhood.					
14. This neighborhood is a friendly place to live.					
15. The social service organizations in this neighborhood are helpful.					
16. Public transportation adequately serves this neighborhood.					
17. When a person needs help, there are neighborhood organizations that provide assistance.					
18. Garbage and trash is a problem in this neighborhood.					
19. I feel safe in this neighborhood.					
20. City hall is responsive to this neighborhood.					
21. I would NOT recommend this neighborhood to others.					
22. This neighborhood has strong leaders.					
23. This is good neighborhood to raise children in.					
24. This neighborhood has active community groups and associations.					

25. Crime is often mentioned as a major problem for city neighborhoods. What, if any, do you think are the worst crime problems in this neighborhood?

26. Many city residents are unhappy or dissatisfied with the public schools. What, if any, problems do children and teenagers have in this neighborhood public schools?
27. Housing is often a problem in city neighborhoods. What problems, if any, do you see with the housing quality and availability in this neighborhood?
28. Parks and other recreational areas are important to many city residents. What, if any, problems are there with this neighborhood's parks and recreational areas?
29. Solving economic problems are important to many city residents. What, if any, economic problems are in this neighborhood?
30. Who or what should be most responsible for solving this neighborhood's problems?
(check one)
- the neighborhood residents
 - neighborhood organizations and associations
 - city hall/mayor's office
 - the government of Maryland
 - the federal government
 - area corporations and businesses
31. Who or what is least responsible for solving this neighborhood's problems? (check one)
- the neighborhood residents
 - neighborhood organizations and associations
 - city hall/mayor's office

- _____ the government of Maryland
- _____ the federal government
- _____ area corporations and businesses

32. Think of a problem that you have experienced in this neighborhood in the last year.

a) What was the problem?

b) Who helped you take care of this problem?

c) Was the problem solved to your satisfaction?

We are specifically interested in what factors help support families and children. We'd like to ask you some questions about this.

33. What does the phrase, "strong family", mean to you?

34. What does the phrase, "healthy children", mean to you?

35. What do you think families and children need to be healthy and thrive?

36. What do you think you could do to help children and their families in this neighborhood?

37. In what ways can families help their neighborhood?

38. In what ways can a neighborhood help or support families?

The following questions focus on how active you are in this neighborhood.

39. Are you a member of a religious institution (e.g. church, synagogue)?
___ yes ___ no

a) If yes: how long have you been a member?

b) If yes: do you consider yourself an active member? ___ yes ___ no

40. Are you a member of a neighborhood organization or club? ___ yes ___ no

a) If yes, what kind of organization/club and for how long? (name and years)

b) If yes, do you consider yourself an active?

c) - If no, are there any reasons why you are not a member?

41. Are you involved in any neighborhood service programs or projects, such as a local church group that visits shut-ins or community association that runs a food pantry, as a volunteer? ___ yes ___ no

a) If yes, describe your activities:

b) If yes, why did you get involved?

c) If no, are there any reasons why you are not involved?

42. In the last six months, have you attended a neighborhood forum or meeting?
___ yes ___ no

a) If yes: what did you attend?

b) If no: any reasons why you did not attend?

43. Do you consider yourself a neighborhood activist? ___ yes ___ no

a) If yes, describe your activities:

b) If yes, why did you become an activist?

The following questions are about neighborhood leaders and organizations for this neighborhood?

44. Who do you see as the neighborhood leader or leaders?

45. What do you think their roles should be in helping to solve your neighborhood's problems?

46. Do you know what this community or neighborhood association is?

47. To your knowledge, what this neighborhood organization is currently doing to help children and families?

48. Have you sought assistance from any organizations in this neighborhood in the past year?

___ yes ___ no

a) If yes, from what organization(s)?

b) If yes, did you receive the help that you needed?

These questions are concerned with the future of your neighborhood.

49. What are the top three problems or challenges in this neighborhood that you would like addressed in the next year? Who or what should take the lead in addressing these problems (e.g. city hall, neighborhood leaders, businesses, etc.)?

Problem or Challenge	Who should take the lead
a)	
b)	
c)	

50. If you had a choice, would you want to remain in this neighborhood or move out?

___ remain: why? _____

___ move out: why? _____

___ not applicable, don't live in this neighborhood

51. What would need to happen in this neighborhood for you to want to stay or live here?
52. If you could undertake any "pet project" to help this neighborhood, what would it be?
53. Are there any additional comments or suggestions you would like to make about this neighborhood and its future?

We'd like to conclude this interview by asking you some basic, personal information:

54. What is your sex? Male Female (*Interviewer should be able to fill this in*)
55. What is your race? White, non Hispanic
 Black
 Latino
 Asian
 Native American
 Biracial: _____
 Other: _____
56. What is your ethnic background? _____
57. What is your age? _____
58. What is your yearly income? (include wages, public assistance, etc.) _____

59. Do you have children? ____ yes ____ no

a) If yes, how many children? _____

b) What are their ages? _____

ASSOCIATIONAL/ORGANIZATIONAL CAPACITIES

This additional questionnaire is used when interviewing an organizational leader. The purpose is to assess the capacities of the organization and its functioning in the neighborhood.

1. Name of organization: _____
2. What is the mission or purpose of your organization? _____

3. What is your position or role in the organization: _____
4. Is this organization an incorporated, 501c(3) organization? ___ yes ___ no
5. Does your organization have by-laws? ___ yes ___ no
6. Do you have dues paying members? ___ yes ___ no
7. Does your organization hold an annual meeting? ___ yes ___ no
8. Does your organization have regular membership meetings? ___ yes ___ no
9. Does your organization have a board of directors? ___ yes ___ no
10. Does your organization have officers? ___ yes ___ no
11. Does your organization have a bank account? ___ yes ___ no
12. What is your annual budget? _____
13. Does the organization receive any support from public or private grants? ___ yes ___
no
14. Does your organization have a work plan or strategic plan? ___ yes ___ no
15. Does your organization have committees like a finance or publicity committee? ___
yes ___ no
16. Does your organization have any of the following to keep this neighborhood's
residents informed?
17. What do you see as the strengths of this organization?

18. What do you see as the challenges or problems of this organization?
19. Is the organization represented at meetings held outside the community, such as ...
20. Does the organization have block captains? ___ yes ___ no
21. Does the organization have block committees? ___ yes ___ no
22. Does your organization offer leadership training? ___ yes ___ no
23. Does your organization offer member training? ___ yes ___ no
24. Can the organization's leadership mobilize community residents as needed to address neighborhood problems or concerns? ___ yes ___ no
25. Can the organization's leadership mobilize community residents as needed for legal or administrative hearings, such as housing court, the zoning board, etc? ___ yes ___ no
26. In the past year, what neighborhood projects, programs or special events has your organization offered?
27. What neighborhood organizations do you work with?

	SA	A	N	D	SD
I think this organization does a good job with outreach to the neighborhood.					
I think this organization is kept in good administrative order.					
I think this organization needs to do a better job identifying new leaders.					
I think this organization does a good job developing programs or projects that prevent and solve problems.					
Meetings of this organization are well attended.					
I think this organization needs to be more responsive to neighborhood problems or concerns.					
There is good communication in this organization between the leaders and members.					
This organization is not well known outside of the neighborhood.					
This organization is in good financial shape.					
In this organization, decisions are not shared but are made by only a few people.					
This organization is the first point of contact for neighborhood residents.					
This organization does not select relevant neighborhood issues to work on.					

The current leadership is active and involved.					
This organization has a good reputation in the community.					

Community Briefing

May 21st, 2001

QUESTION & ANSWERS

1.0 BioTech Status / Scope

1.1 **What is a BioTech Park?**

An enterprise created to develop a complex that will house a cluster of businesses that sell products and services resulting from the commercial application of bio-medical research.

1.2 **What would Hopkins' role be in developing and operating?**

Most BioTech Parks have been set up as non-profit companies in order to be a catalyst for economic development. The non-profit entity has a close working relationship with an Affiliated University who engages in applied research, development and education.

1.3 **What is the status of the BioTech Park Initiative?**

The initial stages of evaluating the BioTech Park business feasibility have been completed. Other feasibility requirements include developing an approved strategy for integrating the building program into the existing neighborhood consistent with community aspirations and objectives.

1.4 **What is the approximate size of the BioTech Park?**

Initial findings indicate that a successful BioTech program must include approximately 1,000,000 square feet phased over 10 years.

Community Briefing

May 21st, 2001

QUESTION & ANSWERS

2.0 Housing / Relocation Considerations

2.1 How many households will have to be relocated?

We will not know the exact number of houses that will have to be relocated until a Master Plan is completed and approved by the community. At this time, the City is developing an initial order of magnitude assessment of the potential relocation requirements based on scope assumptions presented today.

2.2 How will the acquisition price be determined for displaced property owners? What type of relocation assistance will be available for renters?

Based on preliminary program assumptions to date, the City is formulating the guiding principles and priorities that will guide relocation program development. This is a critical issue that will be reviewed at each phase of the process and will require a special Work Group to address technical, economic and community challenges.

Community Briefing

May 21st, 2001

QUESTION & ANSWERS

3.0 Community Participation

3.1 How will the Community be informed of progress and have an opportunity to influence master plan development?

The Master Land Use Concept and Implementation Plan will be developed in stages. The City is committed to having Community Milestone Reviews at the beginning and end of each phase. In addition to community organization meetings and public forums, the City will develop a communications system for reporting progress and announcing key meetings.

COMMUNITY / BIOTECH PARK
OPPORTUNITY

Economic Revitalization

- **State:** Strengthening the City's role as a nationally recognized Bio-medical Research & Development Center enhances the State's competitive position.
- **City:** Leverage John Hopkins' competitive advantages to help grow and diversify the City's economy in a strategically important industry.
- **East Baltimore Community:** As part of an Economic and Redevelopment Strategy, the BioTech Park and integrated community development has the potential to overcome past economic isolation & disinvestments and create sustainable economic benefits for local residents.

Jobs & Training Opportunities

- The bio-medical sector is a labor-intensive field requiring a range of skills.
- The BioTech Park will create approximately **4,000 new jobs** as well as training, and career advancement opportunities for local residents with high school, college and advanced degrees.
- Approximately **1/3 of the BioTech jobs** will be available for high school trained candidates.

COMMUNITY / BIOTECH PARK
OPPORTUNITY

Business Opportunities

- The Biotech Park will create new opportunities to strengthen existing neighborhood businesses and strategically add new businesses to support City economic growth.

Housing Opportunities

- The BioTech Park affords the opportunity to: capitalize on the potential demand for approximately **1,000 market housing units; and generate public investment for significant affordable housing opportunities.**

BIOTECH PARK HIGHLIGHTS

Drivers Of University Based Bio-Science Park Growth

- Major changes in the biomedical discovery process
- Increase in university -based discoveries
- Research and business synergies creating new economic opportunities

John Hopkins / East Baltimore Competitive Advantages

- Hopkins' international reputation and research infrastructure
- Annual research grant budget of \$500M equivalent of the R&D activities of a \$5 –\$10 billion company
- Over 2200 faculty with over 600 principal investigators
- Over 2000 patent portfolio

John Hopkins / East Baltimore Locational Advantages

- Access to students for part-time help
- Access to supply of well-educated graduates
- Access to university research equipment & facilities
- Access to university social & cultural facilities
- Access to libraries and high speed Internet as well as research databases
- Access to faculty for consulting
- Greater ability to participate in joint research projects or to fund research at the university
- Access to educational opportunities for family members
- Availability of university adjunct professorships for research park employees which facilitates recruitment and retention of highly qualified professional and technical labor

BIOTECH PARK HIGHLIGHTS

Feasibility Study Objectives

- Evaluate feasibility of Applied Bioscience Park adjacent to John Hopkins
- Focus on biomedical technologies for human health application
- Assess ability to attract companies at various stages of development

Technology Park Success Factors

- Community support
- Commitment by affiliated University Management
- Operated as an independent entity
- Proximity to affiliated University
- Selective screening of tenants
- Mix of established, pre-commercial and first stage companies

Less Successful Technology Park Traits

- Under capitalization / poor management
- Lack of "Vision" and clear objectives
- Poor community and affiliated University relationships
- Insufficient due diligence leading to unexpected risks and costs
- Poor tenant selection and mix of companies

BIOTECH PARK HIGHLIGHTS

Critical Factors When Looking For New Space

- Availability of trained labor pool (60% of sample)
- Cost per square foot (50% of sample)
- Proximity to current location (46% of sample)

Critical Factors For Moving +100 Miles

- Flexibility to expand space to changing needs (42% of sample)
- Rental rates (22% of sample)
- Core services (8% of sample)

Employment & Training Potential

- Biotechnology industry is very labor intensive
- Biotech companies require a full range of labor skills
- Biotechnology creates a significant demand for both a low - medium and highly skilled workforce
- Biotechnology is a high generator of well-compensated jobs and career advancement opportunities for all levels of skill sets and education
- Approximately 1/3 of the projected 4,000 jobs will be available for high school graduates

BIOTECH PARK HIGHLIGHTS

Biotech Park Feasibility Study Preliminary Conclusions

An East Baltimore Biotechnology Park would be feasible subject to the following:

- Hopkins full commitment to the program and affiliated University status
- Strong Community, City and State support
- Need to offer competitive advantages to prospective businesses
- Must develop a comprehensive complex next to the Hopkins' campus
- The comprehensive program requires a full build-out of approximately 1,000,000 square feet over 10 years

EAST BALTIMORE

MIDDLE EAST NEIGHBORHOOD

Community Briefing
May 21st, 2001

COMMENT SHEET

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Organization Affiliation: _____

Meeting Feedback: _____

Other Comments: _____

1700 E. Eager

Luther C. Mitchell

betw. McDonough
& Rutland

mtg. last wk 5/31
re. properties

Pat Tracey
925 Rutland
21205

see
articles

(1)

Mayor asked for eco growth strategy for city
- targeted, build on strengths, show demand. JHU is asset, world class

How to build on this strength -

Want to start comm planning process
Incl. biotech park, new housing, how to create a comm where your children are safe, have parks, schools

Mayor asked Steering Comm be convened

Graziano, Bell, Graves, Sitnick 5 comm

Lucille, Sarah, Gail, Hatlee Rev Wilson
4 JHU reps

Urban Design Assoc = Paul Brophy - Design team

Dana Nottingham - obj is to share info. Heard that people that it was already done - how its being structured so comm is involved.

Evaluate feasibility of Bio Tech Park Still in planning. Initial assumption of size -

Residents resisted small groups - chgd agenda

will have presentation 1st and then

2 objectives - dev eco devmt strategy for whole commty

- address housing, educ, safety, Business

+ workforce development, etc Bio Tech park one piece.

Business venture - sell products from biomedical research

3 criteria - 1. Sound business strategy -

2. has to be integrated into commty w/ commty objectives

3. No Bio Tech w/o comm support

DR Zahuni (?) Bio tech growing

many cities using bio tech as an anchor / chgs in bio med res

2° DNA recoding. Can't start new cos without specialists. Also

need access to training programs, etc. Biotech will double

in 5 years. Commty that put plan tog will win out.

Jobs @ all levels. 1/3 Phd's / 1/3 comm college / 1/3 < college ed.

Hopkins is good anchor - world class, talent, federal \$, etc.

Hopkins is #3 in generating patents. Govt insists Univ. participate

UC+MIT are #1+2. This is an opportunity.



SMEAC
Fullilove workshop
re neighborhood
devastation

Betty Robinson
2113 Dobler Avenue
Baltimore, MD 21218

Commonly, violence, substance abuse, and AIDS have been described as concurrent epidemics among inner-city populations. However, the term epidemic fails to adequately describe the true nature of the contemporary inner city health crisis, which is characterized by a set of closely interrelated, endemic and epidemic conditions, all of which are strongly influenced by a broader array of political-economic and social factors, including high rates of unemployment, poverty, homelessness and residential overcrowding, substandard nutrition, infrastructural deterioration and loss of quality housing stock, forced geographic mobility, family breakup and disruption of social support networks, youth gang formation, and health care inequality^{1,2,3}.

Dear Colleague,

The rise in new HIV infections and sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) in New York City (NYC) is of concern to us all. Many of our organizations work with affected communities to try to stem the tide of new transmissions through counseling and testing and other interventions based on increasing knowledge about HIV/STDs and promoting safer sex and injection practices.

However, larger socioeconomic and environmental factors influence the lives of individuals and HIV risk taking behaviors. It is critical for us to address these broader structural issues affecting our communities if we are to promote a truly comprehensive approach to HIV prevention in NYC.

Gay Men's Health Crisis (GMHC) and Community HIV/AIDS Mobilization Project (CHAMP) are sponsoring a one-day workshop to address the socioeconomic and environmental factors that drive HIV transmission. The workshop is being designed and structured in collaboration with Mindy Fullilove of Columbia University's Mailman School of Public Health, Roderick Wallace of the New York State Psychiatric Institute and Deborah Wallace of the Consumer's Union, who have done groundbreaking work on the relationship between these larger factors and health outcomes among urban communities.

This one-day workshop will be held at GMHC on Wednesday, January 28th from 8:30AM to 6:00PM. The workshop will be an interactive experience beginning with a short presentation on the role of socioeconomic and environmental factors on health outcomes. The rest of the morning will be devoted to assessments of two neighborhoods in NYC in which small teams will be assigned to walk through these areas and document the structural factors that may influence HIV/STD transmission and other health disparities. After lunch (which will be provided by GMHC for attendees) the entire

¹ Wallace D. Roots of increased health care inequality in New York. *Social Science and Medicine* 1990;31(11):1219-1227.

² Wallace R. A synergism of plagues. *Environment Research* 1988;47:1-33.

³ Wallace R. Urban desertification, public health and public order: planned shrinkage, violent death, substance abuse and AIDS in the Bronx. *Social Science & Medicine* 1990;31: 801-813.

p45

group will discuss the findings of the morning's "field visits" and discuss ways to address the structural factors at play in these neighborhoods and other neighborhoods around NYC. Attendance at the workshop is limited to 50 people and is by invitation only. Due to the intensive nature of the workshop, we are asking those who attend to be able to devote the entire day to the process. Since we are in the midst of winter and part of this workshop will involve walking outdoors for several hours, we suggest you dress warmly for the day.

We are sending a copy of your invitation by regular mail that will also include a paper that describes a similar teach-in in Pittsburgh, *Hillscapes: A Scrapbook-Envisioning a Healthy Urban Habitat*, and which we are using as a model for our workshop. The following additional readings may be helpful in understanding the approach that will be explored through the workshop:

Wallace D, Wallace R. A plague on your houses: how New York was burned down and national public health crumbled. New York: Verso; 1998.

Fullilove RE, Green L, Fullilove MT. The Family to Family program: a structural intervention with implications for the prevention of HIV/AIDS and other community epidemics. AIDS. 2000 Jun;14 Suppl 1:S63-7.

Fullilove MT. Root shock: the consequences of African American dispossession. J Urban Health. 2001 Mar;78(1):72-80.

Fullilove MT. Promoting social cohesion to improve health. J Am Med Womens Assoc. 1998 Spring;53(2):72-6.

Due to the limited nature of this opportunity, Please contact Mark McLaurin, Associate Director for HIV Prevention Policy at GMHC at 212-367-1456 or markm@gmhc.org to indicate whether or not you will be able to attend and if not, you may indicate one staff member to attend in your place.

Yours truly,

Mark McLaurin
GMHC

Gregg Gonsalves
GMHC

Julie Davids
CHAMP

Preface

Philip B. Hallen

Every so often, a foundation makes a grant which somehow captures the essence of its work, and reflects a history often lost in the conventional wisdom that foundations always need to be at the "cutting edge" of social policy. But looking back at unsolved problems and attempting new solutions in different and newer times can be a way to capitalize on previous grants, programs and experiences to help toward new solutions to community problems.

This was the background thinking which gave shape to our idea that the Medical Fund's long history in racism, mental health policy and community action, might be applied to long unsolved problems of housing, poverty and community organization in The Hill District. Thirty five years ago the Fund created a Hill District Development Fund, a small and flexible grant program, aimed at shaping action ideas, initiating small projects, providing fast matching funds for government funding programs, in short, making critical small developmental funding available.

The availability of two outstanding researchers in the psychology of place in neighborhoods faced with dislocation gave rise to a re-run of some of these policies in funding of the Falk Fellows program at the Center for Minority Health at the Graduate School of Public Health and the appointment of Drs. Robert and Mindy Fullilove of Columbia University as the first fellows. Their arrival, with a mandate to work with Hill District community groups, almost immediately resulted in a deep and gratifying partnership with Hill District citizens. This is not a typical case of outside experts brought into a neighborhood. Through their style and personalities, Robert and Mindy became, with dozens of Hill residents, co-creators of a movement of citizen participation and mutual policy making that remembered the 1960's "maximum feasible participation" philosophy, and added new understanding of grassroots organizing and the way policy and practice in neighborhoods can be a real partnership.

The record of what happened since their arrival in Pittsburgh is the body of this scrapbook. These pages of text and photographs are a collected history of The Hill, its people, its institutions and neighborhoods. These are stories of people who have lived for decades on those streets and people who will create a new history from stories of the Thelma Lovettes, the Carl Redwoods, and countless others who have created a special place in Pittsburgh.

The Hill District Collaborative working with the Fulliloves, created the Coalition for a Healthy Urban Habitat which drew dozens of other urban players and institutions together: The Graduate School of Public Health at the University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation, the Heinz Architectural Center at the Carnegie Institute, and the Department of Architecture at Carnegie Mellon University.

But the real work described in this scrapbook is that of grassroots organizations and people who will continue to fertilize ideas and actions revealed through the eyes of these outside observers. Well, no, not just observers, but co-creators with their neighborhood partners of a new vision for a quality of Hill District life once vibrant, then dormant and embattled, now blossoming into new life.

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Acknowledgements

This project was made possible by funding from the Maurice Falk Medical Fund and support from the following: Center for Minority Health at the Graduate School of Public Health (University of Pittsburgh), Coalition for Healthy Urban Habitat, Heinz Architectural Center at the Carnegie Museum, Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation, Carnegie Mellon University Department of Architecture, and The Hill District Community Collaborative. The contributors owe a special debt of gratitude to these organizations.

Special thanks goes to Robert Sember for his help in developing the idea of the scrapbook. The project could never have been accomplished on its present scale without photos and maps. Photos were courtesy of Rich Brown, Mindy Fullilove, Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, University of Pittsburgh Public Relations Office, and Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation. Maps on pages 5, 27, and 39 were courtesy of Rich Brown.

Finally, we wish to thank Rich Brown of Rich Brown Graphic Design for the splendid cover design. And, we owe special thanks to Robert Fullilove for his careful translation of the French text provided us.

Introduction

Mindy Fullilove

This scrapbook documents an exciting project that began in February 1997. Robert Fullilove, my husband, and I were invited to talk to citizens of Pittsburgh about the problem of displacement. As researchers at Columbia University, we had learned that displacement posed serious problems for people. Pittsburgh had experience with displacement in the 1950s. As one of the first cities in the United States to implement a large urban renewal project, the city fathers destroyed a significant neighborhood and displaced thousands of people. History seemed to be repeating itself in 1997, as the federal HOPE VI program for public housing was poised to bulldoze housing projects and displace more people. What would this mean for The Hill District neighborhood and for the city as a whole?

This question is one we took quite seriously and we were very excited when, in 1998, the Maurice Falk Medical Fund offered us the opportunity to serve as visiting professors at the University of Pittsburgh, engaged in an extended conversation about HOPE VI, in particular, and community revitalization, in general. The conversation was augmented by opportunities to be in many parts of the city and surrounding communities, visiting humble neighborhoods and great tourist attractions. We spent some evenings listening to jazz and others listening to folk music. We visited many homes and took hundreds of photographs. We learned to love The Hill District and Pittsburgh with a passion that surprises our New York friends. "You have to go to Pittsburgh!" we keep telling them.

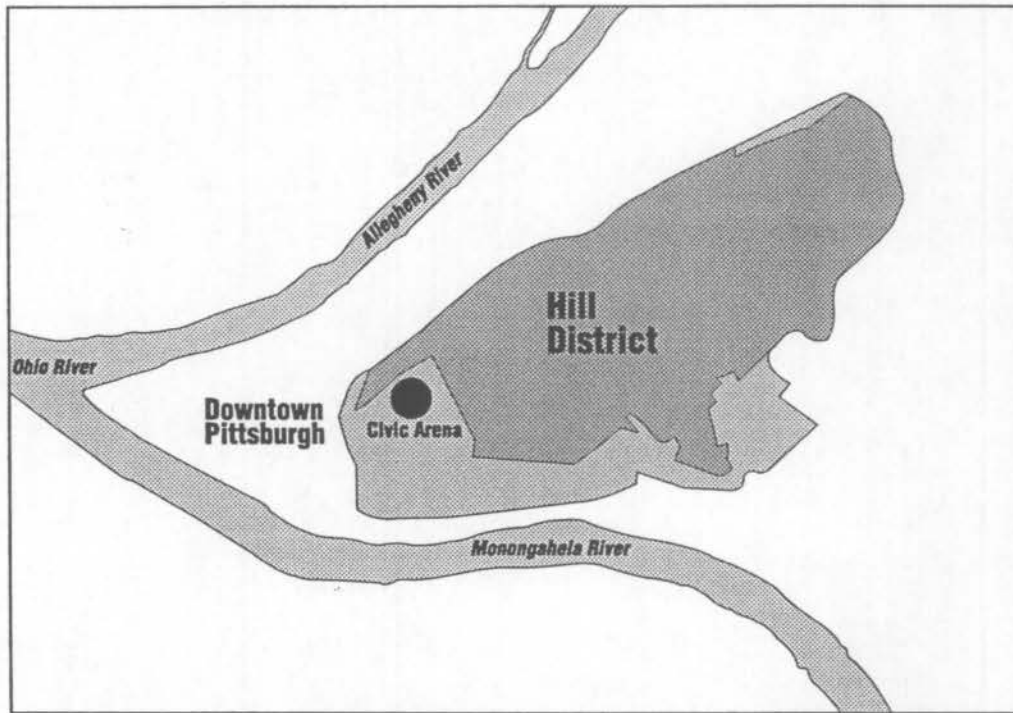
For us, a very important part of this conversation was that we were able to engage a consultant, Michel Cantal-Dupart, an architect-urbanist who practices in Paris, France. Cantal has had a long commitment to developing a city that embodies human rights. Certainly, the problems of a disintegrating African American neighborhood were of interest to him. He saw great hope for The Hill District in the deep attachment its residents expressed for the area, and in the rich and important history that is rooted there. Like us, he fell in love with Pittsburgh. "You have no idea how much the French would love this town," he told us repeatedly. "Its complexity makes it a microcosm of the United States, but its size makes it possible to grasp the whole. Imagine Big Steel and Amish farms within an hour of a group of the most beautiful skyscrapers in the world!"

As the grant came to end, we asked ourselves, "How do you represent such a rich and complex experience in a report?" The answer was: you don't. You make a scrapbook. With the help of many people who had been part of the year, we put together this collection of ideas and images that occupied our time and attention. As you leaf through the pages, you will find essays, memos, letters, photographs, maps, and other memorabilia that constitute the history of this project. This scrapbook offers no conclusions nor definitive directions. It is, rather, the record of a conversation.

As a participant in that conversation, I can attest to its power. I carry away the sad realization that not one but many African American communities were destroyed by misguided urban renewal efforts in the 1960s, a style of urban management that haunts present plans. I also carry away memories of the citizens' love for their neighborhoods and their city. We have much to do to revitalize American cities. It will take many conversations like this one. I hope that this record of our talks will be of use to future conversations in Pittsburgh and all American Cities.

Part I: Neighborhood Changes

This map represents the geographic boundaries of The Hill District as represented by two viewpoints. The dark shaded area is drawn according to City of Pittsburgh Department of City Planning records. The larger area, in a lighter shade, represents viewpoints held by many residents of The Hill District. Portions of it also represent the pre-"Urban Renewal" boundary, placing The Hill District adjacent to Downtown Pittsburgh, and includes the Civic Arena. The larger boundary would also include Duquesne University, Carlow College, part of the University of Pittsburgh, and several hospitals.



Part I: Neighborhood Changes

than merely tearing down old, dilapidated buildings and replacing them with new structures. The efforts undertaken with HOPE VI funds must be about building community.

Community building is a holistic approach that focuses its efforts on people. It is predicated on the idea that residents must take control of their destiny and the destiny of their communities. It is built on efforts to help residents take on new responsibilities, make new connections with the larger community, and even own their own homes. Thus, community building is the opposite of community displacement: power versus infirmity.

In sum, community displacement is achieved by three assaults: (1) uprooting imposed by external, aggressive elements; (2) an unknown, uncertain future for the displaced, and (3) the unattainable desire by the displaced to return to his home, and thus a future that is a source of permanent concern and conflict. First, the individual is robbed of his home – a unique space in his universe that gives him a sense of balance. Assault two involves groups of people being uprooted to wander aimlessly in search of a dream (safe places) without clues to where they might find it. Finally, the third assault, the features of the land changes via demolition and bulldozing. The neighborhood residents are not able to identify with the changes and their special places no longer exist. Community displacement leaves a void where people feel rootless, deserted, adrift in a world no one has prepared them to understand. They have been abandoned in some trackless wilderness where the natural instinct to survive exacts behavior that reflects the raw, brutal circumstances trapping them.

Part I: Neighborhood Changes

The Lower Hill: I Remember

Thelma Lovette

When I think about the Lower Hill, I'm reminded of a book that my husband often encouraged me to read: Sinclair Lewis' It Can Happen Here. My husband was an avid reader and this book was one of his favorites. The book describes how disruption and bad things can tear at the fabric of society. It shares that no one is immune to having something done to them if they allow it to happen. Although the book deals mostly with the rise and fall of the Roman Empire, the message is applicable to the changes that occurred in the Lower Hill beginning in the mid-1950s. The Lower Hill was demolished to make way for a cultural district. Lots of places I once knew and visited are gone.

The Lower Hill is my family home. Mama was born in 1892 at Fullerton and Pasture Street. Fullerton Street is where the Civic Arena parking lot is located – the open parking lot. They called the area the Melody Tent site. Fullerton Street was known by Blacks during the early '20s and '30s for its many clubs such as the Loni Club (a membership club) and Washington Club, as well as a black owned drugstore. I was born at Crawford Street and Wiley in 1917. There were eleven children that included a set of twins that died at an early age. I'm number five in the order of births.

On Crawford Street, we had a theater – Burke's Theater. In the late '20s my older sister played the piano at the Burke's. It was a community theater that featured movies. They had comics. My sister was a youngster when she worked there. We would get in the theater for free. In the back of Burke's Theater was a converted stable. This stable would become a special place for my father and family.

I remember well my father, Henry M. Williams, Sr., walking from Wylie Avenue – 1520 Wylie Avenue – to Sheraden to work at Wesley Masonic Temple, a white fraternal organization. He and Mr. Paul Gillette would go in the morning, walk there and walk back. Papa did that for many years. In May of 1919 he decided that he would work for himself. I know the date because my mother delivered a set of twins. The

Gross brothers (a set of Jewish brothers who owned a confectionery store at the corner of Wiley and Crawford) were the ones who suggested that Papa use the converted stable behind the Burke's and set up a shop.

Papa was a self-taught plumber. His skills and talents were often sought after by many who needed various plumbing jobs done. Outhouses had been outlawed and indoor plumbing was required. They were putting the bathrooms in the homes. So, Papa had lots of work. The plumbing shop is still operating today. It's in our family home at 806 Heron Avenue. My brother, one of my younger brothers, has carried the business on. Today, we still have a portion of

what was happening in The Hill in the early '20s.

We lived in multiethnic community: Jews, Italians, Syrians, Poles. There were Blacks and whites and some of us lived next door to each other. They learned from us and we learned from them. The whole Hill was mixed. In some sections, there were people who had businesses, say a

store, and would live in the back of the store. Economically it was the same until people start moving to other parts of Pittsburgh and taking their businesses with them.

Blacks had businesses. We had a jeweler who made jewelry at 1300 block of Wylie Avenue. We had Dr. Crampton and Crampton's Drugstore in the '20s. We had a pharmacist. We owned hotels. We had in the Lower Hill in an area called Court Place, a fabulous big hotel own by Frank Sutton. Our people (independent of fame or riches) couldn't stay at other downtown hotels. We opened our own. The Bailey Hotel was another of our hotels. Fondly I remember the Bailey for its doorman. That was impressive doing those days. They had even a caterer, a restaurant, and room service. The Potter's Hotel was another that offered Blacks welcome and comfortable lodging.

There were many lessons learned as I grew up in The Hill. One that left a lasting impression is my schooling. We were an integrated school system. All



of my teachers from my early education and throughout were white women. I remember my second grade teacher who taught us that we should always try to bring something to school – bring a penny to school in case someone needed something. She would put the pennies in a little box and save them. As we brought our pennies, she shared with us a saying:

“Reuben, I’ve been thinking what a world, what a great world this would be if we all supported you in your philanthropy.” Papa said that philanthropy meant “that someone got something; someone received something and they want to give something back.” “Always give something back to the community” was his philosophy.

1929: the Depression ... I was in high school. The class was a mixed group. There weren’t many blacks as there were whites at Schenley High School during those days, but we persevered. Some of us put cardboard in our shoes to keep the rain, water and sometimes snow out. Our graduating was such a feat that Farmer’s National Bank put the pictures of the graduates in their windows. The bank was located where the present day Lazarus Department Store is now. I graduated in June 1934.

During the Depression, Papa always had a little something stowed away. And we did our parts to be helpful. We would preserve elderberries and Mama would make elderberry jelly and elderberry wine. We thought elderberry wine was medicine. We took it for whatever was ailing us. Mama would warm up the elderberry; we would take a few sips and the pain was relieved. For a cold, Papa would cook onions and sugar to a syrup. He, then, would mix the syrup with the wine and serve. Before long, you were well.

Although times were difficult, the wonderful smells of the kitchen will always be etched into my memory. I can still smell the wonderful aroma of peaches, apples or some other fruits stewing in Mama’s pots to be canned. The kitchen would often be filled with wonderful smells of breads being baked in the oven. I awaited anxiously to spread some butter on the hot rolls. Mama made great big flaky dumplings and put apples in them. She’d wrap them like pigs in a blanket and put them in boiling water. They were so delicious. You learned to do all kinds of things to feed a family.

The Depression, and then war time ... I remember Papa telling us, “Always remember the neighborhood

grocer ... Because when you need, he will help you.” The government was rationing sugar and butter. We had a neighborhood grocer – Rosenfield was the name of the family. He would always find a square of butter for Papa. We always had butter. If by chance we had to use oleo, Mama would add coloring and prepare it so that Papa wouldn’t know the difference. These were things that we did during the Depression and in war time.

Times were hard but we didn’t recognize it. They were interesting times for us. I guess because of the way we were brought up. We learned to share. We had to share. The Williams’ were a large clan. In addition to our immediate family, we had my mother’s sister, her husband and two girls who lived with us. It was a big house. And we enjoyed each other. In the evening after we’d completed our homework and washed dishes, we’d sit and Papa would have each of us entertain the other. If Mama and Papa had company, we would entertain them. My sister played the piano, my brother the violin. The rest of us would sing and dance. I learned to get up in front of people to speak, perform and feel comfortable. And that in itself was a truly a wonderful education, because it taught us how to be confident in our sharing of talents and gifts. We had great times in those places.