

## **CSTNA March Meeting**

3/13/2018

### **President Nathan Durant – Announcements**

- President Durant announces that he will be moving from 19805...to 19806!
- Dog attack. Police are here to answer any questions about the incident or other incidents in the neighborhood.

### **Barb from City Church – Annual Easter Egg Hunt**

Free event in Tilton Park on Sunday, March 31 from 10 a.m. to noon. There will be food, bounce houses, and games.

### **Police Chief Tracy – Police Update**

Chief Tracy says that he is trying to make as many meetings as possible. But since he can't make it to all meetings, Captain Campos is the "quarterback" for this sector and reports directly to him. Murders across the city are down 40%, down 56% in shooting incidents, and even more in shooting victims. He suggests that we are beginning to see the results of new policing strategies that he implemented. Let's hope these numbers stay down. Ultimately, this is about changing the culture of the Wilmington Police Department.

The dog attack: Chief Tracy has a dog, and can empathize with the neighbor who lost her dog. The police were called but were not dispatched; rather, WPD called this in to animal control. Chief Tracy reviewed the 911 call and decided that this is one of those instances that warranted a review of procedure. "We should at least respond," he said. "That policy change went into effect immediately. We've instructed our dispatchers: when you receive a call for a dog attack like this, send out an officer."

- **Question about illegal dog fighting.** (Question asked because the pit bull that attacked the other dog showed signs of dog fighting.) Chief Tracy will get back with us on this.

### **Captain Campos – Police Update**

Captain Campos passed out the crime report for Cool Spring-Tilton Park. Compared to the first ten week of last year, we're even. Burglaries are up but aggravated assault and theft are down. Also, please contact Corporal Whan ([brennan.whan@cj.state.de.us](mailto:brennan.whan@cj.state.de.us)) if you have any concerns about crime in the neighborhood.

- **Question about burglary and theft.** Burglaries usually involve entering a home, whereas theft is outside the home, from vehicles, shoplifting, etc.
- **Question about the shooting on Jackson Street.** Homicide detective is following up on some leads, but there's not a whole lot to go on right now.
- **What's bringing down violent crime?** Culture of WPD is changing. Cops are getting out of cars and walking through neighborhoods. COMPSTAT procedures challenge WPD to target crime hotspots and to use intelligence that will help officers to get out ahead of violent crime.
- **What is the relationship between the city and animal control?** We call animal control and they will dispatch someone, but we really have no idea of who is coming, when, or from where they are coming?

### **Vash Turner – City Council Update**

Budget hearings are coming up! We need your input for what should go into the city budget. This budget could shape Wilmington for years to come because they will be going to the bond market for funds. We need to speak up about our concerns. Reach out to other members of City Council and advocate for funds to renovate Cool Spring Park and Tilton Park. Send emails. Write letters. Make phone calls.

### **Wilmington budget hearing schedule**

- Monday, April 9, 4 p.m. – Wilmington City Council; Treasurer's Office; Mayor's Office
- Wednesday, April 11, 4 p.m. – Mayor's Office of Economic Development; Parks and Recreation
- Thursday, April 12, 4 p.m. – Planning and Development; Licenses and Inspections; Real Estate and Housing
- Monday, April 16, 4 p.m. – Public Works
- Wednesday, April 18, 4 p.m. – Human Resources; Mayor's Office of Information Technology
- Monday, April 23, 4 p.m. – Audit; Police
- Wednesday, April 25, 4 p.m. – Revenue Projections; Finance
- Monday, April 30, 4 p.m. – Law; Fire
- Wednesday, May 2, 4 p.m. – Presentation Water/Sewer Fund 6-Year Financial Plan (Public Works)

Also, Vash is pleased to see that there's been movement at the state level to enforce stricter penalties for straw purchases. Councilman Ciro Adams is in attendance and he supports enhanced background checks.

- **Question about the sink hole in Cool Spring Park.** Vash will follow up on this.

- **Question about the light post that fell in Tilton Park.** The light belongs to Delmarva. The power has been disconnected but the post has not yet been removed. Call Constituent Services, which will help you navigate the bureaucracy.

### **Nataysha – West Side Grows**

Tree Giveaway in Tilton Park! Partnership with Delaware Center for Horticulture. Pick up the tree on April 7. 150 trees total (so not everyone will get a tree). Tree will come in a pot. Please plant in your yard. Contact Nataysha Williams (nwilliams@westsidegrows.org)

### **AmeriHealth**

State of Delaware has contracted us to provide medical assistance programs (Medicaid and CHIP, but not Medicare or ACA). This is not a sales pitch (not allowed at neighborhood meetings). They would like to share some of the programs they are offering that are new to the state. In fact, AmeriHealth is new to the state; they just started operating in Delaware. (They passed out water bottles!) Here to introduce themselves to the neighborhood. If you have any questions, please reach out.

### **Rep. Gerald Brady – General Assembly Update**

He's running late, so his legislative aid, Scott, is here to provide an update on a number of bills that may be of interest to CSTNA. Session ends on June 30th, so please show your support.

- HB160 (End of Life Options Act) – The bill is still looking for support.
- HB110 (Marijuana Control Act) – Passed committee and is awaiting final vote before the House of Representatives. Please show your support for the bill.
  - **Question about the marijuana task force.** There's some uncertainty regarding who has the authority to release the task force's final report.
- Five gun control bills, two of which (straw purchases and bump stocks) have already passed the House and have been sent over to the Senate.

### **Closing**

- Diane shared that she is grateful for everyone's support.
- West End Neighborhood House fundraiser on Thursday (3/15). Please show your support for an organization that does a LOT of good for this neighborhood. Come out and see Jordan Howell as guest bartender.
- In 6 to 8 weeks, if anyone would like a kitten, please contact Nadine Frost (nadinemfrost1@gmail.com).
- Kevin Melloy wants you all to know that The Seventh Street Bazaar is coming back this Saturday, March 17.

- Community event on gun control measures. March 24 there is the March for Our Lives in Wilmington from Howard High School to Rodney Square starting at 10 a.m.