

Roland Park E-letter

Web Editor's E-letter

June 20, 2010

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1. Master Plan Submitted to City for Approval.

The *Greater Roland Park Area Master Plan* is currently under review by the relevant agencies of the City of Baltimore. The Master Plan Steering Committee will respond to comments by the agencies and then the plan will be presented to the Planning Commission. For those who wish to read the current plan draft, links are provided to each chapter at <http://rolandpark.org/MasterPlan.html>.

Illustrations and figures are not included in the chapter text but many of the figures are included in the document, "May 19 Presentation," which is a copy of the presentation presented to the community last month (and which is viewable at the same web page as that cited above). Implementation planning is underway and more information will soon follow.

2. Summer Crime.

There has been a spate of nuisance crime in the area over the past two or three weeks, most of it of the usual car and/or garage break-in variety. Some of these are detailed on the RolandPark.org "letters to the editor" page (<http://rolandpark.org/rpfaq.html>).

There was also a scam by a young man calling himself Seth Tucker or Dave Tracy (depending upon whom he was talking to), asking for contributions for a local-team baseball trip. The entire thing was spurious. A number of locals have described their experiences with "Seth" on the "letters to the editor" page.

Readers may recall a similar exercise about a year ago, with youth going door to door selling supposed subscriptions to magazines. There is another magazine scam on the go currently, too. These sorts of face-to-face scams multiply in summer. Residents should always be cautious when someone comes to the door asking for money. For tips on what to look for among scammers, visit <http://www.scambusters.org/charityfraud.html>.

3. Roland Park Papers Returned to Baltimore.

For those that missed the entry a few weeks ago, it bears mentioning again that the Roland Park Company's papers, after a long sojourn at Cornell University, have been returned to Baltimore. An article about the papers can be found here: <http://elibris.jhu.edu/2010/04/19/the-return-of-the-roland-park-company-records>. Thanks to Alexandra Weil for pointing this out.

4. Frederick Law Olmsted Living History.

Frederick Law Olmsted is going to be in Maryland this summer, and you are invited to come hear him talk about his life and work and ask him questions. Sponsored by the Maryland Humanities Council, these performances are free and open to the public and take place throughout the state. Gerry Wright, who is portraying FLO, has performed at Fairsted in Brookline and for the Louisville Olmsted Parks Conservancy, and he is founder and president of the Friends of Jamaica Pond/Olmsted Project in Boston.

More information is at <http://www.mdhc.org/programs/chautauqua/chautauqua-2010-beyond-boundaries/>. A flier about the series may be viewed here: <http://rolandpark.org/CommunityBoard.html>.

5. City Zoning Code.

The city recently released a draft version of the new City of Baltimore zoning code. Nixon was still president when the code was last revised.

There were three main goals for the new zoning code: (1) to simplify the code; (2) to create new tools to support and guide city investments; and (3) to preserve the unique character of the Baltimore, while allowing opportunities for quality new development.

The Department of Planning will continue its outreach efforts and solicit feedback from property owners, neighborhood associations, developers, business owners and anyone else interested in the physical redevelopment of Baltimore.

A series of public informational meetings are being held to present a summary of the new code and answer questions. The same presentation will be made at each meeting, so anyone interested is encouraged to attend the one that is most convenient.

June 22, 6-7:30 p.m.
Morgan State University
University Center/Student Center, Room 212
Enter Campus from Hillen Road, just south of library.

June 29, 6-7:30 p.m.
Department of Planning Open House
417 East Fayette Street, 8th floor.

To review the draft code in advance and to comment on the draft text, please visit www.transformbaltimore.net. Hard copies will also be available for review at the reference desk in all Enoch Pratt Library branches.

For additional information, please contact Laurie Feinberg, Department of Planning, at (410) 396-1275 or by e-mail at laurie.feinberg@baltimorecity.gov.

6. Lost Cat.

Very nice young tom cat missing in Evergreen area. White and gray tabby. He has a very white face with tabby markings, as if he had a bad hair style. Well call him Junior. If you see him, please call Nancy McCauley at (410) 243-0501.

Best regards,

D.P. Munro
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Phil Spevak contributed to this e-letter.

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