

# NAC 11 Subcommittee Updates July 2019



NAC 11 Meeting  
July 16, 2019 / 7:00 pm  
Brewers Alley 124 N Market St, 2<sup>nd</sup> Fl.  
Frederick, MD 21701

## AGENDA

### INTRODUCTIONS

- City Officials & Staff, Guests, Residents

### POLICE REPORT

### PLANNING PROJECTS

### GUEST SPEAKERS

### ISSUE UPDATES

- See reverse side for group updates: Habitually Vacant & Deteriorated Properties, Short-Term Rentals, Alley Safety and Parking Lines, Sidewalk Café Ordinance, Downtown Litter, Short-Term Rentals

### OLD BUSINESS

- Follow-up on subcommittee documents

### NEW BUSINESS

### UPCOMING EVENTS

- August 6, 6:00 pm – 9:00 pm **National Night Out**. Four locations, including Mullinix Park 16 S. Bentz St. Safety Info, K-9 Demo, Giveaways, Moon Bounce, Children’s Activities, Police Displays, Food. See flyer.
- August 7-September 28 **Citizens Police Academy**. 8-week program designed to give citizens a better understanding of Frederick Police Department functions and operations. For further details, contact Corporal Dan Sullivan at (240)344-3073 / [dsullivan@frederickmdpolice.org](mailto:dsullivan@frederickmdpolice.org). Application available at <https://www.cityoffrederick.com/489/Citizens-Police-Academy>

### CONTACTS

<b>Coordinators:</b> Darcy Richards	<a href="mailto:darcyrichards01@gmail.com">darcyrichards01@gmail.com</a>	Glen Ferguson	<a href="mailto:glenferg@gmail.com">glenferg@gmail.com</a>
Bruce Albaugh	<a href="mailto:brucealbaugh@gmail.com">brucealbaugh@gmail.com</a>	Ricardo Bairan	<a href="mailto:rick.bairan@gmail.com">rick.bairan@gmail.com</a>
Julia Schaeffer	<a href="http://julia@schaeffer.net">julia@schaeffer.net</a>	Eric Nicholson	<a href="mailto:jenicholson@gmail.com">jenicholson@gmail.com</a>
Nkem Wellington	<a href="mailto:nkem.wellington@gmail.com">nkem.wellington@gmail.com</a>		

**Community Outreach Specialist / NAC Liaison:** Michele Bowman 301-600-2091 [mbowman@frederickmdpolice.org](mailto:mbowman@frederickmdpolice.org)

#### Frederick Police Department

Sgt. Tracey Wiles	301-748-6273	<a href="mailto:twiles@frederickmdpolice.org">twiles@frederickmdpolice.org</a>
Cpl. Andrew Alger	240-409-3108	<a href="mailto:aalger@frederickmdpolice.org">aalger@frederickmdpolice.org</a>
OFC. Randy Lawson	240-549-4461	<a href="mailto:rlawson@frederickmdpolice.org">rlawson@frederickmdpolice.org</a>

The Neighborhood Advisory Council Initiative, also known as NAC, is a forum for residents to become involved in identifying and recommending positive changes to improve their neighborhoods. Each NAC meets to discuss issues, concerns and neighborhood projects.

The goal is for everyone to work together to understand the impact that quality of life issues raise, and to be proactive and creative in addressing them.

**Please invite your neighbors & friends to attend!**

#### NAC 11 MEETINGS – 7:00 pm Brewers Alley

##### 2019 Schedule

August 20, September 17, October 15, November 19

#### FREDERICK POLICE DEPARTMENT

**Emergency:** 911 **Non-Emergency:** 301-600-2100

##### Anonymous Crime Tips

301-600 TIPS (8477) – phone

240-674-TIPS (8477) – text [fpdcrimetip@frederickmdpolice.org](mailto:fpdcrimetip@frederickmdpolice.org)

# NAC 11 Subcommittee Updates July 2019

## **Habitually Vacant & Deteriorated Properties** (Bruce Albaugh, Coordinator Liaison)

- Subcommittee report summarized to NAC 11 May 21, 2019. Details status of recommendations of previous Mayor-appointed “blight” committees; analyzes vacancy ordinances in Maryland municipalities; updates data on NAC 11 properties deemed to be in Poor or Very Poor condition and At Risk of Demolition by Neglect and recommends an action plan for the city. Report is available at <https://bit.ly/2XyHjpF>
- The report was provided to the Mayor & Board on May 22, 2019.
- Members continue to meet with potential partners to enlist support for a vacant property registration ordinance (VPRO) that will establish a baseline, and assure inspection of, vacant properties to prevent deterioration by neglect.

## **Short Term Rentals (STR)**

- Group report submitted to the Mayor and Board in December 2018. Includes comprehensive analysis of regulation in surrounding jurisdictions to restrict STRs.
- STRs are a growing trend in Frederick: 92 STRs in 21701, clustered in downtown; 57 are entire house (per Airdna.com 6/10/2019) Concerns: Entire house STRs (commercial enterprises operating in residential neighborhoods) threaten the character of residential neighborhoods. Some evidence points to increase in housing prices and decrease in rental housing stock due to STR activity in some communities.
- City says it will explore the issue after the APFO updates.

## **Alley Safety and Parking Lines** (Bruce Albaugh, Coordinator Liaison)

- In response to this group’s requests, City completed improvements to two Maxwell Avenue blocks in 2018, using paint and signage to create safe pedestrian passageways on this narrow street and connecting crosswalks.
- In budget hearings May 2019, the group asked for improvements to the six blocks that have no existing sidewalks, and funding to complete the remaining alley blocks that require more complex repair. As of June 10, there is evidence of work continuing on two additional blocks of Maxwell Avenue.
- Repainting parking space lines on downtown streets has begun.

## **Sidewalk Café Ordinance** (Darcy Richards, Coordinator Liaison)

- Based on resident concerns, the Sidewalk Café group reviewed the current ordinance, measured the width of all downtown sidewalk cafes, and developed recommendations for the City.
- Report issued August 2018 showed that 6 of the 21 enclosed cafes take up more than half of the width of the sidewalk, impeding flow and giving preference to businesses over pedestrian rights. The report requests a revision to the ordinance for more equitable sharing of sidewalk space: no more than 50% of sidewalk width; removal of the enclosures in winter.
- Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee of the City requested that the Mayor and Board review the ordinance for issues of public mobility and safety.
- Group members presented comment at a Mayor and Board workshop on May 29, 2019. Mayor and Board reached consensus to conduct review. Further discussion held June 19, 2019. Board agreed to let Donna Kuzemchak present draft changes. Next meeting not yet scheduled.

## **Downtown Litter Group** (Julia Schaeffer, Coordinator Liaison)

- July 2018: the group proposed a new ordinance that would hold property owners responsible for clearing litter on the sidewalks abutting their properties.
- February 2019: the City’s Sustainability Committee endorsed that request in a letter to the Mayor and Board, offering specific language modeled on the Keep America Beautiful model ordinance.
- April 2019: the group submitted draft ordinance text based on the existing snow and ice removal ordinance in April 2019.
- May 2019: at budget hearings, the group requested that city assume responsibility for purchasing trash cans for downtown and budget additional funding to purchase them.
- Downtown Frederick Partnership supports the goal of clean sidewalks; has concerns about how a litter ordinance would be enforced. Group is working with the Partnership on a trash can inventory and a wish list for more.

## **South Corridor Community Group** (Nkem Wellington and Eric Nicholson, Coordinator Liaisons)

- Neighborhood concerns about an increase in crime, loitering, vagrancy, panhandling, drug use, and the perception that the community is unsafe led the NAC to create this subgroup.
- Group has formed significant alliances with others sharing these concerns, including the Aushman Family Foundation’s Downtown Safety, Development & Services Initiative and Delta Sigma Theta’s Social Action Committee.
- June 25, 2019 meeting featured representatives of allied groups.

## **NAC 11 Subcommittee Updates July 2019**