

Birchwood City-Clearview Manor Community Association, Inc. (BCCA)
Community Meeting, Thursday, April 18, 2024,
Meeting Minutes

Meeting Opened for Business

- **Sylvia Griffin, BCCA President – Welcomed us back to “In-Person meetings” and explained that the new U shape seating arrangement was set up to help us work as a team (purpose: To encourage everyone to become engaged in making decisions on community activities and to take ownership of needed actions).**

- **Roland Johnson - Opening Prayer**

- **Corp. D. Johnson, Prince George’s Police Dept, District IV**
 - **Up tick in auto break-ins and thief – see something, say something and submit a report to him.**
 - **Leave handicap sticker in glove compartment and other items in the trunk (nothing on the seats).**
 - **When you’re out, have your keys ready to get in car.**
 - **If no crime is reported, the community will probably not get the police presence it needs, so please report all crime and/or suspicion.**
 - **Beware of scammers coming to your house soliciting work; may or may not be legitimate. (Phone calls scamming as well).**
 - **Watch your dogs when they are outside--increased crime in dog stealing.**
 - **Provide to him the address of all vacant houses in the neighborhood—for monitoring purposes.**

New Method/Tools/Concept To Benefit Our Community

- **David Brian Esch, served as the facilitator to walk us through the “Six Sigma” **problem solving exercise**. This exercise will consist of listing: 1) Problems; 2) Causes; 3) Solutions; 4) Prioritize Solutions and 5) Action owners.**
- **Participants (20) wrote down what they thought were problems in our community on a card, turned in and David listed on the board (easel paper) and like issues were gathered together (see pictures). The**

participants were very engaging in expressing their concerns as they talked about the listed 9 community problems (using Who, What, When, Where, How Big) which were:

1. **Lack of involvement in community activities; including membership/Spanish/English barrier. (5 votes) Since this problem received more votes, we will focus on this problem first.**
 2. **Too much litter in neighborhood. (4 votes)**
 3. **Commercial vehicles parked in neighborhood and backyard (unlabeled); including illegal parking on sidewalk. (4 votes)**
 4. **Lack of speed bumps on (Helmont, Clearview, Colony, etc.) (3 votes)**
 5. **More awareness of safe practices (too much crime, lack of police presence) (3 votes)**
 6. **Lack of activities for kids.**
 7. **Not getting mail timely.**
 8. **Lack of communication, and**
 9. **311 not followed up.**
- **David introduced the Fishbone diagram for solving problems. Trying to find out what is contributing to the problem (causes) and fix it. He stated to solve these problems, it might take: Procedures, Policy, Place, People, Others.**

David Brain will be out of town May/June and he left us with homework while he's gone.

Assignment: Come to the May meeting prepared to brainstorm causes of this problem (lack of community involvement), using Procedures, Policy, Place, People, Others. Data is very important to support your statements. For example, collect data that relates to the lack of involvement, using BCCA activities held, e.g., how many attended, race, age range, barriers, etc.

Announcements Made by BCCA President Sylvia Griffin

- **During the Month of April, BCCA provided a series of informational events. Two have already occurred: Energy Efficiency (April 4) and Basic Nutrition (April 17). Thank you for your attendance. Upcoming**

event--Getting Financially Fit--is scheduled for April 24, 7:00 pm. Via Zoom. (Zoom information will be provided.

- **Growing Green with Pride Day (Community-Wide Clean-Up)--Saturday, April 27, from 8:30 am to 12:30 pm. Please meet at Birchwood Recreation Center. Volunteers needed.**
- **Door-to-Door 2024 BCCA Membership Drive will begin May 2024. (Watch for detailed email updates.) Volunteers needed.**
- **Ygenia Bounds, Chair, BCCA Event Planning Committee, is working to bring line dancing to BCCA Recreation Center, beginning in May on Fridays at 1:15 pm. (Watch for emails.)**
- **Will Chambers of Plant Fitness is planning to resume the outdoor exercises at Birchwood Recreation Center, Saturdays, 9:00 am. (Watch for the email announcement.)**
- **BCCA Community Services Committee has provided information on Maryland's new "Call a Senior Program" and will provide updates in BCCA's May Newsletter.**
- **Charles Hall of Glassmanor Community Center invited us to a Mother's Day Brunch, May 11, \$10 fee.**

Mrs. Griffin also provided the Treasury Report (prepared by Treasurer Percell Walker).

Meeting Adjourned.



