

# **Cathedral Square Special Business District**

## **Regular Meeting 6:30 p.m. April 19, 2021**

### **The Greystone - 410 North Newstead Avenue**

**Commissioners Present:** Arthur Hoffman, Mike Roth, Kenneth Sowell, Claudia Wall, Carolyn Welton

**Commissioners Absent:** Imran Hanafi

**Others Present:** Gary Cole and Ron Hasty of GCI Security

#### **Security Report**

Hasty outlined the report previously distributed via email. No major incidents in the period except for a car theft at 410 North Newstead. He noted a number of package thefts from Hampden Hall. That apartment building's entrance area where packages are left by delivery personnel is raised well above street level. So, it cannot be observed by GCI officers from their cars. Hasty predicted that package thefts will be a recurring problem and that the CSSBD should advise new residents not to leave anything visible in their cars.

Cole reported that GCI recently had lost two officers to retirement. He said that replacing them will be difficult because his competitors are paying officers more

than GCI is. Cole will conduct a study of current compensation rates in the St. Louis private security market and share results with the board.

### **Treasurer Report**

Wall said that the budget is “right on target” for the year so far. One significant invoice we are expecting, however, is for snow and ice removal. The anticipated cost will be \$8250, she said.

### **Old Business**

In Hanafi’s absence, Welton reported the following items on his behalf:

- The conversion to LED lighting on Lindell Boulevard is about 80 percent complete.
- The Maryland Avenue lighting project is progressing with conversations with the City and engineering consultants Horner & Shifrin.
- Hanafi has met with Empire Fencing re replacement wrought iron fencing at the Boyle and Maryland Avenue cul de sac. Replacement fencing will not be ordered until planned bike access from Maryland to Boyle is completed, he said. That new access will be financed by Alderwoman Navarro using her Ward budget.
- Per earlier board agreement via email, Hanafi will advise the landscaper to proceed with removal of the six ash trees between Maryland and Pershing, as advised by CSSBD arborist Alex Peraud. Total cost for the trees’ removal will be \$2900.
- Hanafi said that there had been no update on planned ADA curb cuts in the District but believes that work should start soon.

Hoffman reported that talks with the NSI's Jim Whyte and CWEN's Jim Dwyer had originated with the focus on sharing the cost of a project to provide license-reading cameras. The project evolved into a NSI-funded and managed effort that will result in installation of license-reading cameras on the pole at 2<sup>nd</sup> Presbyterian Church installed by the CSSBD some years ago. The cameras will have the ability to read licenses on Taylor Avenue traffic that is going north or south. The camera that the CSSBD installed on the pole will be returned to the CSSBD for deployment elsewhere in the District. The NSI will share images from the license-reading cameras with the CSSBD or whomever we designate. The NSI will maintain the license-reading cameras at its expense.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by acting secretary Arthur Hoffman.