

# January 2024 Newsletter

## 7:00pm - Jan. 15th



Vol. 40, No. 1

## Hybrid Meeting

(Everyone is welcome!)



*Para Español*  
Utilice la cámara de su teléfono para escanear el código QR a la izquierda para la traducción española de este boletín. (Use your phone camera to scan the QR code on the left for the Spanish translation of this newsletter.)

### Jan. 15th Community Meeting Agenda

This month's community meeting will be held at 7pm virtually as well as in-person at Wolfe Street Academy (245 S Wolfe). You can join our Association meeting virtually via Google Meets at <https://meet.google.com/gsx-papn-fsw> PIN: 752 084 007# or dial: 954-800-9024.

- Introductions and welcoming of new attendees
- Membership dues collection
- Discussion/Possible Votes: 1) UFPIA Vice President Special Election; and 2) UFPIA Budget for 2024\*
- Dessert provided by the UFPIA and Brainstorming Session\*\*
- Officer/Committee Reports
- New and unfinished business and open forum
- Social afterwards at Benders (301 S Ann St.)

\*Discussion/Possible Votes: 1) A special election will be held to vote for a Vice President to fill the remaining term of office (through May 2025). A slate of candidates will be presented and nominations from the floor also will be accepted. Candidates will have 3 minutes to introduce themselves. 2) Nancy Hoffmann, the UFPIA Treasurer, will present the proposed total budget for 2024. There may be a vote on both. (To view the proposed budget, go to our website at <https://www.upperfellspoint.org/about> and scroll all the way down to the bottom under Budgets. Also see the article to the right for more details on the Vice President position and dues/voting requirements.)

\*\*Dessert provided by the UFPIA and Brainstorming Session: Dessert will be provided free to attendees. Then we will discuss priorities and brainstorm ideas for 2024. Committee chairs will state their 2023 achievements, give a brief outline about their committee and their proposed goals for 2024, followed by input from residents (who also will have the opportunity to sign-up to volunteer for a specific project or committee). We look forward to hearing your ideas! (Note: If you are unable to attend and would like to give your input, send them to Ben at [president@upperfellspoint.org](mailto:president@upperfellspoint.org).)

The Community meeting starts promptly at 7:00pm and runs from 1 to 1-1/2 hours depending on discussions. Join us!



### Membership Dues - Fast & Easy!

Join the UFPIA and start your New Year off right! Pay your dues online (<https://www.upperfellspoint.org/membership>) or bring a check or cash or credit card to the community meeting or mail a check with the application form on page 2. Dues are \$10/p for the calendar year beginning in January. It only takes a few minutes to join or renew and the rewards are endless!



### Bingo For Billie (Feb 3rd): A Community Building Family-Friendly Event

Join us for a "not your typical" Bingo event to help raise money for a new Billie Holiday mural on the 200 block of S Durham, aka "Lady Day Way." The event will be held on Feb. 3rd from 4-7pm at Bar Lombardi (1801 E Lombard). Bingo tickets are \$10/adult and \$5/child and a family discount is also available. (Note: Children must be accompanied by an adult.) Admission includes several rounds of Bingo and stampers, and additional Bingo cards will be available to purchase. In addition, there will be a raffle for some great prizes! Bar Lombardi will offer a special food and beverage menu for purchase. For tickets, contact Lisa at [fundraising@upperfellspoint.org](mailto:fundraising@upperfellspoint.org) or 410-935-5604; ticket information also will be posted on social media. (Fun fact: Upper Fells Point's Lady Day Way is a tourist destination with people coming from around the world to see the artwork and to visit the block that was home to Billie Holiday from 1926 to 1929.)



### Volunteer Needed!

A special election will be held at our January meeting to elect a candidate to fill the Vice President position through May 2025. The Vice President spends about eight volunteer hours per month to assist and represent the Association as requested by the President and assumes the responsibilities of the President as needed. Any voting member may serve as Vice President if they are not holding or running for elected public office or an office of any organization similar to the UFPIA. If interested in this position, contact Mark at [electionjudge@upperfellspoint.org](mailto:electionjudge@upperfellspoint.org).

Notes: To be eligible to vote or to run for office, you must have paid your membership dues (based on the calendar year beginning in January), be age 18+, live in our boundaries, and have attended at least 2 of the last preceding 11 meetings and/or attended Association sponsored events/activities. (Dues are applied to the year they are collected and are considered paid at collection for the remainder of the year and through the regular Association meeting in January of the following year.) Members eligible to vote who are not present at a properly called Association meeting may vote if their absentee vote is received by an officer before the meeting, specifies the decision or election in writing, and is signed by the absent voter (email is fine). Absentee voting shall not count towards attendance. More at <https://www.upperfellspoint.org/about> - scroll down to Rules-Meeting & Voting Regulations.



### Snow Reminders

In the event of snow, it is illegal to place a chair, cone, etc. to hold a parking space (it does not matter if you shoveled yourself out); parking spaces are for everyone. Be careful where you park during snow days as some areas are snow emergency zones where you could be ticketed and/or towed. Also it is your responsibility to keep the area/sidewalk in front of your house clear. Please do your part to keep our neighborhood safe for everyone!



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[newsletter@upperfellspoint.org](mailto:newsletter@upperfellspoint.org)  
**410-493-0158**



**NOTE: HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE DROP OFF IS CLOSED UNTIL APRIL. BULK TRASH AT MOST LOCATIONS (OR CALL 311). PROOF OF CITY RESIDENCY REQUIRED.**

**GARBAGE:**  
**ALL TRASH MUST BE IN A CAN WITH A TIGHT FITTING LID - NO LOOSE BAGS.** Pickup on Wed. - put curbside at 6:00pm+ on Tuesday night. If a holiday, pickup on Sat. (*Tip: If lid is separate, tether it to the can with string or cable tie.*) City ordinance mandates that cans cannot be stored on sidewalks. Up to 96 gallons per building (including multi-units) or up to 5 clear or labeled bags of yard waste (leaves, weeds, and branches up to 4" thick or 3' long). (*Note: Rats chew through plastic and love to eat dog poop so be sure to pickup after your pet-and it's the law!*)

**RECYCLING:**  
**ON BIMONTHLY SCHEDULE (NEXT DATES 1/12, 1/26, 2/9 & 2/23.) NO plastic bags at all (including as a container)!** Pickup every other Friday. If a holiday, pickup usually on Sat. Items must be clean and dry. All **paper** and cardboard and cartons (no napkins and paper towels); **metal** food and beverage cans (no hangers); **glass** bottles and jars (no light bulbs, dishes, or window glass); **plastic** bottles, jugs and jars (no bags, straws, yogurt or carryout containers, rigid plastic utensils, plastic rings, or housings). **Polystyrene (Styrofoam)** is not accepted - put it in your regular trash.

**PLEASE SECURE YOUR ITEMS SO THEY ARE NOT BLOWING DOWN THE STREET!** More at: <https://publicworks.baltimorecity.gov/recycling-services>.

*Membership dues note:*  
*If paying via PayPal please send a copy of your email confirmation to our treasurer so your dues can be accurately recorded.*

**UFPIA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email \_\_\_\_\_ Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Dues are \$10 per person for the calendar year beginning in January. Pay at <https://www.paypal.com/us/fundraiser/charity/1924453> or via our website. Checks to UFPIA, P.O. Box 38315, Baltimore, MD 21231. Donations also are appreciated. All are tax deductible to the fullest extent allowed by law. Thank You! (*To vote: you must reside in our boundaries, be age 18+, pay your current dues and attend 2 of the preceding 11 meetings and/or attended Association sponsored events/activities per our Voting Policy.*)



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**Contact Information**

**BOARD**  
**President** - Ben Miller; 202-630-2366; [president@upperfellspoint.org](mailto:president@upperfellspoint.org)  
**Vice President** - Vacant  
**Parliamentarian** - Stephen Porter; 412-228-1656; [parliamentarian@upperfellspoint.org](mailto:parliamentarian@upperfellspoint.org)  
**Secretary** - Amy Zemanick; 410-491-1707; [secretary@upperfellspoint.org](mailto:secretary@upperfellspoint.org)  
**Treasurer** - Nancy Hoffmann; 585-747-4212; [treasurer@upperfellspoint.org](mailto:treasurer@upperfellspoint.org)

**COMMITTEES**  
**Beautification** - Mallory Kuehn; 443-474-4061; [beautification@upperfellspoint.org](mailto:beautification@upperfellspoint.org)  
**Community Garden** - Jan Mooney; 410-493-0158; [communitygarden@upperfellspoint.org](mailto:communitygarden@upperfellspoint.org)  
**Education** - Latonya Watson; [education@upperfellspoint.org](mailto:education@upperfellspoint.org)  
**Fund-Raising** - Lisa Knickmeyer 410-935-5604 [fundraising@upperfellspoint.org](mailto:fundraising@upperfellspoint.org);  
**Land-Use** - Mark Hoffmann; [landuse@upperfellspoint.org](mailto:landuse@upperfellspoint.org)  
**Media** - Jan Mooney; 410-493-0158; [newsletter@upperfellspoint.org](mailto:newsletter@upperfellspoint.org)  
**Safety** - Dan Harrison; [safety@upperfellspoint.org](mailto:safety@upperfellspoint.org)  
**Traffic & Parking** - Kurt Schiller; [trafficparking@upperfellspoint.org](mailto:trafficparking@upperfellspoint.org); 410-499-6674

**Baltimore City Council**  
**1st District** - Zeke Cohen 410-396-4821  
**13th District** - Antonio "Tony" Glover 410-396-4829 or 443-839-3319 (cell)  
**City Council President** - Nick Mosby 410-396-4804

**MD General Assembly (District 46)**  
 Senator Bill Ferguson 410-841-3600  
 Del. Luke Clippinger 410-841-3488  
 Del. Mark Edelson 410-841-3772  
 Del. Robbyn Lewis 410-841-3772

Larry Nunley, SE Liaison Dept. of Public Works-[larry.nunley@baltimorecity.gov](mailto:larry.nunley@baltimorecity.gov)  
 Matt Achhammer, Liaison Liquor Board-[matt.achhammer@baltimorecity.gov](mailto:matt.achhammer@baltimorecity.gov)





# Recap of Nov. 2023 Community Meeting



Note: There was no meeting or newsletter in December.

### Guest Speakers:

- 1) Councilmen Zeke Cohen (Dist. 1) and Tony Glover (Dist. 13). Mr. Cohen mentioned that an Office of Aging has been established to support aging in place, safety, access to fresh food, mobility, and other needs for the elderly and that he will work with other organizations as a "voice for seniors." He also stated that **all of UFP will be moved to Dist. 13** due to population growth of 5,700p while other areas of the City shrunk. The City Charter requires a review of districts every 10 years so all 14 districts are the same size. Although City Council President Nick Mosby presented a new map based on community feedback, Mayor Scott presented a different one with little community engagement and vetoed the City Council's proposed map and stopped any further discussion. Councilman Cohen could not speak as to why Mayor Scott liked his map better but did note that Mayor Scott wanted each district to have an "anchor institution in it.")
- 2) Councilman Tony Glover explained that he has a long history in the neighborhood and surrounding communities and voted against the Mayor's map as it broke up many neighborhoods and believes the redistricting process was unjust. He also noted that with the help of community members he was able to solve an illegal dumping case. In addition, he said he was planning to run for office again although he had not officially announced it yet.

### Votes:

- 1) Motion: To elect Ben Miller as President to fill the remaining term of office (through May 2025.); motion passed unanimously.
- 2) Motion: To accept the proposed Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) governing the rules and responsibilities between the UFPIA and the entities hosting the security cameras and the UFPIA internal policies governing procedures for footage requests, transparency, and reporting, and to include an amendment that requests that access to footage related to 311 incident numbers requires at least 4 out of 6 committee members to approve the access; motion passed (Y-19; No-1; A-3) (For details on the discussion prior to this vote, see Safety committee report below.)
- 3) Motion: For Mark Hoffmann to serve as Election Judge for the special election for a new Vice President; motion passed unanimously.


### Committee Reports:

- Beautification:** If you need brown paper bags for leaves/trash, contact Mallory.
- Education:** 1) All requests for the Wolfe St. Academy (WSA) Christmas gift drive were matched. 2) WSA hopes to obtain a \$30K grant to add a mural to the wall by the playground. Muralist Jessy Desantis will work with Jaz Erenberg and other community muralists on the project.
- Fund-raising:** The Halloween Costume Contest was a "Fun-Raiser" rather than "Fund-Raiser." If it is done again, some things have been learned that will make it better in the future.
- Land-Use:** 1) The MOU for Sweet Carolina Liquors was approved by our attorney and sent to Sweet Carolinas; they have 90 days to respond. 2) Sidewalk repairs are underway.
- Safety:** The monies from the safety grant have to be spent by May 14, 2024. Café lighting is being installed on several blocks and the safety security cameras were purchased two months ago. The proposed MOU must be signed by all parties in order for the security cameras to be installed. After discussion, there was a vote which passed (see Vote #2 above).
- Media:** Thanks to our 22 volunteers who ensure you get your newsletter every month.
- Traffic & Parking:** 1) Team UFPIA cycled in the Cranksgiving event (see page 4 for details). 2) The ROWart project has been completed. 3) Street sweeping could be introduced during 3 hr. windows to help keep streets clean. It would impact parking temporarily and 60% of residents on each block would need to sign a petition.

### New Business:

- 1) Heidi Weiss is the new community partner at Wolfe St. Academy; contact her at [hweiss-beedie@elev8baltimore.org](mailto:hweiss-beedie@elev8baltimore.org).
- 2) Mark Hoffmann will serve as Election Judge for the special election for a new Vice President (see Vote #3 above). Brent Temeng was nominated to fill the position of Vice President and he accepted. See page 1 for more information about this position.

More information is on our website - <https://www.upperfellspoint.org/news>.  
Deadline for submissions for the February 2024 newsletter is Feb. 4th at 5:00pm.



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**Our Beautification Volunteers Have Been Hard At Work!**

Thanks to everyone who cleaned the 20 mosaic medallions and removed trash and weeds from the tree beds. Also thanks to our many volunteers who swept up leaves and removed trash from the street and sidewalks on Dec. 2nd and 16th - filling up over 30 bags!

Reminder - Per City ordinance, residents are responsible for keeping the area/sidewalk in front of their house free of trash and other debris. Please do your part to keep our neighborhood clean and safe! *Top photo: Some of the cleanup volunteers; L-R: Ben, Jamie, Mallory and Eliza. (Photo by Wendy Bozel.)*



**Residents Help the Needy In Many Ways**

In this year's Cranksgiving event on Nov. 18th, Team UFPIA rode their bicycles and collected food from various stores. Items were donated to the Moveable Feast Food Bank and the Franciscan Center. Many other residents prepared food baskets for needy families at the Christ Presbyterian Church. Also, Wolfe Street Academy family, staff, friends and residents participated in the 11th Annual Holiday Gift Giveaway. Over 400 children under the age of 18 received gifts this holiday

because of a decade long partnership with Baltimore Family Alliance and a first year partnership with the Mix Church of Pratt. Thanks to all!



*Middle photo: Volunteers in the Holiday Gift Giveaway.*

*Bottom photo: UFPIA Cranksgiving Team; L-R: Tom, Nancy, George, Mark, Barry, Colin, Kellen, Jeff, Kurt and Androux.*



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