# RIDGELY'S RECORD

A Newsletter for the Residents and Businesses of Ridgely's Delight, an Historic Community

### Ridgely's Delight Association (RDA)
### Community and Board Meetings

Our monthly meeting is the first Wednesday of every month starting at 7 pm in the back dining room of Frank and Nic's West End Grille, 511 W. Pratt Street. All neighbors are welcome to attend and members in good standing are eligible to vote. Please see the proposed amendments in this month's newsletter, and learn what it takes to qualify to be a member in good standing.

### Calling All Future Community Leaders

We need new board members. Are you interested in running for the Board of the neighborhood? Send a message with Nominating Committee in the subject line to editor@ridgelysdelight.org.

### Friday Happy Hour, September 6th

Please join your neighbors for First Friday Happy Hour on 9/6 from 6-8 pm at Checkerspot Brewing Company, 1399 S. Sharp St.

### Community Cleanup, Saturday 9/7

This month the cleanup is Saturday, September 7. The Burgundy Street Toolshed will be open from 9 – 12 pm. Please make sure that you sign in or communicate your participation to the Secretary, Ab Bear. Pizza provided at Pickles Pub immediately after cleanup from 12 – 1.

Want to clean on a different day and need tools and cleaning supplies (bags, rakes, brooms, shovels, gloves, scoopers? Cleanups on other days are permitted and qualify for membership in good standing. If you work for at least an hour and take some before and after photos, please contact your block captain or local board member for more details or for access to the Toolshed.

### Bylaws Amendments to be Voted On

The Bylaws Committee has developed 2 suggested amendments for the members to vote on at the September meeting. Both will create changes to how one attains, Good Standing, which is a requirement that must be met in order for members to be able to legally vote. This is a very important issue because the membership will now be voting on almost all issues and community votes can occur at any meeting, not just the November meeting. We encourage you to attend this meeting and vote.

### ARTICLE III: Membership

2) Member in good standing: In order to remain a member in good standing and be eligible to vote, a member must be at least eighteen (18) years of age and must attend at least three (3) regular meetings, board meetings, or previously sanctioned community events within six (6) months prior to the meeting at which a vote will be cast.

*Explanation: It is clear from the bylaws, that the intent of the founders of the Ridgely's Delight Association (RDA) was to encourage community members to be activists who participated in making informed decisions about important issues in the community by attending meetings and voting based on the information provided at those meetings and/or engaging in activities that were designed to improve the community for all. To this end, they placed some activity requirements on members who wished to be eligible to participate in RDA votes.*

*The current requirement is that members participate in 2 qualifying activities (e.g., meetings, community clean up, COP walks, etc.) over a 4 month period immediately prior to any vote.*

*This amendment extends the qualifying period to 6 months and requires participation in 3 qualifying activities. It is in keeping with the founders' vision of an activist community. This amendment will create a longer period in which the member can attain good standing, but it is only fair if you extend that period, that you also commensurately expand the qualifying events.*

*This amendment is important because we are returning to the requirements of the bylaws that call for the community to vote on virtually all issues in front of the community. That will result in votes potentially occurring at each community meeting, not just in November as has been the norm in the past number of years.*

*And to ensure that members can plan their activities to meet these requirements, each year, as close to the start of the new year as possible, the eligible members will decide what activities qualify as previously sanctioned community events and a list of those activities will be available online to the community to help them plan. If that vote does not take place In January, the activities that we voted on in the previous year will remain active until a new vote occurs. This is necessary so that we can always ensure that we have a legal roster of who is in good standing and eligible to vote.*

### ARTICLE III: Membership

2) Member in good standing (new paragraph 2):

Members with medical issues that restrict their ability to attain good standing (e.g., illness, mobility impairment, etc.) may be deemed to be in good standing by asking the Secretary for an exemption from the requirements above at least 2 days prior to any vote that is scheduled or anticipated.
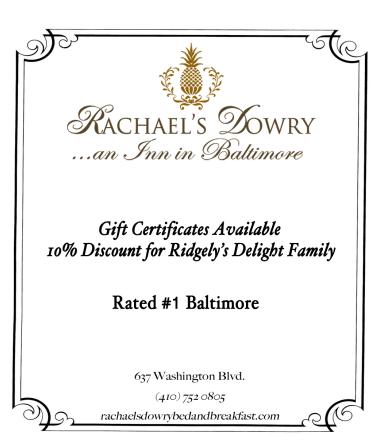
*Explanation: While the intent of the Founders of the RDA was to encourage an activist membership by requiring certain activities on the part of the members in order to be able to vote, we are also aware that one of the things that makes Ridgely's special is the diversity of our community, including those who are dealing with illness and mobility challenges that may make it impossible to engage in a sufficient number of qualifying events to meet the good standing requirements. It would be wrong to disenfranchise these members because of medical limitations. This amendment acknowledges that and offers a way for these members to be able to participate in votes in spite of the medical challenges they face. Because medical issues are such a private matter, members requesting this accommodation will be taken at their word and not asked to explain or prove their medical conditions or imitations*

### Charm City Night Market
### 200 Park Avenue – Saturday, 9/21

Historic Chinatown is home to the family friendly Night Market at 200 Park Avenue and stretching to One Charles Center. Charm City Night Market offers food, arts, children's activities and two stages with live performers.

### Saturday, October 5: Painting Party

Two years ago, the GROW committee (Greening Ridgely's On Weekends) began the process to adopt the open space lot on Eislen Street via the DNR's KMB (Keep Maryland Beautiful) grant program. After clearing out the poison ivy, trimming back the shrubbery and filling 3 roll off dumpsters, the fence is now ready for painting. We are looking for a team of volunteers to paint that fence from 9 – 12 pm. Meet at the Sunoco Lot / Eislen Street gated entrance. Rain date: Sunday, October 6.

### Pigtown Festival

Pigtown Festival is Saturday September 21. Visit Pigtown Main Street online for more details on vendors, food, and music schedule.

### Thank you to our Home Team

On June 29, the following neighbors came out and represented the neighborhood leaving it all on the field of play for two extra-inning games at Carroll Park in the 10th Annual South Baltimore Classic: Ben Garmoe, Zach Garmoe, Sam Garmoe, Jason Drecchio, Michelle Snyder, Julia Lebherz, Jessica Kraft, Matthew C, Chris Conlon, and player-coach, Ben Marks. Thank you to Councilman Eric Costello for playing as well.

Thank you to Bill Reuter for coordinating this South Baltimore Gateway Partnership grant, two cycles in the making. We were well fed with Breakfast Sandwiches by Culinary Architecture and yummy burgers by Breaking Bread - support your local neighbors across the Boulevard.

**Have a City related concern and/or need to contact your councilman?**