

February 5, 1947

The Board met this day in regular session.

Place: Administration Building - Druid Hill Park  
Time : 2:55 o'clock, P. M.

Present: C. Kirk Straub, President, in the Chair  
George M. Armor  
S. Lawrence Hammerman  
Edward Kowzan  
Anne W. Bunker

At 2:15 P.M., Mr. Frederick Saffran, of the Natural History Society of Maryland, was admitted to the Board Room to discuss the possibility of reopening the Aquarium in Druid Hill Park. He said that the Aquarium has educational and cultural possibilities. Interesting exhibits and featured sea life would be the proper publicity in order to attract the public. He mentioned that his organization has facilities for the procuring of new and interesting specimens. Mayor Theodore R. McKeldin, he said, is interested in and very receptive to his Society's plan. He said the only problem was where to find the money. He added that Maryland, however, should have an Aquarium exhibit since we are near great bodies of water, and since aquatic life is part of the background of our community. He mentioned that he would like to have some kind of an agreement with the Board whereby his Society could take over the running of the Aquarium in its entirety. He said that the Department of Parks could get a lot of publicity by reopening this facility, and that his organization would do everything possible along publicity lines. The President said that the Board was very sympathetic with Mr. Saffran's plan, and would in all probability be anxious to meet his organization half way in the matter of expenses and maintenance. He further stated that the Park Department may be able to get sufficient funds to recondition the building. It was the consensus of the Board's opinion that Mr. Saffran draft an outline wherein he would state the necessary funds other than restoration, the type and number of personnel, the types of specimens and exhibits to be offered, and the extent of time and funds that his Society would be willing to offer. Mr. Saffran was, therefore, requested to reappear at the March meeting of the Board with these plans and proposals.

At 2:55 P.M., Mr. Saffran withdrew, and the members of the press were admitted.

The President briefly outlined to the press Mr. Saffran's proposal, and told them that the estimate needed for restoration of the Aquarium was approximately \$11,650.00.

The meeting formally opened with the President asking the members for approval of the minutes of the regular meeting of January 8, 1947 and the minutes of the special meeting of January 22, 1947. Upon motion of Commissioner Armor seconded by Commissioner Kowzan both sets of minutes were unanimously APPROVED without correction.

At 3:00 P.M., Capt. Gaeng, of the Police Division, was admitted, accompanied by Lieut. Livingston. Capt. Gaeng said that he was allowed, under the new budget, to have 80 patrolmen, and that there were 18 vacancies in the class of "Patrolman" at the present time. Also, he said, there was one vacancy in the class of "Lieutenant." He mentioned that the existing eligible list for patrolman is still active, and has several names on it. This list would have to be exhausted before a subsequent list could be requested. He recommended a promotional test for the class of "Lieutenant." He urged the need of another Lieutenant in his Division. The President pointed out that Major Robertson now in the U. S. Army in the foreign service branch still holds a Lieutenant's rating in the Police Division, and upon return to this country has the right to be reinstated if he so desires.

Commissioner Kowzan was in favor of leaving the matter in the hands of Capt. Gaeng regarding the appointment of a temporary Lieutenant, pending Major Robertson's return, or pending a later eligible list to be established. The President mentioned that the City Service Commission usually opposes temporary appointments, and recommended that Capt. Gaeng check with the City Service Commission on a temporary proposal. Capt. Gaeng was not in favor of a temporary appointment because if Major Robertson intends to return to his former position it would be destructive to the morale of the Acting Lieutenant who would then have to be demoted to Sergeant. The President