

Lambda Alpha Baltimore

Luncheon Meeting Agenda

January 21, 2015

12:00 p.m.

1. Welcome

2. 2015 Programs – Upcoming Speakers

- a. **Wednesday, February 18 – Board meeting at 11:00**, Luncheon presentation by **Jon Laria, Ballard Spahr, & Tom Liebel, Marks Thomas & Assoc.** ULI/NTHB Partnership for Building Reuse study of obstacles to reusing existing buildings in Baltimore; sponsored by Ballard Spahr and located at their offices 300 E. Lombard St.
- b. **Wednesday March 18** –Presentation by **Michael Braverman, Baltimore City**, on the Vacants to Value program, located at 100 E. Pratt Training room

3. Attendee Introductions

4. **Speaker Introduction –**

Chris Ryer, Director of the Southeast Community Development Corporation regarding their efforts to promote revitalization of the Highlandtown neighborhood through immigration and the prospects for revitalization of many of Baltimore's neighborhoods through similar efforts:

No North American city has reversed its population loss without immigration. New York, Chicago and Los Angeles lose more native-born residents each year than they gain. Therefore, attracting new immigrants to resettle in Baltimore is an essential component of the Mayor's goal of attracting 10,000 new households.

Southeast Baltimore is uniquely positioned to help with that. Traditionally a community of immigrants from central and southern Europe, it is now attracting a new wave of immigrants from Central and South America. Meanwhile, the IRC - International Resettlement Center, an organization created to assist European refugees from WWII, resettles hundreds of political refugees a year under its contract with the US State Department.

In the last 15 years, Highlandtown has transformed itself with this new generation of immigrants. Its stores, churches and schools are thriving - when 20 years ago they were deserted. Hear how the Southeast CDC has supported immigration as part of its overall revitalization strategy for the Highlandtown area.

5. Adjournment.