

## Minutes from Civic May 5, 2014

Joseph F. Marino called the meeting to order at 7:11 pm

Introduction of April Herring as interim recording secretary

Last Month's Minutes are not currently available they will be voted upon next time

Joseph F. Marino asked for a motion to accept the agenda. Dave Goldfarb motioned, second by Darren for agenda

Procedural note: Items will be out of order because people have to leave

### **Old Business**

Events Committee - Bowling fundraiser report by Anna Reed, chair, events

- Thanking for coming out, no final numbers, but very successful
- Made at least \$1000 off of the raffle alone
- About 114 attended.
- Be checking our fb page and web site for meet and greets this summer – first one in june – they are in june, july and august
- Next Meeting will most likely be last week in may

### **New Business (skip ahead due to guest speaker)**

Presentation on updates on Passyunk revitalization project. project By Sam Sherman from PARC.

*Talking about the gateway park to Passyunk from Broad/McKean intersection/triangle*

1. Plaza there now is scheduled for renovation – introduce fountain and seating. Much like 11<sup>th</sup> and passyunk.
2. Started meeting last summer, Darren was our rep
3. The plans discussed - What amenities would they like to see with an eye toward the civic using it for events.
4. It will have fountain, (holds up map). Fountain will be safe for kids to run through it is being explored.
5. The space will also be lit like the Passyunk fountain
6. Also introducing a pavilion for public events – possible vender sale for seasons. Electric, sound system, speakers, same technology at other fountain.
7. People have keys – *we will want helpers to help with the music in the park*
8. City of phila is introducing a bike share program – won't roll out until 2015. But they have designed space to accommodate 12 bike shares.

9. Greening – landscape bed. Try to incorporate green without blocking the view – see that it is a gateway. May have to relocate sign
10. Series of benches that will be built into the architecture of the park – stone or slab, row of domino/chess table
11. No curb changes
12. Some trees will be taken off to open it up
13. Planters in front of bank will be redone.
14. Plan also calls for (on another board) introduce large planters with trees on broad.
15. Also exploring irrigation for the planters
16. Also want to try to emulate strung lighting so that at night it will still come on and it will be safer, try to draw people in to enjoy the area

Old Colombo's restaurant – purchased it in Feb. Luke Palladino (owns four other restaurants). This is first Philly foray

1. He will introduce steak and seafood restaurant to the ave. Italian with a twist – anyone with any budget will go there anytime and have a good time. There will be outside seating – canopy will stay. Seating won't be bolted down
2. Will be introducing some signage – retro neon sign
3. Luke palladino will be renting the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor apt. there are 4 apts but now there will be 3.
4. In there tearing things out. Have not chosen designer or architect yet, work closely with your reps with your civic and the BID to pay attention to the design. Important building, iconic and well executed, not detract from the plaza. They should both be done by Thanksgiving.

Chair Joseph F. Marino asked that the holiday light tour start there.

Questions or concerns from civic for Sam?

- Brigentessa – due to open in July – heavy reconstruction.
- Where does PARC see the merchants that are not restaurants headed ?
- having a vacant merchant space opening June 1<sup>st</sup>. Little Baby's has been nagging for space. New retailers are more willing to stay open while the restaurants are open. Beefing up retailers, restaurants are helping out with this. Interested business – send to Renee. PARC and bid collaborate.
- Any plans for the big drug store. Vince the owner isn't interested in anyone.
- 12<sup>th</sup> and Tasker? Demolition scheduled for June – waiting for a redesign –
- Is it possibly to have Tasker and Morris cleaned more often? We are focusing on that more, trying to get money freed up that we can augment that and get it done more often.

## **Old Business**

Murals Project at Mifflin and 13<sup>th</sup> Septa Substation– Darren, Trish and Mr. Marino – secured the last 1000 from the BID and the 1000 from PARC. This pays for the cost of fabricating and installing the art. Last hoop is mural arts, to pick up the insurance umbrella for its lifetime. Mr. Marino will be working with mural arts to do this. Our deadline is June 30<sup>th</sup>.

Tree Planting (and Beautification Committee Report (given via email from Matt to Mr. Marino):

. "The Tree Planting was a huge success. Thanks to everyone who made it out, despite the Flavors event. The garden is in full swing. Congrats to the committee for being awarded the Fiskars Orange Thumb Grant worth \$5000. Next meeting is Thursday, May 22nd at 7:00"

- April Herring, co-chair added that we had two garden orientations and are working on getting a shed
- Joseph F. Marino added that he wrote a letter to the Bishop regarding the potential construction project and is awaiting a response.

### **New business and Reports**

Food drive for Philabundance:

- Lee has had a lot of success with St. Anthony's school. Filled boxes in a week. Two more boxes per homeroom being dropped off this week. People brought food to the bowling event, or you can bring food to next meeting or to the web site and make a donation to philabundance.
- They get more out of money than food donations, for food they need proteins.

**Treasurer report:** see attached PDF

### **Darren's report –**

- Spent two days serving with Renee from BID and CC district staff to prepare pedestrian signs. (like the center city ones).
  - Bulk will be installed leading from subway stations and into Ave Only other neighborhoods that have them is university city.
  - 6 – 8 months out from happening.
  - Installed through BID and cc district.
- Worked with Beth Dougherty and Trish to apply for Phila activity fund grant.
- Worked on septa station

### **Outreach and membership – none**

#### **Education –**

- Got new members.
- Great help staffing the flavors event. Fundraising for admin fee for the design services grant. \$72. Donation jar.

- Fundraiser for the balance of admin fee. EPX has given a grant of 25. Need to raise 1250 more. Adobe on May 29<sup>th</sup>. Owner will donate 25% of all food sales for the day. Dedicated to the greening project on Southwark. 5 pm - 9 pm – raffling off stuff. Look for flyers, etc.
- Selling rubber bracelets –. \$1 or \$2 in local stores, - pick up a bunch
- One of former members –will be instituting a 2 way immersion program. 30 – 15 english, 15 spanish.. He has permission to enroll English speaking children from outside the Southwark catchment. So if any of you know families would consider Southwark and might be interested, they can contact Beth, the principle – open house next wed night for anyone interested. See web site. Education facebook page.
- Library project – stalled a tad bit. Decide what to do about the card catalogue system, 1200 to district to use it. Have to start from scratch to catalogue to all the books. We have a volunteer with an HR person from target.
- Boxtops for education, reminder to bring them in
- Next meeting, wed the 21<sup>st</sup> 7 pm.

**Public safety** – meeting in the works with the community relations office in the police district. Stay after – I’ll take ?s after, also need more members.

**Zoning and planning** –

- April mtg. discussed 1742 east passyunk – extending back – all supported
- 1129 mckean – replacing commercial with apt. 5 – 4 to not oppose
- next meeting is wed, may 8<sup>th</sup>
- need a home for the king of jeans sign.

**Mr. Marino’s report**

EAST PASSYUNK CROSSING

BOARD OF DIRECTORS CO-CHAIR REPORT

May 2014

Routine operating functions of EPX, such as web page updates, check signing & meetings w/ my co-chair etc., I have the following to report.

- 1) Finishing touches with EPX, SEPTA, Mural Arts and Councilman Squilla's for final aspects of Mifflin Substation Art Installation!
- 2) Extensive meetings, emails and phone calls with Ss. Neumann-Goretti president regarding EPX Community Garden and detailed letter to Bishop Fitzgerald, many thanks to other board members for their efforts as well, to delay potential disruptive issues.
- 3) Discussions with PARC Executive Director Sam Sherman regarding his presentation to EPX tonight and their donation of \$1k towards Art Installation.

- 4) Secured, with help of EPX co-chair and at-large board member Trish Downey, \$1,000 from both PARC and the EPXA BID to finish paying for EPX/SEPTA Art Installation.
- 5) Continued discussion with Councilman Squilla and a meeting with him and commissioner DeBernadinis, regarding the renewal of the Tolentine "Community" Center lease, etc.
- 6) Testified before Senator Greenleaf, Senator Farnese, and members of the Philadelphia Bass Association on Thursday April 24th regarding anti-SLAPP litigation!
- 7) Secured quite a number of prizes for EPX Basket Raffle and attended basket making night! Sold over 25 tickets for the EPX Bowling Event.
- 8) Brief discussion with EPX Recording Secretary Chris Cozine and his need to resign from the board, meetings with EPX co-chair towards appointing an interim candidate to the post.
- 9) Secured St. Anthony of Padua Catholic School participation in the EPX Spring Food Drive and delivered empty boxes to the school with EPX Corresponding Secretary Lee Tharps. EPX contributed \$250 towards their sports teams!
- 10) Helped EPX Education Committee set-up and staff, briefly, the EPX tent and table at EPA BID Flavors of the Avenue on April 26th. Introduced myself to all the restaurateurs and thanked them for their support. Introduced myself to a number of other new merchants on the Avenue that day, as well.

Meeting adjourned at 8:14 pm