

EPX General Meeting Minutes, June 2, 2014

Mr. Darren Fava called meeting to order at 7:04pm

Approval of agenda – Lee Tharps, seconded by Jane

Approval of minutes from May meeting – Mr. Joseph F. Marino, seconded by ?

Mr. Marino's co-chair report:

- Deadline of June 30th approaching...last minute touches with EPX, SEPTA, Mural Arts and Councilman Squilla's for final aspects of Mifflin Substation Art Installation!
- Extensive phone calls to Ss. Neumann-Goretti president/Bishop Fitzgerald's office and Archdiocesan School CFO Dave Magee regarding EPX Community Garden.
- Discussions with PARC Executive Director Sam Sherman regarding Singing Fountain coins, Mifflin triangle pruning, and saving EPA merchants!
- Toured Southwark School with Councilman Squilla on Tuesday May 27th along with their principal Lukov and Education Committee Chair Beth Dougherty follow up on Title 1 funds being equitably distributed.
- On-going discussions with Councilman Squilla and a meeting with him and commissioner DeBernadinis, regarding the renewal of the Tolentine "Community" Center lease, etc.
- Tour of former BOK school site on Thursday May 29th in an attempt to save some public space for community !
- Attended EPX Beautification and Zoning Committee for May, 2014.
- Discussions with Bob Theil in Senator Farnesse's office regarding liquor licence's transfers for several EPX locations.
- Picked up food stuffs from St. Anthony of Padua Catholic School's participation in the EPX Spring Food Drive and arranged for SPR coverage in photos and, hopefully, print. Hosted EPX "pizza party" for 6th grade class that donated the most food on Thursday May 15th!
- Transiting efforts to support new EPX Recording Secretary April Herring and to secure the return of EPX documents and archival material from former board member!
- Efforts to help EPX Events Committee secure locations, food vendors and dates for Summer "Meet and Greets!"

Mr. Fava's co-chair report:

- Walked the neighborhood with BID to discuss pedestrian sign system locations
- Attended Bok School tour and took about 80 photos which will be shared

Mr. Tharps

- Collected food drive donations from St. Anthony's school and dropped off at Philabundance

Mr. Roger Bruno – Treasurer

- Treasury Report:
 - Income: \$10,586.06
 - Expenses: \$4,105.24
 - Account balances:
 - Operating: \$7,079.12
 - Grants: \$12,498.44
 - Community Garden: \$1,700.80

Mr. Lindy Backues – Outreach

- Has been working with Indonesian Network – went with them to Washington D.C. to meet with the newly appointed ambassador from Indonesia
- In discussions with a CSA in Stockton that wants to link to Philadelphia
- Talking to Go-Ed, a study abroad program, is looking to settle somewhere in the U.S. and are looking at Philadelphia as a possibility
- Has had discussions with CMAC, a Southeast Asian empowerment group who is working with an African American church

Mrs. Beth Dougherty – Education

- Councilman Squilla came to Southwark for a visit and to speak with the principal about funding
- Fundraiser at Adobe was on May 29th
 - We do not know how much is being received from Adobe yet
 - Totals so far: \$230 from raffle, \$130 from 50/50, \$66 bracelets/donations, \$40 other donations for a total of \$670
- Southwark is having a Fun Day on June 13th. Education Committee is donating food.

Mr. Matt Simone – Beautification

- Garden tools from the grant were received
- Shed will be up in a few weeks
- There will be a tree work day at Southwark on June 15th
- Next neighborhood cleanup is slated for July 27th
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Ms. Anna Reed – Events and Fundraising

- Bowling even was in May and was a big success
- Planning summer Meet and Greet

Ms. Ruth Robbins – Safety

- Car thefts continue to be an issue in the neighborhood
- Meeting with Officer Duffy, the crime prevention officer assigned to our neighborhood, on Friday

Mr. David Goldfarb – Zoning

- Absent – report submitted in writing
 - 1648 S 12th St: Adding an additional one bedroom apartment (total of four: 2 1BR, 2 2BR) to previously approved restaurant with apartments above.
 - Decision: Committee voted 5-0 in favor; unanimous crowd support.
 - 1906 S 13th St: Legalization of duplex without commercial use on first floor. 1
 - Decision: Committee voted 5-0 in favor; unanimous crowd support.
 - 1648 E. Passyunk Ave: Liquor License transfer for by-right restaurant from Cheu Noodle Bar.
 - Decision: Committee voted 5-0 in favor of transfer with the following hour restrictions (Hours Sun - Wed midnight; Thurs 1 AM; Fri-Sat 2AM; outdoor seating on Passyunk only Sun - Thurs 11AM; Fri-Sat 1AM). Unanimous crowd support.

Old Business

- SEPTA Art Installation
 - Mr. Fava met with the fabricators of the scrim and production has begun
 - The insurance will be through Mural Arts
 - The scrim will be up by the end of June
 - Looking to having a dedication ceremony in September
- Food Drive
 - Result was 1250 pounds of food donated to Philabundance from St. Anthony's school
 - 6th Grade won the contest
 - Winning class and all faculty were given a pizza lunch with juice and cupcakes for dessert

Order of the Day

Speaker: Pastor Joe Melloni from the Philadelphia Access Center

New Business

- Summer Meet and Greet
 - June – Fountain Porter (Outreach and Events Committees)
 - July – Urban Jungle, catered by Vegan Commissary (Beautification and Zoning Committees)
 - August – possibly Alphabet Academy, catered by Little Baby’s Ice Cream (Education and Safety Committees)
- Ms. Reed would like to start looking into creating Welcome Packets for new members

Announcements

- The EPX Civic donated \$100 to Relay for Life
- Davis Rideout spoke briefly about a program he is directing – Taproot
 - 10 recently graduated high school students from Colorado will be coming to South Philadelphia to live with local families and do unpaid internships Tuesday – Thursday each week for three months
 - The goal is to turn this into a full year gap-year program

Meeting adjourned at 8:19 by Mr. Fava