

SHCA Board Meeting: March 14, 2006

Attendance:

Cynthia Roberts  
Ed Halligan  
Ben Jacobs  
Derek Riddle  
Angel Pizarro  
Amanda Benner  
Pauline Borkon  
Fran Byers  
Abby Gray  
Barry Grossbach  
Richard King  
Keally McBride  
Steve McCoubrey  
Angela McIver  
Scott Reynolds  
Meridith Sauer  
Jackie Waiters  
Matthew Wolfe

Apologies:

Nancy Khan  
Bruce Andersen  
Kathleen White

Absent:

Mamie Young  
Bernadine Abad  
Diane Adler  
Michael Beckman  
Bob Behr  
Bill Burrison  
Brett Feldman  
Monica Ferguson  
Janet Finan  
Dan Garofalo  
Mark Mills  
Mark Moloznik  
Elaine Nelson

Guests:

Stacy Livingston, University of PA Public Safety  
Carolyn Blackwell, UCD

Minutes:

February 2006 minutes were provisionally approved, with changes from Bruce Andersen.

University City District:

The UCD is proposing creation of a Neighborhood Improvement District (NID) to stabilize its income stream, currently fully supported by donations. The proposal is an assessment levied on commercial and rental property owners with more than 4 units combined, at 12 percent of the 2006 real estate tax. The estimated net funding for the UCD would translate into roughly \$1 million annually. The bulk of UCD funding is from West Philadelphia educational institutions that receive no services or direct benefits from the UCD. Major institutional support is in question, as Drexel was never enthusiastic about the program and Omar Blaik, a major supporter of UCD at UPenn, is leaving for greener pastures. The funds would fund capital improvement projects (e.g. street lighting) and commercial corridor support (e.g. marketing, cleaning, etc.).

A motion was put forward for SHCA to provide the UCD with a letter of support for the concept of the NID. It was agreed that such support would be contingent upon the finalization and approval of the NID bylaws. The motion was passed with majority support.

On another note, Second Fridays events will be starting in the Spring, look for announcements on the UCD web site.

Membership:

Out of the 412 pledged memberships, 116 have not paid yet.

Block Representative Network:

Scott Reynolds reports that he is working on a directory of block reps. Lots of blocks are missing a representative but it's difficult to say which, and SHCA has no clearly defined expectations of the block reps.

In order to promote a more active network of representatives, as well as foster community building, a motion was put forward to fund a brunch event for the block reps. The event will include a short presentation segment for to define the network, SHCA programs, and what the expectations are of the BRN from SHCA. The motion was approved.

Zoning:

The "other" Green Line Café zoning was approved. Neighborhood scuttlebutt included discussion of Varsity Pizza continuing litter and subsequent sanctions, and that the internal strife of Koch's deli (before current ownership) has been settled and some employees have moved to Stan's Deli in Powelton Village.

SHCA 50<sup>th</sup>:

A motion was made to host a workshop for renewal of the 43<sup>rd</sup> and Baltimore entrance to Clark Park as part of the SHCA 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary budget. Total costs estimate was \$1500

(workshop costs = \$100, \$1200 planting material, \$200 for plaque or bench). The motion was approved.

Some concerns were raised about the looseness of the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary allocations. For instance, does the contribution of \$1000 for the Party for the Park also fall under the 50<sup>th</sup> funds? Should there be a more equitable distribution of funds across different types of commemoratives? Greenery projects are seen as the most approachable due to the current the expertise of some board members, but there was a feeling at the meeting that there was over-representation of these types of budget items.

The board treasurer made a commitment to provide for the board a set budget for SHCA50 activities outlining current commitments. Future proposals can then be assessed with respect to these numbers.