

SPRUCE HILL COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION  
BOARD MEETING, January 10, 2012

Meeting called to order at 7:40

In attendance: Pauline Borkin, Monica Calkins, Ben Chesluk, Andrew Cole, Brett Feldman, Anne Froehling, Barry Grossbach, Rich Guffanti, Ed Halligan, Lee Huang, Andy Lochrie, Al Madrid, Steve McCoubrey, Marie McCullough, Judy Powers, Mark Wagenfeld, Jackie Waiters, Mark Young

Minutes for Oct were approved

**Guest Speaker: Peter McGuiness**, newly hired dir of outreach and admissions at HMS School for Cerebral Palsy, 4400 Baltimore Ave:

Facility serves ages 5 to 21. Currently 60 students, some from out of state, some residential. Noted for technology and personal care. He described recent hires of new personnel aimed at improving promotion and recruitment. The school plans to put on art shows with Drexel and City Hall. He would like to start a "day of caring" so volunteers can spend a day painting, cleaning, etc. at the school.

**Guest Speaker: Greg Heller**, mgng dir, Enterprise Center:

He gave an update on the Kitchen Incubator now under construction at 48<sup>th</sup> and Spruce. It will have have 7000 sq ft, 3 commercial kitchens for rent, plus classes, micro grants to food entrepreneurs. A \$600 K baking contract with Penn can be shared with entrepreneurs. Prospective tenants are W Philly based, as are contractors on the construction. Construction started in Oct, should be done in July. Ribbon cutting in Sept. Funding is from fedl and state grants and donations. Tenants will pay by the hour or block. The center is still fund-raising and invites community supporters to purchase engraved bricks or wall panels. Contact info: [www.philafood.org](http://www.philafood.org), [gheller@theenterprisecenter.or](mailto:gheller@theenterprisecenter.or) 215-895-4075

**Committee Reports:**

**Membership, Rich Guffanti:** 26 pct of members only have snail mail contact. 157 on membership list have lapsed for 2 yrs or more. Another 157 are currently paid up. Bob Behr urged continuing contact (through yahoo emails) even if members aren't paid up. Pauline Borkin will make calls to lapsed members to encourage subscription renewals. Ed Halligan enlisted volunteers for Jan phonathon: Andy, Judy, Al, Lee, Mark Young, Rich G.

**Education , Mary Gold and Monica Calkins:** W Philly High had a rocky fall with lots of expulsions. But the new central administration seems to be working well together. Old W Philly building on the auction block. W Catholic slated for closing. Mark W suggests SHCA bring coffee, donuts and SCHA brochures to Penn Alexander School on Jan 23 when parents will be in line for kindergarten slots. Monica C says AGREE is trying to establish a school advisory council that would include community members. District wants councils for all elementary schools.

**Zoning, Barry Grossbach:** A mini crime wave is underway. Latest incident last night, a Penn student mugged on Osage. Area of activity seems to be between 44th to 48th and Osage to Chester. Police think it's the same crew, mostly crimes of opportunity. 9 pm to 1 am, but also other times. UCD, Penn police and city police are targeting the area. UCD is going to start sending a weekly email re crime in the area. UCD escort service: 215 898 -9255 btn 10 am and 3 am. Or 215 387 3942. The monthly community mtg w police at Calvary Church is every third Thurs of the mo.

Barry says that at Feb 14 mtg, L&I is willing to talk to assn. He will try to schedule.

## **New and Old Business:**

1. Discussion of the Satterlee Hospital's 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary A travelling state museum truck is going around the state. Also, Woodlands cemetery is planning an April anniversary event in Clark Park in collaboration with Univ of the Sciences. SHCA might add some Satterlee aspect to Mayfair on May 12. Lee Huang says the travelling museum is one of his clients so he will inquire about its availability.
2. Newsletter: Discussion of whether the assn. should have a printed newsletter at least once a year. There is general agreement that a newsletter is a good public relations tool, but disagreement about the frequency and purpose – news vs. a year-end report. Mark Young says he would be willing to do layout of a newsletter, but the issue of who would generate content/edit articles/oversee production remains unclear.
3. Ben Chesluk says he is moving to San Francisco area.
4. Joe McNulty, UCD liaison: Open call for artists to submit artwork for new flags on Balto Ave. UCD has a grant to cover costs. Mariposa is expanding/moving in Feb. and will have a grand opening in March. The new store will not require membership for shopping.
5. Bob Behr says Sun Feb 5 at 2pm will mark 200<sup>th</sup> bday of Dickens. A bigger than usual celebration is planned

Adjourned at 9:20 pm