

Spruce Hill Community Association (SHCA) Board Meeting

March 13, 2018, 7:30 pm

257 South 45th Street

Board Attendance

Present: Bush, Julie; Calkins, Monica; Carr, Tyree; Fayez, Rana; Grossbach, Barry; Guffanti, Richard; Hamerman-Brown, Sylvia; Johnstone, Evan; Line, Laura; Moore, Richard; Nally, Joe; Potter, Jon; Richman, Andrew; Rosof, Libby; Santoro, Craig; Santoro, Eric; Steif, Kenneth; Bosse, Alexa; Waiters, Jackie; Nelson, Elaine; Gong, Bo;

Absent: Medley Leslie; Lewis-McGarvey, Vicki; Liu, Roseann; Alvarez, Veronica

Minutes

Welcome and Introductions - Monica Calkins

- Guest Speakers:
 - Glenn Bryan, Assistant Vice President of Community Relations
 - Ed Datz, Executive Director of Real Estate
 - Maureen Rush, Vice President for Public Safety and Superintendent of Penn Police
- Glenn began by providing an overview of Penn's involvement with Spruce Hill and some news from Penn, including Penn's first teach-in since 1969, scheduled for March 19 - 22 (<http://www.upenn.edu/teachin/>), the Netter center's 25th anniversary, and the ongoing partnership with SCHA on the pending new residence facility.
- Maureen introduced Captain Mike Bellisaro, who replaced Joe Fischer as the new captain of the Penn Police. She noted that package delivery thefts are up, and that residents can opt to receive packages at 1900 commons (Amazon locker) or UPS store on Spruce St. She also discussed ongoing crime that seems to be generated from the Westpark apartments on Busti St. Although out of their patrol boundaries, they are supporting/partnering with PPD and Septa Police to help tackle the problem. Captain Bellisaro talked specifically about the recent stabbing/homicide at the complex and attributed many of the problems to non-residents. Barry Grossbach asked about the conditions at the complex, and mentioned the proximity to Drexel's sports fields and the Mayor's promise to add lighting, etc., to the area as part of the future development of the Provident Mutual building. Maureen encouraged community groups to write letters to the Mayor's office inviting them to a meeting with HUD, PHA, city, etc. to discuss
- Ed reviewed future/upcoming development on and around Penn, including:
 - 500 bed, 47 operating room hospital on Civic Center Boulevard
 - 4001 Chestnut St. Repurpose building w/ retail and commercial. An adjacent building, 4003, will be residential.
 - Fresh Grocer changes still on hold, though Acme prepared to take over.
 - Bernie's restaurant has opened @ 34th and Sansom
 - Penne Restaurant transitioning to Louis Louis, by White Dog operators
 - Just Salad @ 38th and Spruce - replacing Salad Works
 - Potential new restaurant in place of Harvest, TBD

Committee Updates

Executive - Monica Calkins

- Monica noted several \$250 donations to support community events/organizations:
 - UCAL annual gala
 - PAS 5K
 - Spring musical
- There was discussion regarding a request to sign a letter supporting a Woodlands Cemetery request for safety improvements along Woodland Avenue (from 39th-42nd streets). The board approved of the letter, but wanted to write an additional letter with expanded issues, specifically adding some additional concerns and resources that might be available.

May Fair – Monica Calkins

- The May Fair is scheduled for May 12, 2018. Board members are encouraged to sign up to assist the day of the event.
 - The permit has been submitted, and Barry is coordinating food trucks.
 - Clarkville has agreed to sell beer during the event.
 - Tyree is coordinating with UC Pinball for a grand prize, and Rich volunteered to work with Keswick for a bike.
 - Eric is working on coordinating the bounce house/obstacle course and face painters.
 - Vendors need to be finalized, and we will accept submissions via a Google docs form.
 - Music is being coordinated via Andrew, who is working with a local musician, Dan Blackberg. We will need to connect with Greenline, as they have provided or funded a sound system in the past
 - Need to finalize the plan for a rain date (either indoor facility — possible USP — or alternate date) and portable toilets.

Repair the World (40th & 41st and Market)

- Two additional guests, Leah and Becca, from Repair the World made a brief presentation.
- Repair the World engages young adults in social change. Leah and Becca are part of a one-year fellowship in Philadelphia.
- On April 8th they will host an open house to engage community, to solicit ideas for how they might be of service to the community.
- They also offered to participate with volunteers at May Fair and promote via social media

Zoning - Barry Grossbach

- Next meeting is scheduled for March 19, 2018 to discuss pending cases
- There is a proposal for a new bus service, operating out of West Philly closer to EI (38th and Ludlow), that will compete with Bolt. First services will run to New Brunswick and DC, and eventually provide service to NYC.

Adjournment