



**Wissahickon Interested Citizens Association
General Membership Meeting Minutes**

Meeting Date: July 12, 2017 | **No. of Attendees:** 16

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Meeting was called to order at 7:00pm.

2. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Minutes for the June meeting were not yet available to be reviewed and accepted.

3. TREASURER'S REPORT

No update.

4. COMMITTEE REPORTS

STANDING

a. Membership | Chair: Dane Troup

- No update.

b. Zoning | Chair: Jeffrey Allegretti

- **5102 Rochelle Ave:** The developer's attorney sent a Land Use Agreement draft reflecting their understanding of the agreement with WICA including changes to the design of the property, preferred retail uses, limitation on hours of operation, deliveries, site access during construction, etc. Jeff provided a list of WICA comments in response to the land use agreement. There is a zoning hearing scheduled for July 19th. A motion was passed to authorize the Zoning Committee to make decisions regarding the Land Use Agreement on behalf of the General Membership Committee. There were 15 in agreement and one abstention.
- **Ridge Ave Demolition Moratorium:** A meeting was held on July 10th with Anne Fadullon, Josh Cohen, and representatives of civic associations that border Ridge Ave to discuss a demolition moratorium. The group received preliminary guidance on how to create historic districts along Ridge and how to halt non-essential demolition until historic reviews are complete. The meeting was positive and the civic associations' ideas were well received.

c. Parks | Co-chairs: John Gallager and Hal Rosner

- **LaNoce Park:** WICA members plan to prioritize improvements to LaNoce Park, including repair/replacement of broken playground equipment and new signage. Suggestions also included creating a "Friends of LaNoce Park" group and a "Love LaNoce Park" day to engage neighbors.

d. General Beautification | Chair: None

- No update.

AD-HOC

a. **Traffic and Parking** | Chair: Suzanne Hagner

- **Wissahickon Gateway Project:** A meeting was held with the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission, Matt Wysong and staff on June 29th to address the short/long term connection plans between the Kelly Dr bike trail and the canal trail. The ultimate goal is to have an uninterrupted connection between the two trails. The Wissahickon Gateway Study will also address right of way improvements on Ridge. Ridge from Kelly Dr to Righter St/Hermit St poses safety issues for pedestrians and bicyclists due to its steep incline/decline and blind turns. Pedestrian and bicycle traffic continues to increase as does development and businesses along the corridor. Safety improvements on Ridge are especially challenging as it is a state route. The pros and cons of various proposed improvements to specific intersections were weighed. Other preliminary ideas included a protected bike lane on Ridge, widening the sidewalk on Ridge near Deke's BBQ, and pedestrian/bike friendly crossing of Ridge at Wissahickon Creek.

b. **Quality of Life** | Chair: Diana Miller

- No update.

c. **Town Watch** | Chair: Rich Wilczynski

- The Committee is actively looking for members and block captains. An upcoming town watch training is scheduled for July 19th at United Methodist Church.

d. **Neighborhood Conservation Overlay (NCO)**

- The NCO subcommittee created a list of recommendations to be added to those already a part of the Central Roxborough NCO as a starting point for review by the Planning Commission. A meeting is set for July 21st at which members from Ridge Park and Central Roxborough are invited to provide advice.

e. **Bylaws**

- The bylaws are dated and require revision. A meeting will be set up in the near future. Ideas and suggestions are welcome.

5. **BOARD MEMBER ELECTIONS**

Voting was held for the board member positions:

- President: Janet Anderson (by acclamation)
- Vice President: Vacant (no nominees)
- Treasurer: Ken Sawyer (by acclamation)
- Secretary: Nicole Healy (appointed by President Janet Anderson as there were no nominees)

6. **OLD BUSINESS**

a. **5109 Rochelle Ave** (Wissahickon Bar & Bistro)

Further improvements have been observed including new paint, signage and an awning.

b. **599 Righter St** (Barnes House)

The owner is appealing the city's historic designation.

c. **We Bloom**

This coworking space with onsite childcare concept is no longer looking at the Wissahickon Presbyterian Church due to the condition of the building and the business' desired timeline.

7. NEW BUSINESS/OPEN DISCUSSION ITEMS/MISCELLANEOUS

a. 3715 Main St (Wilde Yarn Building)

Concerns were expressed about the potential of increased traffic on Little Cresson and Ridge Ave once the 45-unit apartment building is complete.

b. Website and Social Media Presence

There is interest in enhancing WICA's website and social media presence to make pertinent information more readily available. Moving forward, all minutes should be posted to the website and announced through the Facebook page.

c. Directors and Officers Insurance

At next month's meeting, the general membership will vote on renewal. The quoted price will remain the same as last year.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30pm.

The next meeting will be held on August 9th, 2017 at 7:00pm in the Northern Children's Services board room.