



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

Meeting Date: October 11, 2017 | **Attendees:** 16

1. CALL TO ORDER

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

2. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Minutes from the September meeting were reviewed and accepted.

3. TREASURER'S REPORT

Ken Sawyer gave the Treasurer's report. WICA's checking account balance as of September 30th was \$1,407.52.

4. COMMITTEE REPORTS

STANDING

a. **Membership** | Chair: Dane Troup

- **Annual Renewal:** Membership renewal is coming up in January. All members must renew at that time to retain active membership.

b. **Zoning** | Chair: Jeffrey Allegretti

- **Monthly Meeting:** No zoning meeting was held in September.
- **Demolition Moratorium:** Councilman Jones' office has introduced the ordinance and there will eventually be a hearing. The proposed moratorium would only be for one year. This will give the civics time to identify those areas along the Ridge that are suitable for historic districts.

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

- **Daisy Field:** The official rededication ceremony has been rescheduled for the spring. There are some new signs up indicating that it is now David Montgomery Field
- **LaNoce Park:** We are planning a cleanup at LaNoce Park on Saturday, November 4th 9am-noon in conjunction with the City's LOVE Your Park Fall Service Day. We missed the official signup period but are still participating.
- **Rebuild Program:** One of the key benefits of the soda tax, the program will provide funds to improve the City's parks, libraries, and recreation centers. Daisy Field and LaNoce Park are eligible sites for Rebuild investment. However, they may be considered lower priority in comparison to sites in neighborhoods with greater economic need. A public meeting is scheduled for October 23rd 6-8pm at the Wolcuff Auditorium at Roxborough Memorial Hospital.

- **Community Design Collaborative:** Janet Anderson continues to work on our application for potential pro bono support for LaNoce Park improvements.
- **Wissahickon War Memorial:** There was a discussion about what WICA can do to support site. Some ideas included coordinating new signage to identify the site more clearly as well as an organized clean-up.

- d. **General Beautification** | Chair: None
No update.

AD-HOC

- a. **Traffic and Parking** | Chair: None
Geoff Brock updated the group on the speed cushions petitions for the lower blocks of Kalos and Osborne Streets. We currently have signatures from 70% of the residents. The signed petition starts the process for review by the City. Examples of speed cushions in the neighborhood include temporary ones on Magdalena St near Dalessandro's and permanent ones on Midvale Ave in East Falls.
- b. **Quality of Life** | Chair: Diana Miller
This committee report will no longer be included the monthly agenda as most of the issues are now addressed by the City's expanded 311 services.
- c. **Town Watch** | Chair: Rich Wilczynski
A training session is scheduled for November 1st at 7pm at the 5th District. There is a required minimum of 8 attendees.
- d. **Neighborhood Conservation Overlay (NCO)** | Chair: Ken Sawyer
Ken has been in communication with Josh Cohen. The NCO will be reviewed in the beginning of 2018. WICA is seeking guidance from City employees to make the NCO a presentable bill.
- e. **Bylaws** | Co-chairs: Nick Barrile and Jon Miller
Nick and Jon are working to update the 2008 Bylaws. Some of the proposed revisions include the extension of the WICA the territory on Ridge Ave to Shurs Ln, changing the membership term to January through December, changing the Traffic Committee from ad-hoc to standing, and adding the RCO to the Zoning Committee language. Other suggestions can still be brought to their attention for inclusion.

5. OLD BUSINESS

- a. **Triple A Auto:** Ken Sawyer spoke with Josh Cohen to encourage the City to take action on the business' lot that is illegally filled with cars and tires.

6. NEW BUSINESS/OPEN DISCUSSION ITEMS/MISCELLANEOUS

- a. **Roxborough Development Corporation (RDC)** | Operations Director: Matt Taylor
Matt is new to the RDC and introduced himself. The RDC is making a concerted effort to connect with the local civic organizations more.
- b. **Philadelphia Police Department** | Lieutenant Trina Pendleton and Sergeant Tom Galonsky

- **August/September Update:** Robberies and burglaries were down. Car theft and theft from auto is up. Reminder: do not leave anything of value in your car, always lock doors and set your alarm.
 - **Ongoing Issues:** There was a discussion regarding what action is being taken as the same issues continue to plague the neighborhood. With some complaints, like illegal parking, tickets are being issued but people continue to park illegally. The officers pledged to revisit some of these issues, like abandoned vehicles and having an officer stationed at Ridge and Osborn during rush hour.
 - **Hermit Cave/Cave of Kelpius/Wissahickon Park:** There has been evidence that people are shooting up in and around the cave. There was a similar issue at the 100 steps this summer. Lt. Pendelton will discuss with her commanding officer. Other issues brought up were speed enforcement on trails and keeping bikes off hikers-only trails. One possibility is sending a bike officer out to issue Code Violation Notices (CVMs).
- c. **Northern Children's Services** | President/CEO: Renata Cobbs-Fletcher
Renata had a scheduling conflict and will reschedule her presentation.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30pm.

The next meeting will be held on November 8th, 2017 at 7:00pm in the Northern Children's Services board room.