



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

Meeting Date: March 13, 2019 | **Attendees:** 14

1) CALL TO ORDER

The Meeting was called to order at 7:02pm.

2) ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Minutes from the January meeting were reviewed and accepted. There were no meeting minutes for February as a quorum was not present.

3) TREASURER'S REPORT

Ken Sawyer gave the Treasurer's report. As of March 11 WICA's total funds were \$919.00.

4) COMMITTEE REPORTS

STANDING

a) Membership

- i) **Dues:** Upon further review, WICA's dues are right on par with neighboring civics (Wissahickon Neighbors, Ridge Park, Manayunk, Central Roxborough, and Upper Roxborough). WICA will look into increasing membership numbers and other fundraising opportunities.

b) Zoning | Chair: Brian Olszak

- i) **Next Meeting:** April 1st at 7pm in the Northern Children's Services Board Room.
- ii) **Procedures:** The Zoning Committee is refining its policies and procedures. At the March 4 meeting the committee continued to work on this. We are looking to finalize these revised policies and procedures within the next month.
- iii) **200 Sumac:** A zoning permit was filed for a lot adjustment to create three lots from two existing lots - 200 Sumac and 3611 Freeland.
- iv) **200 and 214 Kalos:** A development proposal seems imminent at the rental dwelling owned by the Hanson Kalos Partnership (200) and the commercial property owned by John M. Hanson and Christopher M. Hanson (214). The tenant in the rental property has been told they have to move out.

Disclaimer: The contents herein represent the notes and recollections of WICA's Executive Secretary and representatives. This is not a verbatim transcript of the meeting but rather an attempt to capture the general spirit of the discussion.

- v) **90 Rochelle:** Little White Dog Doggie Daycare was granted a temporary variance with provisos. A private appeal has been filed against the ZBA.

c) **Parks**

- i) **Philly Spring Cleanup:** We are organizing a cleanup of LaNoce Park as part of the 12th Annual Philly Spring Cleanup on April 6th from 9am to 2pm. All neighbors are welcome.
- ii) **David Montgomery Field:** The Field will be receiving new LED lights. Impact Softball has a cleanup of the park scheduled for the last weekend in March.

AD-HOC

a) **Town Watch** | Chair: Rich Wilczynski

- i) The next Town Watch meeting is March 21st at 6:30pm.

b) **Traffic**

- i) **Neighborhood Slow Zone:** We were not selected for the Slow Zone program. According to the selection criteria, we scored low because our number of "vulnerable users" (elderly, children, families in poverty, etc.) were on the lower end and our crash score was lower than many others. The full score report can be read here: [Neighborhood Slow Zone Score Report](#)

c) **Bylaws**

- i) **Revision:** The Committee will resume work on the updates later this month.

5) UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- a) **5102 Rochelle (former Melnick's):** A federal railroad inspector was recently out inspecting the site.
- b) **268 Rochelle (Rochelle Arms):** The construction vehicles are not allowed to park in the paved areas. Report them to 311 and they will be ticketed.
- c) **Triple A Auto:** No permits are posted and construction appears to taking place during off hours and late into the night. The situation has been reported to 311.

6) NEW BUSINESS/OPEN DISCUSSION ITEMS/GUESTS/MISCELLANEOUS

- a) **Ron Adams, City Council 4th District Democratic Candidate:** Ron Adams introduced himself to the group. He has lived in Roxborough for 14 years and currently resides on Pensdale Street. Ron believes that elected officials should accountable to their constituents first and then their donors. His goal is to be a voice of all five wards. More information on Ron Adams and his campaign can be found on his website: <https://ronadamsforcitycouncil.com>.

- b) **Josh Cohen Chief of Staff to Councilman Jones:** On March 5, Councilman Jones met with the civic heads. One agenda item was the Wissahickon Transportation Center and issues surrounding the Gateway Plan. SEPTA recently bought Cadence Cycling Center. Councilman Jones is committed to arranging another meeting with SEPTA and PennDOT. A second agenda item was the ZBA and their favoritism towards developers – siding 95% of the time with developers. Often when a delayed zoning decision is made (30 days to a year later), a developer is notified but the civic is not. This has been deemed an administrative issue. The ZBA now falls under the Department of Planning and Development and Councilman Jones is going to address these issues with Anne Fadullon, the Director of the Planning and Development Cabinet.

7) ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30pm.

Next Meeting: April 10, 2019 at 7pm in the Northern Children’s Services Board Room, 5301 Ridge Ave