



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

**Meeting Date:** December 11, 2019 | **Attendees:** 10

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00pm by President Lisa Wetzler.

**2. ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

Minutes from the November meeting were adopted.

**3. TREASURER'S REPORT**

Ken Sawyer gave the Treasurer's report. As of December 11, 2019, WICA's checking account balance is \$225.95 and the savings/legal fund balance is \$25.38.

**4. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**STANDING COMMITTEES**

**a. Membership**, Chair: Heather Baumgardner

- i. The 2020 Membership Drive off to a good start

**b. Zoning**, Chair: Brian Olszak

- i. 200-214 Kalos: David Ross has agreed to five of the seven proposed provisos. The West Wing was not included in the L&I application. The ZBA Hearing is scheduled for January 8.
- ii. Next Meeting Zoning Committee: January 6. We will vote on the 3563 Retta Street application for a rear yard deck with stairs. The ZBA Hearing is scheduled for January 22.
- iii. Zoning Chair: Brian Olszak is stepping down as zoning chair due to a new role at his job. We are seeking a volunteer to step up and lead the zoning committee.

**c. Parks**, Chair: Janet Anderson

- i. 100 Steps: Janet is looking into partnering with the Philadelphia Power Corps for a cleanup of the 100 steps and the surrounding area.

## **AD-HOC COMMITTEES**

- a. **Traffic**, Chair: Chip Roller
  - i. **Wissahickon Train Station**: We expect the lot to be monetized by the end of the year. We are also awaiting the completion of Rock's Construction project at 5102 Rochelle to see how that affects tracks on Kalos and Rochelle.
- b. **Bylaws**, Chair: vacant
  - i. No update.
- c. **Town Watch**, Chair: Rich Wilczynski
  - i. **Captain's Town Hall Meeting**: December 19 at 6:30pm at the Fifth District

## **5. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

None

## **6. NEW BUSINESS/OPEN DISCUSSION ITEMS/GUESTS/MISCELLANEOUS**

- a. **Josh Cohen, Chief of Staff to Councilman Curtis Jones**: Josh gave an update on current legislation. December 12 is the last day of the City Council session. Any bill that does not get voted through will have to start the process over again in 2020. The Council Session can be viewed on Channel 64. Some highlights will include:
  - i. **Tax Abatement Reform** - A 10-year wind-down bill that would phase out the abated amount by 10 percent each year for residential improvements. There has been talk to exempt East Falls, Roxborough, and Manayunk altogether. We should see further amendments in the next four years. Some Council members are interested in getting rid of the tax abatement altogether.
  - ii. **Committee Benefits Agreement** - This bill proposes to mandate community benefits agreements between real estate developers and neighborhood groups.
  - iii. **Plastic Bag Ban** - One of the big remaining issues revolves around whether or not to include a fee on other types of bags.
  - iv. **Neighborhood Conservation District** - The legislation prevents the Department of Licenses and Inspections from granting demolition permits unless they are accompanied by building permits.
- b. **Fundraising** - Our first AmazonSmile deposit was in September. We continue to collect receipts for the ShopRite Save-A-Tape Program.

## **7. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10pm.