



CALLOWHILL NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

May 7, 2012, 6:30pm~8:30pm

**Attending (in BOLD):**

**Sarah McEneaney, Jason Hughes, Bruce Shelly, John Struble, C'Anne Anderson, Robert Cheetham, Travis Skidmore, Robert Hakalski, Gary Reuben, Dennis Pilsits, Joanne Kundrat, Joseph Petry, Eric Chiu**

1. Website, RobertC

- Will not hire out but do internally.
- Options are google sites (limited themes/look, easy, may go away if google decides not to provide) and using wordpress (better templates, free hosting with dreamhost).
- JohnS has a \$25/hr resource to get us started, will work with Jason.
- All present members approved.

2. Legal, Sarah, D&O insurance update, we have received a reasonable quote and will vote on it. 6 members(SM, JS,RC,DP,JH,JP) have voted in favor via email

- SarahM to email claims scenarios.
- \$71 per person, all 10 present members approved. Will go into effect as soon as Sarah returns the form (tomorrow).
- Anyone who can't pay can be put on a payment plan or can be negotiable with CNA.

3. Registered Community Organizations, Sarah

- Gives us visibility to zoning changes and contact if a large development happens.
- City planning commission, registered community organizations.
- Will proceed.

4. Financial, Dennis, membership dues

- \$375 in dues taken in.

5. Zoning, John

- Digital billboard at 11<sup>th</sup> and vine, somehow approved but they need the building permit. Vote on CNA opposition, all present members
- Rooming house at 1231 Vine (Electric Factory). CNA to ask for a continuance until they talk to us. General concern about this type of use.

6. Neighborhood Clean-up, Sarah , 70 + people

- Connection to Central HS kids to help in the Fall.

7. By-Laws re-write

- Need help to review before sending to the lawyer. C'anneA, SarahM and JoanneK to look at it.



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- JoeP to send out the current by-laws.

8. The Court of Common Pleas will hear the case on the demolition of the Church of the Assumption Oral arguments are scheduled to take place on Thursday, May 10 at 10:00 AM in Court Room 426 of City Hall. Please attend the hearing if you are available.

A brief history of this case:

1. The church was added to the Philadelphia Register of Historic Places on May 8, 2009.
  2. The owner of the church, Siloam, applied for financial hardship in order to pursue the demolition of the structure. The Philadelphia Historical Commission granted financial hardship on September 10, 2010, allowing demolition.
  3. The Callowhill Neighborhood Association and several neighbors appealed the ruling and the case was heard by the Board of License and Inspection Review. The Board overturned the ruling on May 17, 2011, prohibiting demolition.
  4. Siloam filed for appeal of the Board's decision. The Philadelphia Court of Common Pleas will hear the appeal on May 10, 2012.
- 5/10 Room426 City Hall at 10am. Urge people to attend.

Added agenda items:

- 13<sup>th</sup> and Buttonwood update (Mika) – exploring use of modular construction. Said it should not affect the look of the building as shown earlier.

7:00 -- Presentation by Lisa Murch, Mural Arts. Invited to attend, Mika Mayhe and John Wei

- Art Education Program – connect the students with artists, different age groups (10~14, 14~18, 18~21).
- Current piece at 11<sup>th</sup> and Ridge. Gabriel Specter.
- Would like to use local neighborhood artists.
- CNA to look at which areas to have for murals and suggested artists.
- [lisca.murch@muralarts.org](mailto:lisca.murch@muralarts.org)
- Get brochures for us to distribute to local schools.

7:30 -- Presentation by Bart Blatstein

- Bart Blatstein presenting. Mark Blatstein, Mark Blevins in attendance.
- For 400 N. Broad Inquirer Building and press building. Two lots behind it and parking garage. PDFs of his slides to follow.
- Plan is for 1.5~2 years, once approved. No plan to tear down the inquirer bldg.



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- Already has 204 units at state office building at Broad and Spring Garden - 2/3 2 bedroom, 1/3 one bedroom. Under construction now. Plan is to add another tower as phase2 (4~5 years) with more apartments and 60k sqft of retail.
- Hotel, 15% casino, concert venue, 80k retail, 6 restaurants, event facilities, meeting rooms.
- BartB sees casino as essential for traffic. Idea is to mimic the Borgata in Atlantic City or Bellagio in Vegas. No plan to abandon the casino, "it will be developed" committed to have it happen as planned, no backup plan.
- Zoning through City Council not ZBA (Darrell Clark's area)
- This is only an initial meeting and CNA Board expects to have a second meeting with full membership
- Bart B is willing to attend additional meetings upon request