

Washington Square West Civic Association

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

MAY 14, 2019

Bluemle Building Room 101

- I. Call to order by the President, Rick Spitzborg at 7:00 PM
- II. Attendance: 1. Robert Sher, 2. Deb Sweeney, 3. Tammy Sortman, 4. Catalina Gonzalez
5. Judy Applebaum, 6. Carl Engelse, 7. Rick Spitzborg, 8. Neal Pratt
- III. President's Report given by Rick Spitzborg

Rick contacted Center City District requesting that they clean and sweep Washington Square West streets June -October weekly. The cost will be \$700 per week. The cost is covered by Civic Association membership dues.

Neighbors have informally expressed concern about the deteriorating condition of the property at 1221 Pine Street. There are legal processes that may be initiated in the restoration, repair and selling of the home with proceeds being dispersed accordingly. One formal complaint has been reported to the board. Rick said that he would report back to the inquiring organization.

Board will request that Philadelphia Police District 6 precinct resume the release of crime reports to residents of Washington Square West.
- IV. Approval of minutes for April 9, 2019
- V. Community Comments (None for this meeting)
- VI. Membership

Committee emphasis will be on budget and developing an action plan to increase WSWCA membership.

An individual has been hired to consolidate membership data in Quickbooks format.

Catalina will present a plan to increase WSWCA membership.
- VII. Treasures Report/Finance

Consolidation of the membership data base will allow the board to contact perspective new members in the future utilizing a timely and efficient process.

Finances are reported stable.
- VIII. Website and Communication

Tami reported that website pages are in the process of being updated.

Board is working on a plan for managing and revamping publication of the E-Post.

XI. Zoning

Carl reviewed the following zoning proposals:

1009 Spruce Street - Application is proposed for a barber shop on 1st floor front with existing five family dwelling as previously approved in the existing structure. The proposed use, personal service, is prohibited in this zoning district. Board unanimously approved the Zoning Committee's recommendation of non-opposition.

1326-28 Chestnut Street - Application is for proposed sit down restaurant and barber shop on rear of cellar, 1st and 2nd floor. All other uses have been previously approved in the existing structure. The proposed use, sit down restaurant, requires a special exception approval in the Chestnut/Walnut Street area. Board unanimously approved the Zoning Committee's recommendation of non-opposition.

255 S. Camac St. - BarX is requesting a night club variance to have a DJ and recorded music for fifty people as part of a sit down restaurant on 1st floor rear and basement with existing kitchen only. Conditions have not improved regarding noise and continues to be a nuisance to neighbors. The proposed use, night clubs and private clubs, is prohibited in this zoning district. It has been previously reviewed by Zoning Board of Adjustment (ZBA) any extension in use requires additional ZBA approval. Applicant indicated they would withdraw their application to the ZBA after the committee made it clear they would oppose the current request for a variance. It was strongly recommended to the applicant that they resolve noise problems emanating from their premises with appropriate sound proofing. They said they would do so and notify the committee.

818 Chestnut St. - At the next zoning meeting there will be a request for approval for an additional marijuana dispensary. This would be the third in the neighborhood. Anyone interested should attend the Zoning meeting on May 28, 2019.

Upcoming Dates:

Dinner in Rainbow June 20, 2019 to raise money for Philly Pride Presents and William Way Community Center

Fashion Show fundraiser on 12th Street from Spruce to Locust Street, Date and Time TBD.

Meeting adjourned at 8:15pm

NEXT MEETING JUNE 11 , 2019 AT 7:00 PM Bluemle Building Room 101

~The WSWC always welcomes and encourages the public to attend meetings. The Civic is in need of individuals willing to be involved in the Civic activities and to serve on the various committees.~