

Richmond Corridor Association (RCA) Monthly General Meeting  
Philadelphia Regional Port Authority (PRPA)  
Meeting Minutes

September 8, 2016

Attendance: Cara Rossi (M&T Bank), Bruce Richman (S.D. Richman & Sons), Steve Horton (RCA-NEDS), John Taintor (Port Richmond Self Storage), Matt Mullin (City of Phila. MDO/CLIP), Larry Dooling (PJ Dooling Tire), Michael Stepnowski (Stepnowski Genral Contractors), Michael Marrone (Liquori Academy), David Keiser (Tioga Pipe), Ayse Unver (Philadelphia Horticultural Society), Tammy DeMent (Philadelphia Horticultural Society), Jim Fries (Delaware River City Corp.), Regina Gorzkowski-Rossi (Friends of Pulaski Park/Polish Daily News), Ed Masternak

The meeting was convened at 8:50am.

There were Roundtable introductions.

The Minutes from the June 8<sup>th</sup> Meeting were reviewed and approved.

The Treasurer's Report was submitted by Bruce Richman:  
Account Balance: **\$17,419.27**

**Committee Reports:**

**Safety/Security:** The 24<sup>th</sup> Police District was not present. No Update.

**Membership:** Currently, there are 26 Paid Members. The Target is to recruit 38 members. Steve Horton continues to conduct outreach and make site visits to area businesses. Everyone was encouraged to pass along potential business leads.

**Strategic Plan:** Members were asked to begin collecting their ideas and suggestions over the next few months so that a new 5 year Plan (2017-2022) can be created. A Committee will need to be formed later this year to begin work on this Project.

**Media/Public Relations:** No Update.

**Website:** ([www.rcassociation.org](http://www.rcassociation.org)): All Businesses were encouraged to check out the new Video and Resource information on the RCA Website.

**CLIP/Infrastructure Report:** Matt Mullin reported that the CLIP Program continues to provide quality of life improvement services throughout the area. Everyone was encouraged to continue contacting them when services are needed.

**Old Business:**

Reminder: The October 13<sup>th</sup> meeting will be held at the Yards Brewing Coompany, 901N. Delaware Ave. (5:00-7:00pm.). Please RSVP to: [steveCFL@verizon.net](mailto:steveCFL@verizon.net) and/or call (267) 566-0490 by October 10<sup>th</sup>.

The Tire Clean Up / Round Up held on Saturday July 23<sup>rd</sup> was a success. The Volunteers included: A.J. Berg, Steve Horton and the Neatsfoot Oil/NUPRO Staff. The efforts resulted in the cleaning and removal of nearly 400 tires from nine shortdumping sites scattered throughout the RCA area. RCA will receive an Award of \$194.50.

**New Business:** There were two sets of Guests to make Presentations:

The First Presentation about the proposed Castor Avenue Connector was made by: Ayse Univer, Urban Planning Manager of PHS, [aunver@pennhort.org](mailto:aunver@pennhort.org)

Tammy DeMent, Associate Director, Civic Landscapes of PHS, [tdement@pennhort.org](mailto:tdement@pennhort.org)

Jim Fries, Project Manager of DRCC, [jfries@drcc-phila.org](mailto:jfries@drcc-phila.org)

Over the next several months, they will be working with RCA and a number of other neighborhood business and community groups to develop specific ways to improve this important roadway.

There was some agreement that the current conditions are not hospitable or welcoming. Some of the objectives are to develop some greening along the Avenue to address storm management, enhance the aesthetics and improve access to the River, Port Richmond Trail & future Bridesburg Park.

There was a general consensus that traffic engineering needs to address the excess speeding along Castor Ave, and Delaware Ave. Drag Racing is a common occurrence. The installation of "Speed Pillows" would force traffic to slow down.

There was a suggestion to install a southbound Left Hand Turn indicator at Aramingo & Wheatsheaf intersection Lane.

In addition, there is ongoing need for a comprehensive strategy to reduce shortdumping in nearby sites adjacent to Castor Ave.

RCA expressed interest in being part of the Castor Avenue Planning Task Force.

The Second Presentation about the new Liguori Academy was made by:

Michael Marrone, President of Liguori Academy, [info@liquoriacademy.org](mailto:info@liquoriacademy.org)

This new private independent school is located within the Impact Services Building at 1952 East Allegheny Ave. Philadelphia. Pa. 19134

The School mission is to empower students who have not had success in their previous schooling. The unique teaching approach is re-engage students through a personalized and challenging program that addresses the needs and goals of each individual.

Regular and real time student evaluations are made to help them with academic and personal support. The objective is to prepare them for opportunities in the workforce.

The School is seeking support from businesses through financial contributions and in-kind donations. Companies providing support are eligible for tax credits through the Pa. Dept. of Community & Economic Development (DCED): Opportunity Scholarship Tax Credit (OSTC) and Educational Improvement Tax Credit (EITC) Programs.

Regina Gorzkowski-Rossi spoke briefly about the “Port Richmond Immigrant Village” idea that has been included in the CPC River Wards Neighborhoods Plan. She also encouraged Everyone to check and monitor the updates on the I-95 Reconstruction Project at: [www.95revive.com](http://www.95revive.com).

The Meeting adjourned at 10:35am.

Submitted by Steve Horton