

Richmond Corridor Association (RCA) Monthly General Meeting
Weber Display & Packaging Co.
Meeting Minutes
September 14th, 2017

Attendance: Vance Coulston (CSS International), Gene Fijalkowski (CSS International) Bruce Richman (SD Richman, Sons), Matt Mullin (City of Philadelphia-CLIP), Steve Horton (RCA-NEDS), Michael Stepnowski (Stepnowski Bros. Inc.), John Taintor (Port Richmond Self-Storage), Tummona Fisher (PhilaPort-PRPA), David Keiser (Tioga Pipe)

The Meeting was convened at 9:10am.

The June Meeting Minutes were reviewed and approved. One addition was to include calling “311” first with City service concerns & issues, and then following up with CLIP with the Tracking (Case) Number: **(215) 685-9555**

Treasurer’s Report: Submitted by Bruce Richman. The Account Balance is: **\$15,772.88**. RCA currently has its funds in an M&T Bank account.

Committee Reports:

Safety/Security: No Update.

Membership: Currently, there are 11 paid members. Some of the challenges to recruit members are that new representatives at various companies are not familiar with our organization. Everyone was asked to speak with their business neighbors about RCA. Steve Horton continues to reach out to 20-25 firms each month to encourage them to attend our meetings, and to become members.

Strategic Plan: No Update.

Media/Public Relations: No Update. I-95 Project Updates: (www.95revive.com).

Website: No Update. RCA Information: (www.rcassociation.org)

CLIP/Infrastructure Report: CLIP continues to provide quality of life services to the overall neighborhood. Direct Issues & Concerns to: “311” & then Call Matt Mullin with the Tracking (Case) number: “**(215) 685-9555**”.

Old Business: We continue to have the challenge of low attendance at meetings. There was a brief discussion about the area Business Associations having more joint meetings. The Groups would include: Port Richmond Industrial Development Enterprise (PRIDE), Aramingo Business Association (ABA), Kensington Avenue Business Association (KABA) & Port Richmond Business Alliance. We will need to follow up with these organizations.

RCA participated in the Annual Tire Round Up on August 5th & 12th. Alan Berg & two members of his NUPRO-Neatsfoot Co. Staff, along with Steve Horton, cleaned up several chronic short-dumping hotspots throughout the community. Thanks were extended to those who participated. RCA will receive a Financial Award for our efforts from the Streets Dept. this Fall.

Also, RCA donated and distributed many of the Spring Clean Up tools to several neighborhood organizations and community block captains. Groups who are interested in borrowing Tools & Supplies for area beautification projects can contact the CLIP Community Partnership Program (CPP) located at American St. & Luzerne St.

New Business: The Slate of RCA Officers nominated was announced:
Alan Berg, Jr. (NUPRO-Neatsfoot Oil Co.): President
Vance Coulston, (CSS International): Vice President
Bruce Richman (S.D. Richman, Sons Inc.): Treasurer
Steve Horton (Neighborhood Econ. Dev. Specialist): Interim Secretary

An upcoming Job Fair will be held at Impact CDC:

Tuesday September 19th 10am-2pm
1952 East Allegheny Ave. 3rd Floor
Philadelphia, Pa. 19134
Darron Thompson: (215) 739-1600 ex. 122

The Final version of the proposed **PHS Castor Ave. Connector Plan** was reviewed.

There was a brief discussion that many **Pa.** State financial incentive programs target Larger Firms, and Smaller Companies have many challenges accessing the resources.

Several attendees talked about the national competition to attract Amazon to their Cities. Philadelphia has proposed three areas: (2) in University City & (1) at the Naval Shipyard Business District. A few suggested that the old "Philadelphia Coke Company" site, located at 4501 Richmond St. in Bridesburg, should also have been considered.

Bruce Richman brought to the attention of the attendees that his firm will be severely impacted by the newly proposed Betsy Ross Bridge I-95 interchange. PENNDOT plans to acquire 3 acres of their land, which will hurt their overall operations. This target area is part of the BRI portion of the I-95 Reconstruction Project. RCA will support their efforts to work with PENNDOT to reduce the impact. Everyone was encouraged to regularly monitor the Project website.

Next Meeting: Thursday November 9th at 8:45am @ PhilaPort (formerly PRPA).

The Meeting was adjourned at 10:30am.

Submitted by Steve Horton