

Richmond Corridor Association (RCA) General Meeting
PhilaPort (PRPA)
Meeting Minutes

May 8, 2019

Attendance: Tummona Fisher (PhilaPort), Dr. Joanne Walls (St. George's School), Regina Gorzkowski-Rossi (Friends of Pulaski Park), Vance Coulston (CSS International), Ryan Keller (Consultant), Ed Kradoska (JECA Corp.), Eva Gerrits (Energetek), Kristin BeDias (Energetek), Marnie Aument-Loughery (KICA), Steve Horton (RCA-NEDS)

The Meeting was convened at 9:00am.

The March Meeting Minutes were reviewed and approved.

Treasurer's Report: Submitted remotely by Bruce Richman. The M&T Bank Account Balance is: **\$12,995.38**.

A motion was made & approved to renew the RCA General Liability Insurance.

Committee Reports:

Safety/Security: No Updates. 24th Police District representatives did not attend. RCA is located within Police Service Area (PSA) #3.

Membership: This is the time to renew all 2019 memberships. Everyone was asked to speak with their business neighbors about RCA. Steve Horton continues to reach out to firms each month to encourage them to attend our meetings & become active in RCA.

Strategic Plan: No Updates. The current 5 Year Plan is posted on the Website. RCA continues to advocate for infrastructure improvements to connect Ontario Street & Delaware Avenue to improve the area business transportation needs.

Media/Public Relations: For I-95 Reconstruction Project Updates, Check: (www.95revive.com).

Website: Everyone was encouraged to regularly monitor RCA Information: (www.rcassociation.org). The Meeting Minutes, Membership Form & Business Resources information continue to be posted, and are available for review.

CLIP/Infrastructure Report: No Updates. Direct Issues & Concerns to: "311" (Calls accepted Mon.-Fri.: 8am-8pm and E-Mails accepted 24hrs.-7days a week at: (philly311@phila.gov)). Record the Tracking (Case) number. RCA & CLIP will follow up. All businesses and residents continue to report the chronic Shortdumping sites throughout the neighborhood. RCA appreciates the partnership with City Agencies. The organization supports legislation that will significantly increase penalties for violators. In

addition, RCA requests that City Video Surveillance Cameras be installed in the areas hardest hit. Everyone will need to continue being the “Eyes & Ears” by contacting “311” and/or “911” when incidents occur. The Energetek representatives made note of a Galveston, Texas model that utilizes a GIS system that helps in the tracking and enforcement of these types of situations. We will follow up with them to get more specific information & share with local Officials.

Old Business: Vance Coulston (CSS International) shared information again (March) about the:

PECO Instant Discounts for Business Customers

1 (844) 424-9728

www.peco.com/biz

Everyone was encouraged again to utilize the Business Security Camera Program (SafeCam). The City currently is covering 100% of the cost of Video Surveillance equipment & installation up to \$3000.00 in a target area that includes RCA. Two licensed & insured Contractor bids are required for the application.

For Program information contact: Maxine Ferguson, Commerce Dept. @ (215) 683-2047 & maxine.ferguson@phila.gov.

Vance Coulston (CSS International) mentioned again (November) that they used a local Vendor for the Camera Program:

Sommerville Electric

2542 E. Anne St.

Philadelphia, Pa. 19134

(215) 289-6563 (Denise or Bill)

New Business:

Guest Speakers: Eva Gerrits & Kristin DeBias (**Energetek**):

They made a presentation about Energetek services.

These partners work closely with a wide array of businesses and organizations to help them secure significant savings on their energy costs.

Their client services include a comprehensive and customized plan to review, navigate and access the various tax incentives, credits and other program resources. RCA companies who have utilized their services include: Neatsfoot Oil, Coating Development Group and CSS international. For more information contact: weare@energetek.biz.

Business Updates & Announcements:

PhilaPort has installed new Shipping Cargo Cranes at Packer Terminal.

The dredging of the Delaware River, 101 miles of shipping lanes to a depth of 45 ft., is almost complete.

St. George's School is operating as an independent educational Institution. The School is celebrating its Centennial (1920-2020) next year. The current enrollment is 146, with a goal of 160 students in the future. The ongoing fundraising efforts for the School will kick off with a Carnival in September.

Pulaski Park improvements have finally been completed. A ribbon cutting ceremony was held on April 30th. This is part of the vision for the "Richmond Immigrant Village" included in the City Planning Commission's River Wards Plan.

KICA, Harrowgate Civic Assoc. and other neighborhood partners continue to be very active in monitoring & voicing opposition to the proposed self-injection sites in the area. With the ongoing Opioid crisis, numerous meetings & conversations are taking place with Public Officials in order to create fair & reasonable policies, programs and solutions.

Future Meeting Guest Speakers may include:

Caitlin Rozman, Impact Loan Fund (Business Financial Resources)

Kelli Walsh, The Equity Project (Workforce Development & Job Placements)

The Meeting was adjourned at 11:10am.

Submitted by Steve Horton