

Richmond Corridor Association (RCA) General Meeting
Pulaski Park
Meeting Minutes

September 9, 2020

Attendance: Matt Flynn (Macro Energy), Michael Stepnowski (Stepnowski Bros. Inc.), Officer Cynthia Padua (24th PD), Officer Tina Willis (24th PD), Capt. Pedro Rosario (CO-24th PD), Officer Charmaine Hawkins (24th PD), Kristin DeBias (Energetek), Dan Martino (State Rep. Hohenstein), Steve Horton (RCA-NEDS)

The Meeting was convened at 9:15am.

Special Thanks to all of the Attendees who joined us at our Meeting in Pulaski Park.

The March Meeting Minutes were reviewed and approved.

Treasurer's Report: Submitted remotely by Bruce Richman. The Account is held in the Port Richmond Savings Bank. The current Balance is: **\$ 10,016.51.**

Committee Reports:

Safety/Security: The Captain & Officers provided an in-depth update. The 24th Police District is addressing a number of current challenges. The 24th Police District has some of the highest instances of shootings & homicides in the City. The 24th PD continues to deploy Officers to the target areas that are most impacted by these crimes. All of the City Police Districts share responsibility in providing Officers for the periodic Marches & Demonstrations. Live Stop has returned. So far, nearly 20 Vehicles, operated by illegal Motorists, have been confiscated. As We all know, there was looting in late May & early June in some of the commercial areas. The District has been supporting those businesses that were impacted. Overall though, commercial burglaries are down. Big Box Stores and Smaller Shops need to install Video Surveillance systems around their Facilities. Dirt Bikes, ATV's & Drag Racing continue to a problem on Friday & Saturday nights. The 24th PD has made a request for Speed Cameras to be installed in several locations. Members are encouraged to regularly report Emergency activities through the **"911" System.** For Non-Emergencies & Roll Call Alerts: Contact the 24th PD directly at **(215) 686-3240.** RCA is located within the 24th Police Service Area (PSA) #3.

Membership: Everyone was asked to renew the 2020 Memberships. Please speak with business neighbors about RCA. Steve Horton continues to send out regular updates about the various Business Assistance & Resources that are available to local Firms.

Strategic Plan: No Updates. The current 5 Year Plan is posted on the Website. Everyone was encouraged to review it. New Ideas are always welcome, as RCA creates a new brief update of the Plan.

Media/Public Relations: No Updates. For I-95 Reconstruction Project Updates, Check: (www.95revive.com). For ongoing Project information contact : **Pamela Conti, Project Manager (215) 209-1249 & c-pconti@pa.gov.**

Website: Everyone was encouraged to regularly monitor RCA Information: (www.rcassociation.org). We welcome Updates & Additions.

Old Business:

CLIP/Infrastructure Contacts:

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 help follow up. All businesses and residents are encouraged to continue reporting the chronic Shortdumping sites & other problems and issues throughout the neighborhood.

Business Security Camera Program (SafeCam): The Philadelphia Commrce Dept. has announced that the Program is presently Closed until further notice. For more information please contact:

Maxine Ferguson (City Commerce Dept.) at (215) 683-2047 & maxine.ferguson@phila.gov.

Impact Loan Fund: For more information please contact:

Caitlin Rozman (Impact) at (215) 739-1600 ex.137, (215) 651-4124 & crozman@impactservices.org.

Philadelphia City Planning Commssion: For more information please contact: **David Fecteau (City Planning Commission) at david.fecteau@phila.gov & (215) 683-4670**

Philadelphia Commerce Dept: Business Resources and Programs continue be available to businesses through the City throughout the current Crisis.

For more information please contact:

Javier Mojica (City Commerce Dept.) at javier.mojica@phila.gov & (215) 683-2170.

Old Business:

Kristin DeBias of Energetek provided another update of their services. Their Firm works closely with a wide array of businesses & organizations to help clients secure significant savings on their overall energy expenses. Their firm continues to provide a comprehensive & customized plan to review, navigate and gain access to various tax incentives, credits, rebates and other program resources. This includes a Sales Tax Exemptions for Manufacturing Firms and Comparing Peak & Off-Peak energy cost comparisons. RCA Firms taking advantage of this unique opportunity include: S.D. Richman, Nupro Industries (Neatsfoot Oil), CSS International and VIP Products Corp.

She also introduced Matt Flynn (Macro Energy). They handle LED lighting installation and cost analysis for commercial and industrial companies throughout the area. One of their local clients is: CSS International. These Firms continue to collaborate on a number Projects to assist & guide our Businesses.

For more information please contact:

Kristin DeBias (Energetek) at kristin@energetek.com & (610) 416-2829.

Matt Flynn (Macro Energy) at mflynn@macro-energy.com & (908) 616-2136

New Business:

Michael Stepnowski gave a brief account of the real challenges dealing with the Historical Commission. Out of the blue and without any direct communication with the Firm, one his buildings on Delaware Ave, was nominated for historic designation. This status would negatively impact Them and their Business Tenants. The hearing was held in August and the designation was approved, over their objections. The Company plans to appeal the decision. Let this be a warning to other Firms along the Waterfront.

Dan Martino encouraged RCA Firms to contact their Offices with questions and comments regarding State Business Assistance Programs & Resources available through the Pa. Dept. of Community & Economic Development & other Agencies. For more information please contact:

Dan Martino (State Rep. Hohenstein) at dmartino@pahouse.net & (215) 744-2600

Business Roundtable Announcements:

Everyone was encouraged to continue monitoring the COVID-19 situation very closely. Please continue to regularly Check all Media Outlets & Public Agencies for ongoing announcements & regular updates.

All of the attendees were given Personal Protection Equipment (PPE) Kits that were provided by the City of Philadelphia Commerce Dept.

The 24th Police District offered to host the next Meeting on Thursday November 12th.

The Meeting was adjourned at 10:25am.

Submitted by Steve Horton