



**RICHMOND**  
**CORRIDOR ASSOCIATION**

"Improving Port Richmond to help you  
focus on your business"

## **Minutes from the RCA General Meeting – October 10, 2012**

**Location:** Weber Display and Packaging (Weber)  
3500 Richmond Street, Philadelphia, PA 19134

**Attendees:**

George Groves – 3001 Castor Inc.  
Larry Dooling – PJ Dooling Tire  
William Hodgson – Weber Display & Packaging  
Mark Kochanowicz – Coating Development Group, Inc.  
Bruce Richman – SD Richman Sons, Inc.  
Alan S. Berg – Nupro  
Martha Doulas – Regal Int'l Leather  
Steve Horton – MAP – NEDS  
Matt Mullin – City of Philadelphia  
Steven Truong – Greendog Recycling  
John Toner – M & T Bank  
John Taintor – Port Richmond Self-Storage  
Ed Taintor – Port Richmond Self-Storage  
Rick Ellis – M & T Bank  
Marc Collazzo – Assistant to Representative John Taylor  
Lisa Blanco – Lithuanian Music Hall  
Bow Lewis – PRIDE  
Bob Borski – Delaware River City Corp (DRCC)  
Sam Friedman – Delaware Ricer City Corp (DRCC)

**Time:** 8:45 – 9:45 AM

1. Minutes from the September general meeting were self-read and approved.
2. Bruce Richman, Treasurer, announced that RCA's fund is \$18924. Sixteen (16) invoices were sent out and nine (9) returned. Bruce stated that invoicing a company seemed to work better than relying on the company to remember to pay. 23 out of 33 members whom are still in business have paid.
3. Steve Horton announced that the security camera proposal was approved by the City of Philadelphia and it is now on to Harrisburg. It would be at least a month until the award goes to the city and then on to RCA. Steve said "It's not a matter of if, but when". Marc Collazzo, a representative from John Taylor's office said that they will keep track of it in government so it doesn't get lost. It will probably be handled by the end of



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November. Liz Warden and Aldona Kartorie are the Pennsylvania DCED gatekeepers.

4. The membership handed Marc Collazzo a printed copy of RCA's strategic plan.
5. RCA's neighborhood cleanup is scheduled for October 20, 2012. 8 am-12 pm. Basecamp is at Bonk's Bar & Grille. Hoagies and beverages will be provided. We still have plenty gear (shovels, brooms, etc...) from previous cleanup events stored away. The police need to be informed so that we won't be accused of illegal dumping while performing our tasks.
6. An unknown man has been cutting the grass at 3501 Richmond Street.
7. Karl Iferet (610-716-4469) claims to own 3501 Richmond street property (former Gryphin Company & Gilbert Spruance Company). Architects representing Karl Iferet want to know what RCA would like to see on the site. The majority of the group, lead by George Groves, voted to not allow his group to meet with us at this time. There is an order to sell the property but there is always some kind of holdup due to multiple liens on the property.
8. The building on Richmond and Schiller streets is half demolished and sealed with cinder block and plywood. Nobody has an idea of what the plans are for the property.
9. Mimi Limbach contacted RCA president Larry Dooling to request she be granted an opportunity to pitch her mural arts program that helps people coming out of prison. The membership agreed to give her 10 minutes at the end of the next meeting.
10. The membership had a lengthy discussion on the topic of the best way to attract new members to the association. One notable highlight was the idea of the RCA president teaming up with UII/MAP President Steve Jurash to launch a program where a fee of \$3000 would be paid by RCA to a person from UII/MAP whom would dedicate a specific time to attracting members on RCA's behalf. Another intriguing idea was presented by George Groves. He suggested that RCA to apply for a Keystone Opportunity Zone (KOZ) for its geographical area. This may attract new businesses to settle in our region.
11. An overview of the meet and greet breakfast function with Councilman Bobby Henon (presented by UII/MAP) was given. Many business owners

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attended, some of which were from RCA. Bobby Henon claims to be a very strong proponent for manufacturing in Philadelphia.

12. Former Congressman Bob Borski, now with the Delaware River City Corporation (DRCC), spoke about the upcoming groundbreaking ceremony for the green trail that will be constructed along the river in Port Richmond. This is one segment in many of the East Coast Greenway grand scheme which has visions of running from Maine to Florida. Allegheny Avenue to Grant Avenue comprises our local portion. Mr. Borski praised political leader Allison Schwartz for her hard work in obtaining \$23 million from the federal stimulus funding for the project.
13. Lisa Blanco introduced herself as representative from the Lithuanian Music Hall. She suggested holding a business expo at the hall in which RCA businesses would participate. Ms. Blanco noted that a big fair was coming to the hall in November. More information can be found at: [www.tiny.cc/phillymusicHall](http://www.tiny.cc/phillymusicHall)
14. Steve Horton agreed to be interviewed in a promotional video being produced by Mark Kochanowicz (DBA Liberty Bell Films). The video will promote the benefits of RCA and be uploaded to the RCA Web site. More members were encouraged to be interviewed.

Meeting adjourned at 9:45 AM.

Minutes prepared by Mark Kochanowicz

Upcoming Meetings: December 12, 2012 at Weber Packaging and Display.