



www.italianvillage.org

P.O. Box 8001, Columbus, Ohio 43201

Meeting Minutes – January 13, 2009

Introduction of Society Members and Guests

There were 14 members and 7 guests present at the meeting, for a total of 21 people. All Board Members were present.

President's Comments

President Larry Totzke introduced the 2009 Italian Village Society Board Members and respective positions:

Larry Totzke, President
Raymond Schwab, Vice President,
Stephanie Harris, Treasurer
Emily Noble, Secretary

Larry announced that the IV Newsletter is now being distributed via an email program called 'Constant Contact'. He asked via a show of hands who did not receive the newsletter. Approximately 4 members did not receive the email. He will investigate the problem, and asked that they check their junk email folders.

Larry noted that there is an Italian Village Yahoo egroup, and encouraged all members to join if they have not yet. The egroup is a great 'immediate' way to share ideas and problems. It can also house files and photos for sharing/archival purposes. Both Janis Hott and Emily Noble are moderators. There is a link to the egroup on the main page of the IVS website.

Ibiza on High update – Rajesh Lahoti

Rajesh Lahoti joined us on behalf of the Ibiza on High construction update; they are waiting for the City of Columbus to pass an abatement for the parking garage construction. This is anticipated within the next several weeks. The overall estimated completion date is the of Summer 2010. The project will bring between 200-250 public parking spaces, plus private housing/parking, retail, fitness, and extraordinary views of the Village and the City (to name a few).

Art Al Fresco plans for 2009 – John Angelo

John Angelo spoke on behalf of the SNBA; Art Al Fresco will return August 15th, 2009. The 2008 event had around 35 performing artists, & 70 types of art installations, all of which were gone the following Monday. In 2009 they would like to see even more art, including 1-2 permanent pieces (mural, sculpture) – leaving a legacy in the Short North. Suggestions for the legacy and fundraising ideas are encouraged. John also distributed the SNBA Events Calendar, and commented that the next membership meeting will address crime in the neighborhood (possibility of more patrol, cameras).

Junior Achievement to occupy 2nd Avenue Elementary School

On January 5th, Junior Achievement was handed the keys to the 2nd Ave. Elementary School. Approximately 2500 students a year work with 'JA' to 'interact with business and to see how the real world operates'. The playground will be fenced off and maintained by the City of Columbus Parks & Rec. A member noted that the existing community garden is owned by the City – not by the school. This will be further investigated. JA is a great use for the school and a great addition to our neighborhood. Stay tuned for tour opportunities.

IV Commission Report

Jill Clark noted that the continued concern for the Commission is the Historic Preservation staff availability; there is not enough staff to attend Commission meetings. They are still discussing options, the heads of the Commissions are meeting monthly to talk about the issues, and Randy Black says his 'door is open' to talk about the coming agendas. Two items on the next agenda include: conceptual approval for a paved parking lot for the Taxi service at Summit and 5th, and an 'in-fill' project at 29 E. 5th that would combine entry with an adjoining building.

Italian Village Park Updtae

Signage and irrigation have been approved. Phase I has guaranteed funding; the other phases have not been priced, and need funding. Steve Hurtt noted that he has emails stating that irrigation will be in place for Spring 2009.

Approval of Minutes of November and December

The November and December 2008 meeting minutes were reviewed and approved.

Treasurer's Annual Report

The Italian Village Park Savings Account:

Opening Balance = \$10,825

Income = \$500 (C. Nohle grant), \$620 (Short North grant), \$678 (event sales) and interest of \$54.

Expenses = \$675 (Park Project), \$2547 (transfer to Checking)

Closing Balance = \$9455

The Italian Village Society Checking Account:

Opening Balance = \$5696

Income = \$565 (Membership), \$2233 (events), \$2547 (transfer from Park Acct.)

Expenses = \$1893 (events), \$2547 (Park Project)

Closing Balance = \$6601

Crime Report

Officer Steve Smith noted there were three retail burglaries (or attempts) of note this past month (Mary Catherine's, Planet Smoothie, Jenni's Ice Cream), and one Taxi driver was robbed. There was a knife used in at least two of these crimes, which is uncommon, and may link them. These crimes are being investigated. Steve reiterated that crimes of opportunity are common, and please get a good description if you see a crime (take notes immediately).

Announcements

- Jan 23-24 - SNBA sponsored Winter Clearance Sale
- Feb 7 – Short Stop Silent Auction
- 2009 IVS sponsored events
 - April 25 “Clean your basement”
 - May – Outdoor movie
 - June 9 – Annual Membership Picnic
 - September – Outdoor movie
 - October 9-11 – IVS booth at the Italian Festival
 - December 8 – Holiday Party and Election of 2010 Officers

Respectfully Submitted,

Emily Noble, Secretary