



www.italianvillage.org

P.O. Box 8001, Columbus, Ohio 43201

Italian Village Society Meeting Minutes – Sept. 11, 2012

Short Stop Youth Center

1066 North High Street

7:30 PM

Welcome and Introduction of Members and Guests

There were 10 members and 1 guest present at the meeting, for a total of 11 people. Board member, Stephanie Harris, was not attending. Each attendee of the meeting introduced themselves and stated their involvement in the neighborhood.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

The August meeting minutes were reviewed and approved.

Traffic and Parking Committee Update –Andy Klein and Mike Renner

The new person in charge of the Traffic and Parking committee is Andy Klein; Mike is focusing on other projects. The Permit Parking Working Group had a September 6th meeting with the city. Numerous Italian Village residents were in attendance. A sixty day time frame was set to amend the rules. Permits will be \$25 for the 2014 start date. Residents' issues with the amendments will be heard on September 26th from 3-5pm at the Goodale Park Caretaker's residents. Businesses and the issuing of permits will be a major point of discussion. A meter being installed west of Park St. is another point that will be discussed along with: Valet Parking, Data Collection, Parking Loads, uniform parking meter time limits, Smart Car parking, improving alleyways and Remote parking.

Larry Totzke volunteered to be on the committee, he also mentioned of the Fireproof variance request of 150 spaces. Being an immediate neighbor of the Fireproof development he was informed of the hearing. The retail space in the Short North has been approved for variances by the commission to establish commerce. He recommended that the society take a stance and ask the commission to say no to the parking variances. Property owners within 125 feet of the development should have got a notice of the hearing. He recommended the Society's stance on a moratorium of zoning /parking variances by letter to the commission. It was also brought up that the Norka site was approved for a 75 space variance. The society voted on and approved the writing a letter to the commission on the variance moratorium, but still adhering the standards set forth by zoning. A letter also will be drafted to the zoning commission.

Another letter is being sent to Randy Bowman at Traffic and Mobility asking to stop the issuing of permits to businesses and to follow its own regulations for residential zone parking of businesses. Mike will be writing the letter to Randy.

Block Watch & Crime Report –Amelia Constanzo

Amelia gave an overview of the Block Watch and the way it affects the neighborhood and district. All the neighborhoods in the Short North area have a Block Watch Set up with a captain to head up the watch. Harrison West needs a captain for their neighborhood. The high Street Corridor of the Short North is represented by the Short North Ambassadors.

New Short North Block Watch Decals were donated by Malcolm Riggie with static cling versus the sticker variety of past. To receive a decal register at the Short North Block Watch website and it will be mailed to you. Even if you are already registered follow the prompts to receive your new decal. They are also available at Block Watch meetings. The Block Watch and Civic Association are implementing a more awareness campaign.

Recently there have been some car break-ins this summer, and theft from porches. Concerns of people not being aware of surroundings and using cell phones as targets for theft have been raised. A murder occurred in the downtown area near the Marriot Renaissance and homelessness has been an issue.

A resident brought up the issue of panhandlers and asked if a law can be written to address them. The city has in place laws, such as: no panhandling after dark with so many feet of an ATM, parking lot and parking machines. The solicitors have found loopholes with the ‘sale’ of the ‘newspaper’. It was mentioned no vendors’ license is required of the solicitors. Verbal knowledge of statutes and laws give a clear message to the public with cheat sheets given to visitors and residents.

shortnorthblockwatch.org/

Membership Report – Mike Renner

Mike reported there 61 paid members, 79 voting members and 17 business members. (If you have not yet, you can join online, it is quick and easy. <http://italianvillage.org/JoinNow.html>)

Italian Village Park Update – Steve Hurtt

The irrigation system needs a replacement in the amount of \$350. There is a scheduled park clean up on Aug 29th with the Friends of Goodale Park. Chip Smith explained how enthusiastic the youth are about working in the parks in the neighborhood.

IV Commission Report –Jill Clark

Commission meetings are held at 109 N Front St at 6:15pm the third Tuesday of the month. The Jeffery Development at their special meeting came with many changes conceptually.

The development at East 2nd and North 6th has enough parking, while the Haller Building and East 4th Ave. and Mt. Pleasant will have variances or alterations.

Friends of Goodale Park – Andy Klein

New lanterns on Goodale Street at the Southgate were installed today. The Fountain had a higher volume pump installed by the city. The pump is moving 25 more gallons a minute. The Short North Tour of homes is this weekend.

Treasurer's Report – Stephanie Harris

No report this month.

Announcements

- The St. James Tavern and owner Michelle Hill are hosting a fundraiser for the IV Society on Monday Oct.1st with Food, Beer and Cocktails.
- Fall Flea will be held at the Seventh Son Brewery at 1101 N. 4th St. on Oct.7th.
- Italian Village T-shirts and Sweatshirts are available for sale at *What the Rock?!* And *PM Gallery*.
- The Board Candidates are being sought for next year. The slate will be requested in October and four officers will be elected in December.
- The Italian Village Festival is the first weekend in October.
- Highball will be held Oct.27th south of its previous locations next to the new Hilton Hotel and Greater Columbus Convention Center.
- Meeting minutes, complete with hyperlinks, can be viewed online at (<http://www.italianvillage.org/MeetingInformation>).

Respectfully Submitted,

Italian Village Society Secretary, Christopher Vidoni