



www.italianvillage.org
P.O. Box 8001, Columbus, Ohio 43201

Meeting Minutes – May 10th, 2011
Short Stop Youth Center
1066 North High Street
7:30 PM

Welcome and Introduction of Members and Guests

There were 12 members and 5 guests present at the meeting, for a total of 17 people. All Board Members were present.

Opening Comments

President Jared Wilson welcomed all members and guests. The standard 'who you are and your affiliation with Italian Village' went around to each guest and member. Special introductions to Amelia the New Block Watch Coordinator and Zachery Klein were extended. Zachary Klein was given the floor to give a short presentation on his role with council, his background and his role with the Italian Village.

Special Guest Columbus City Councilman and IV resident Zachary M Klein

Zach introduced his assistant Gretchen D James and gave some bio information on himself. He is from Belpre, Ohio and studied law at the Ohio State University. He was the CFO for Vice President Biden in DC. He worked in conjunction with Richard Codray and with the Development Committee. He currently works at the Jones/Day law firm and has been an Italian Village resident for 4 years living now on East Second Avenue.

He spoke of his role with Columbus City Council noting the work with Graffiti abatement. He spoke of what sister cities do to fight it and how it is an economic depressant. 311 was mentioned as a good way to address the issue and how it is a good way to communicate issues with city. Corporate leaders and Sherwin Williams are some of the ways to combat the issue. First and foremost is documentation and communication with Judge Hale. Keep Columbus Beautiful is a helpful entity and the Environmental Court is still hearing cases. Increases in funding for the Weed and Nuisance properties have been allotted for the summer season.

The Summer Teen Programs were mention as ways to provide activities and jobs for the 14 to 19 year olds in the city. Question arose about the money spent for Columbus Commons new park and the funding to reopen City Recreation Centers like. Milo-Grogan. Another point brought up by meeting attendees was: what are the priorities of the city vs. the Scioto Mile and Columbus Commons? How are the Capital Improvement Dollars spent and their allocation?

Mr. Klein, as part of the Development Committee of Council spoke of the Chambers Marketing Narrative, Keeping and bringing new companies to Columbus and the Regionalism concepts.

Andy Klein had an interesting point for the monies from the Spring-Sandusky interchange that were not spent for the Italian Village. Zach and Gretchen said they would check on it.

Council Member Klein can be reached at 645-5346 or at 90 West Broad St. 43215.

IV Commission Report – Per Jill Clark

No report. Jared was sent an email from Jill about the Pizzuti project. There are concerns for pedestrian, bus lines and side street effects if it breaks ground. Randy Bowman in Mobility will be speaking to the IV Commission.

Parking issues again reared their head and a Pizutti liaison in working in conjunction with the Short North Business Association and the Short North Civic Association.

Italian Village Park Update and more– Steve Hurtt

Clean ups and weeding will be held at the Italian Village Park on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays at 5:30.

Amici's List is the friends of Italian Village Park were interested parties can get more involved.

Approval of Minutes

The Minutes from April 2011 meeting were reviewed and approved.

Block Watch Report

Amelia Costanzo, the new Block Watch coordinator mentioned Facebook as a good way to contact the Watch. She emphasized "Do Not Keep anything in plain sight in vehicles."

Website Committee-Emily Noble

Emily is always looking for assistance or volunteers for the website committee any help is appreciated.

<http://www.italianvillage.org/TheItalianVillageSociety.html>

Membership Report – Mike Renner

Vice President Mike Renner reported a total of 89 members. (If you have not yet, you can join online, it is quick and easy. <http://italianvillage.org/JoinNow.html>)

Treasurer's Report – Stephanie Harris

As of May 9, 2011

Checking Opening Balance: \$5705.94

Expenses: Short North Foundation Goodale Park Music Series Donation, \$500.00

Closing Balance: \$5204.94

Park Fund Opening Balance: \$960.25

Income: Interest, \$0.08

Closing Balance: \$960.00

Announcements

- Interested parties for Italian Village Flyer distribution can contact Christopher Vidoni.
- A variety of activities at the Short Stop Center will be taking place. A play will be performed on May 13, 14th and 15th. The Fashionista Ball will be held on May 27th at 6pm at the Center.
- The Italian Village Movie Night will be held at the Italian Village Park on June 10th, 7:00pm.
- The Perennial Potluck will be held at the Goodale Park Shelter House on May 15th from 2-4pm.
- Meeting minutes, complete with hyperlinks, can be viewed online at (<http://www.italianvillage.org/MeetingInformation>).

Respectfully Submitted,

Christopher L. Vidoni, Secretary