



**SOSNA Board Meeting**  
Wednesday, May 25, 2011  
Meeting Begin: 7:00 PM  
Meeting End: 8:56 PM

Board Members Present: Aaron Cohen, Ryan Donnell, Kevin Gray (Vice-Chair), Desarrie McDuffie, Gus Scheerbaum (Chair), Betty Seymour, Michael Showell (Secretary), Peg Talbott-Lane, Paul Toner (Controller), Lauran Vidas

Board Members Absent: Daniel Chung, Jocelyn Hill (Corporate Secretary), Brian Lawson (Treasurer), Janet Lorenz, Mark Scott

Others Present: n/a

Mr. Scheerbaum called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

**Approval of April 27, 2011 Meeting Minutes**

*Ms. Talbott-Lane made a motion to approve the minutes as amended. Mr. Toner seconded the motion. The motion was approved.*

**Treasurer's Report**

Mr. Scheerbaum reviewed the Treasurer's Report enclosed in the SOSNA board packets, in light of Mr. Lawson's absence.

*Mr. Donnell made the motion to allocate 150.00 to help acquire a license for the Julian Abel Park Farmers' market. Ms. Vidas seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.*

**Initiative Reports**

***Clean & Green***

Ms. Talbot-Lane reviewed the Clean & Green Committee initiative update enclosed in the SOSNA Board packets.

*Ms. Vidas made a motion to allocate \$200.00 to purchase information door hangers for the SOSNA Street Scapes contest. Mr. Toner seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.*

***Community Impact***

The website training sessions are in the process of being scheduled during the month of June 2011, with Message Agency. Mr. Donnell reported that the Welcome Packet is in progress.

Mr. Donnell reported that the Friends of Chester has been working on their campaign to gain membership and interest in the SOSNA neighborhood.

Mr. Scheerbaum strongly suggested that all Board members, currently or having been related to a community impact project or issue, including the welcome packet, the website, schools group, etc. determine a time they can all sit down and coordinate with one another, preferably on a monthly basis.

***Development & Planning***

Mr. Toner gave the Development & Planning report in light of Mr. Chung's absence. The Toll Brothers' proposal maintained the focus of discussion at the last Zoning meeting.

Mr. Fineman's office has requested the Board review the latest invoice for 2301 Washington Ave. A discussion ensued pertaining to 2301 Washington Ave. and by consensus the Board resolves to have a special meeting to review the 2301 Washington Ave. invoices to determine the direction of the services going forth.

### ***Safety***

Mr. Donnell reviewed the Safety Committee initiative update as written in the SOSNA board packets.

Mr. Scheerbaum encouraged everyone interested to come to the next meeting to discuss the DesignPhiladelphia traffic calming and safety project as outlined in the initiative update.

### ***Economic Development***

Mr. Showell indicated that the Economic Development committee would like the Board to reconsider the position regarding outgoing correspondence on behalf of individual SOSNA committees, specifically dealing with conveying a position to the City (for instance, the ZBA).

A discussion ensued. The Board came to a consensus that the Board is unopposed to including a paragraph within the Zoning Committee's letter to the ZBA, pertaining to the Economic Development committee's stance with regard to a zoning application as pertinent and necessary. When the committee wants to share their position on a particular zoning application, they should do so by sending a memo detailing their committee's stance to the Zoning Committee Chair and the Chair will incorporate the committee's stance accordingly.

Mr. Toner stated that this would also apply to any SOSNA committee who wishes to submit pertinent information or opinion for inclusion within in the Zoning Committee Chairperson's letter to the ZBA about an application.

Mr. Scheerbaum updated the Board regarding the June 9<sup>th</sup> Economic Development Summit, which the South X Schuylkill committee has been planning in order to facilitate a proactive relationship between large property owners, political people, and the community.

### **General Meeting**

Mr. Donnell reminded the Board to promote and attend the June 8<sup>th</sup> school meeting, serving this month's General Meeting.

### **Evaluation of the Meeting Schedule**

Mr. Scheerbaum pointed out that based on the remainder of the agenda, the meeting will run longer than 8:30PM and asked board members to offer thoughts on prioritizing the remaining items. Board members all agreed by consensus that all of the remaining agenda items should be addressed at today's meeting as efficiently as possible.

### **Friends of Chester Arthur Update**

Mr. Donnell reported the Friends of Chester Arthur Elementary (educational foundation) is operating and hoping to achieve solidification through acquiring 501(c)3 status.

*Ms. Vidas made a motion to fund the full amount to fund the Friends Of Chester for full incorporation pending on a full break down of the costs involved. The motion was tabled, pending additional discussion and information.*

### **Zoning Committee Nominations and Timing**

Mr. Scheerbaum reminded the Board to seek nominations for the upcoming Zoning Committee appointments. Mr. Toner requested the Board ask for nomination in a formal manner through an e-blast to the membership for a wider selection of possible nominations.

A discussion also ensued about the timing of the Zoning Committee appointments. (Currently terms are two year staggered appointments starting and ending in July. By consensus the Board agreed that the Zoning Committee appointments and timing should remain in summer and should remain separate from the Board elections, specifically maintaining the appointments several months prior to and following the SOSNA Board elections.

The Board also resolved by consensus to tailor an e-blast to general membership, hoping to acquire additional resumes for the upcoming Zoning Committee appointments, as soon as Andrew Dalzell returns from vacation next week.

### **Anti-Litter Campaign**

Ms. Vidas presented a proposal for an Anti-Litter campaign as documented in the SOSNA Board packet as a means to tie a number of SOSNA initiatives into a more solid goal-driven, longer-term campaign.

Ms. Vidas requested detailed feedback from board members during the June SOSNA Board of Directors meeting.

### **PHA Update**

Mr. Toner notified the Board of a new attorney of record and updated the Board on the status of the case.

Board members agreed to continue a conversation regarding potential talking points via email within a period of two weeks.

### **Program Coordinator's Report**

The Board reviewed the report included in the Board Packet.

### **New Business**

Ms. Talbot-Lane gave a Blocktoberfest update. Ms. Talbot-Lane detailed the Blocktoberfest committee's plans going forward, and said the committee is looking to more strongly involve SOSNA as a potential means for fundraising for SOSNA.

Mr. Toner suggested that rather than making no progress regarding the Friends of Chester Arthur Elementary, that perhaps an initial allocation could be made to help get this group started.

*Mr. Toner made the motion to allocate \$500.00 to the Friends of Chester Arthur as start up money for the group to seek 501(c)3 status, with any other future allocations requiring a separate proposal. Ms. McDuffie seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.*

### **Adjournment**

*Mr. Gray made a motion to adjourn at 8:56 PM. Ms. McDuffie seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.*