

MINUTES
WEST CENTRAL GERMANTOWN NEIGHBORS
BUSINESS MEETING, MAY 27, 2019
131 West Walnut Lane

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 5:15pm, Russell Fulton, Secretary, presiding. Minutes of the previous meeting (March 27th) were summarily approved.

REPORT ON THE TREASURY:

In the absence of Denise Alexander, Treasurer (who is retiring from the position), Marjorie Russell offered the requisite report on the state of WCGN finances (\$5,569 in the kitty) and reiterated the collective decisions of the organization: a) to rely, henceforth, on voluntary donations and fund-raisers rather than on dues to support its activities; and b) to establish a contingency reserve fund of some \$5,000 to be stashed in an interest-bearing account until needed for unanticipated or emergency expenses.

Marjorie offered warm thanks to Denise for her three years of faithful service to the organization, further announcing that Johan de Jong has volunteered to act as interim treasurer, pending October elections.

ZONING ISSUES: Luke Smith, Chair, provided updates regarding:

- The Mosaic Partners project to be constructed on the wooded area opposite the train station. The developers have been more co-operative and responsive to the community than is actually required by the zoning code, agreeing to scale down the proposed facility from 100 rental units to 38-40 condominium units. The plot plan as shown calls for maintaining a generous amount of green space and mature trees.
- The proposed installation of an addiction-recovery rehabilitation facility in the rear of a storefront property at the corner of Greene Street and Chelton Avenue. A number of public meetings have been held, but with insufficient representation of the WCGN RCO. Another meeting was to be scheduled; members were urged to turn out.

At Luke's invitation, Jill Saull reported on the controversy surrounding proposed adaptive re-use of the Germantown High School and Fulton School parcel. Meetings with the owner/developer have so far

proved frustrating, but incremental progress is being made. Anyone wishing to participate in related (working!) committee activities may contact Jill or Julie Stapleton-Carroll for further information.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE, Roberta Moore, Chair:

- Reported on the successful neighborhood "clean-up day" in conjunction with the annual citywide effort on May 4th, and on WCGN sponsorship of the May 7th presentation regarding stormwater management by the city water department.
- Announced that volunteers were still needed and donations of goods for sale were still welcome for the massive, community-wide yard sale scheduled for June 8th. Able-bodied helpers were asked to contact Melissa Wellington; and those donating goods to contact Luke Russell or Tom Schwartz.
- Outlined future goals of the committee, to include: a continuing effort to recruit more members to the organization; establishing a monthly eNewsletter; working with Beth Emmott to make critical adjustments to the WCGN website; and assembling and maintaining a welcoming packet for new arrivals to the neighborhood.

GARDEN COMMITTEE: Marjorie Russell made her annual appeal for sign-ups to the Tulpehocken Garden summer watering and weeding volunteer brigade.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Russell Fulton took a few moments to update the group on the city planning commission's Philadelphia 2035 effort, which is moving rapidly into the implementation phase. He followed up by talking about the city's recycling crisis, which is caused by improper and careless disposal of trash and recyclables by city residents, urging attendees to be more mindful of the rules. See <https://www.philadelphiastreet.com/recycling/>.

SAD FARWELL:

Marjorie imparted the regrettable news that longtime residents Linda and Steve Corsover are leaving the community for their new home in Mt. Airy. Both have been active in WCGN affairs for decades, graciously opening their house every year for the October potluck and

business meeting; and Linda has served tirelessly in various positions on the board. Linda addressed the group briefly and warmly about her affection for the community and promised to visit often.

NEXT MEETING: The October Potluck Supper and Business Meeting will take place on Sunday, October 6th, commencing, as usual, at 3:00pm. As the Corsovers will no longer be with us, Fauzia and Zamir Garcia have generously offered to host (128 West Tulpehocken).

ADJOURNMENT: There being no objection, the meeting was adjourned at 6:00pm.

Respectfully submitted,
--Russell Fulton, Secretary