PO Box 4667, Philadelphia, PA 19127

Next Meeting: May 7, 2008

May 2008

the council crier

MNC Elections – As a result of last months election, the new MNC board will be Kevin Smith, president; John Hunter, vice president; Mark Turtle, treasurer; Keith Newman, recording secretary; Jane Glenn, corresponding secretary; Rob Lamendola, sergeant at arms; Susan Shimp, trustee; Charlie Hewins, trustee; Erika Orsulak, trustee; Hilary Langer, trustee.

Mayor Nutter's Philly Spring Cleanup - A big thanks to the over 170 volunteers who came out to Manayunk for the Mayor's Cleanup. Many more volunteers also participated in other projects in the area.

Zoning

132-134 Gay Street – The developer proposed three homes at last months meeting.



St. Davids side

MNC opposed the design and proposed.

1) No more than 2 homes. 2)
R-10A

guidelines for height, lot coverage, setbacks, etc.. 3) No garages on Gay Street. The zoning hearing was set for April 9. The hearing



228 Hermitage

was continued to May 14 at 2 pm. Calendar number 4535. We have not been contacted by the developer since the continuance.

228 Hermitage – This proposed multi-family conversion has been continued to June 10 (9:30 am, Cal no 3974). The developer will meet

with our zoning committee later this month (May).

104 Wright Street - This project went to zon-

ing, April 23, with MNC's support. However, the decision was held



for two weeks to allow Ridge Park Civic to comment. This is an area, long part of Manayunk Neighborhood Council's area of focus. Ridge Park Civic Association recently claims to have extended their boundaries and now claim this traditional MNC area. We do not acknowledge or accept RPCA's extended boundaries. We don't know the final decision of the zoning board.

106-110 Grape Street – Maximum Development is bringing, to the May meeting, their modified design for a four-story office building on Grape Street. The MNC zoning

committee has met with



Maximum and is still opposed to the building as proposed. The Historical Commission staff and Architectural Committee have recommended against the demolition of the one house on the site, but are not opposed to the demolition of the garages. MNC is still requesting a reduction to three floors. A possible alternative is a setback on the top floor to reduce the street-level apparent height.



Zoning -- Continued from Page 1

4367 Main - Coopers Wine Bar's has run into trouble with the Historical Commission. Last November, in support of Bruce Cooper, we wrote Manayunk Neighborhood Council supports the demolition of the existing facade but does not implicitly approve arbitrary replacement. The replacement facade must be reviewed and approved by the Historical Commission staff. We suggest that the replacement facade should incorporate three dimensional elements. The new design should contribute to, and enhance, the unique character of Main Street. This sentiment was also echoed in a support letter from State Representative Kathy Manderino. Mr. Cooper has not discussed his facade design with us. The Historical Commission staff and

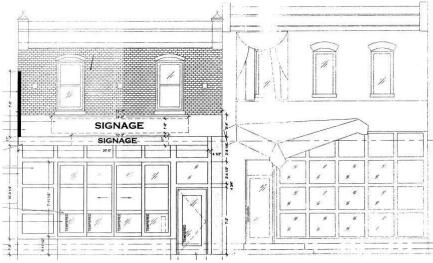
227 Krams - Developer Dan Neducsin is proposing 33 one-bedroom units at the end of Krams Ave. below Silverwood. He presented plans at the March meeting. Details were in the April newsletter. After talking to neighbors and reviewing the plans, the zoning committee is recommending that MNC oppose the project. The building, as proposed, towers over it's neighbors, blocks the views of existing homes, and greatly overcrowds the lot. The development provides no amenities and appears designed as dorm room housing. The zoning committee has determined that the design cannot be fixed and should be rejected outright. The committee suggest that any residential development on the site should conform to R-10A guidelines (most of

Architectural Committee have recommended

denial of his proposed facade. Mr. Cooper is

May 9th.

scheduled to go before the full commission on



Cooper's Wine Bar and Jakes - Proposed Facade

Manayunk). This primarily means twins and row homes no more than 35 feet tall (usually three stories).

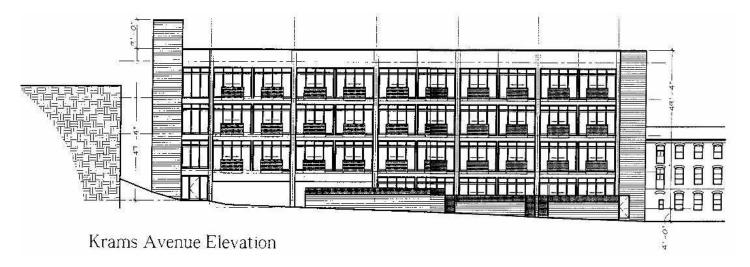
4433 Main/Artesano – Artesano Gallery will need zoning to install a kitchen. L&I is requiring a restaurant license but the kitchen will be used only for catering art events in the gallery. The owner has indicated a willingness to sign an agreement limiting the use.

3 Rector Street - We have filed our brief in our appeal to the commonwealth (state) court. Hearings are not yet scheduled.

1 Leverington/Venice One – We are still waiting for the zoning board to file it's Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law in our common pleas (city) appeal of this project. The city is several weeks overdue.

Other News

Bike Racks – The city will be installing a total of 61 bike racks on Main Street and 36 on Ridge Avenue in Roxborough. Installation will be this summer but the schedule has not been set.



Kevin called the meeting to order at 7:30.

Elections were held and Kevin was re-elected as President. The other positions were not contested. Bylaw changes were introduced, to be voted on at the next meeting. The changes clear up some technical details in the bylaws. They also move elections to November, establish rules for use of the membership list, and add protections for the organization.

Joy Griffin, a nominee for president, read a statement. She noted that her mother was founding member of the MNC in 1973. Joy asked us to be more vigilant in fighting insensitive development and maintaining a strict control on liquor businesses, which increase crime and promote party houses in the area.

Erika informed us about the Mayors Clean Up Project. There will be projects underway at Kendrick Rec Center, the Canal, North Light, under the R6 at Leverington and at small parks around the area.

All parking lots operated by the MDC except for the one on Green Lane are free Monday - Thursday day until 3:00 PM. The MDC will also be encouraging businesses to open up facing the towpath to increase business and promote use of the towpath and canal area by residents and shoppers.

Red Bull Soapbox Derby will take place in the fall and a community meeting will be held to discuss the event on Thursday April 24th.

Bike Racks are coming to Main Street. There will be parking for 50 - 60 bikes.

Zoning:

227 Krams - Dan Neducsin plans to build 33 units on Krams Ave. Our zoning committee met and decided not to support this project. Neighbors had attended a previous general meeting and also were very much against this project. Erika motioned to support the zoning committee's recommendation; it was seconded and passed unanimously.

132- 134 Gay St. - Craig Slater of SRK Architects representing owners Lori and John Crespa, presented a plan to build 3 homes each with a 1-car garage on a lot only large enough for two homes. After much discussion, and with some residents from the immediate area present, Neighbors voted not to support variances that would allow for three homes on the property. The zoning committees recommendation of two homes only was voted on and supported.

228 Hermitage We are waiting for more information on this proposal but we are opposed in principal to the conversion of a single family home into a multi-family home.

The meeting adjourned at 9:15



MANAYUNK NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP FORM January 1, 2008 to December 31, 2008

				,
\$5 Student/Senior	\$15 Household		\$100 Patron	
\$10 Individual	\$50 Business or Supporter		\$ Other	
Name:		Phone:		
Address:		Email:		
City, State, Zip:		Date:		
Signature:				

May 10 - Second Saturday on Main Street. Event to support PAWS. See www.manayunk.org

May 17 9:30 AM - 12:00 PM -

Philadelphia Cares Day planting event with Friends of Manayunk Canal-Meet at the Venice Island Rec Center. See www.manayunkcanal.org

May 25 10 AM & 1 PM - New season of kayak tours leaving from the dock behind the brewpub. Tours are \$50. Contact Gwen Cohen, The Schuylkill Project, to reserve your space (215)-482-9565x204 or gcohen@manayunk.org

June 7 - The Bike Race
June 28-29 - Manayunk Arts Festival
September 6 - Red Bull Soap Box Derby



MNC BOUNDARIES (per bylaws of 1999)

- a. The territory of representation of the Council shall be the boundary as defined by the 21st Ward of Philadelphia. The territory of representation will be designated for the purpose of membership, community outreach, and mutual support.
- b. The territory of focus, will be the boundaries as defined by the Schuylkill River to the West, Ridge Avenue to the South, Manayunk Avenue to the East, and Fountain Street to Smick Street then LaMonte Street to the North. The territory of focus will be designated for the purpose of defining a core location for projects, actions, and responsibilities.
- c. The Council may work on projects solely, in conjunction with, or forward them to other civic groups or organizations within the representation or focus territory as decided by the Executive Board, general, or special meetings.

PLEASE READ AND PASS ALONG TO YOUR NEIGHBOR

MNC BOARD

Kevin Smith, President
John Hunter, Vice Pres.
Mark Turtle, Treasurer
Keith Newman, Rec. Sec.
Jane Glenn, Corres. Sec.
Rob Lamendola, Sgt/Arms
Susan Shimp Trustee
Charlie Hewins, Trustee
Erica Orsulak, Trustee
Hilary Langer, Trustee

215-482-5528 - mail@manayunkcouncil.org www.manayunkcouncil.org

Next Meeting:

Wednesday, May 7

7:30 PM

Venice Island Rec Center

