Manayunk Neighborhood Council



Next Meeting: September 2, 2009

PO Box 4667, Philadelphia, PA 19127

September 2009

the council crier

Meeting Location ★★ Venice Island Rec Center ★★ Cotton and the Canal

MNC Board Elections -- Elections are scheduled for the November meeting. Nominations will be at the October meeting. Individual Members, paid in full by the October general meeting, will be permitted to accept nominations for office. Please join and con sider getting involved.

The **September Meeting** will be held at the Venice Island Rec Center. The Rec Center was due to be demolished this fall. The date has been pushed back to spring 2010. We are still looking for a long term home once the reconstruction begins.

170 Grape Street - A local resident, Henry Bailey,



wants to build three homes at 170 Grape St. Mr. Bailey needs minor dimensional zoning variances. He will be presenting his plans at the September meeting.

170 Grape Street

(www.bing.com)

New Restaurants - Two new restaurants are pro-

Big Sky Bakery - Whole grain bread and baked goods.

http://www.farmtocity.org

greens, scallions and fresh herbs. Mt. Pleasant Farm - Watermelon, cantaloupe, blueberries, cherries, peaches, apples, sweet corn, tomatoes, hot peppers,

farmers year round th good local food

string beans, lima beans, zucchini, cucumbers, eggs and flowers. Also bringing canned goods and cheese from grass-fed cows on a nearby farm.

Manayunk Farmers Market

Saturdays from 10 A.M. till 2 P.M.

Canal View Park, Main Street

(near Gay and Main)

From Saul High School - Heirloom

Eggplants, Heirloom tomatoes, cherry

tomatoes, squash blossoms, summer

squash, potatoes, carrots, cucumbers,

beets, cabbage, cooking greens, salad

posed for Main Street. Agiato "a European style cafe inspired by the Panino and Enotecas found throughout Italy" and Rubb a "punk-rock barbecue inspired by classic barbecue joints throughout America". Agiato plans to open with a liquor license while Rubb hopes to get one eventually. Both plan to say open till 2 am. We hope to have them at the October meeting. Please attend to voice your opinion.

Tonic Beer Takeout / Note from the President - Tonic Bar at 4421 Main St., aka Yunkers, applied for a beer takeout license. Over the summer break I negotiated an agreement with Yunkers to limit their takeout to 12 midnight. A notice must be posted for employees and on any take-out advertising, that there are no sales after 12 midnight. It was my intent that our last meeting (June) be a referendum on whether or not we do agreements as policy. Members voted not to support the proposed Foodery beer take-out store but no conclusion was reached on the bigger picture. Members also voted, as described in the minutes, to oppose any take-out by Tonic/Yunkers, something I, unfortunately, forgot when I rushed to get the midnight limit. This highlights the need for a well defined and consistent liquor policy. Kevin, President

Quality of Life - Minutes of June 17 Meeting

The second Quality of Life Intra-Civic Community meeting was held June 17, 2009 at the Roxborough Development Corporation. Denys Davis represented Saint Joe's University, Dean Mark Govoni represented Philadelphia University, Brittany Horn represented Councilman Jones's office. Sadly no one from Licensing and Inspection (L&I) was present.

We were informed Councilman Jones is very big on the Block Captain idea. The concept of a Block Captain was discussed and while not fervently applauded, it was agreed we would try and designate Block Captains for our neighborhoods. In order to become an official block captain, an interested party needs to register with the Philadelphia More Beautiful Committee (PMBC), a division of the Streets Department. Block officers are divided by police districts. The representative for the 5th is John Barnett 685-3976. Mr. Barnett can further explain procedures necessary to become an official block captain.

Ms. Davis informed us as to the history of the Educational Housing Law which was proposed by then Councilman Nutter. It applies only to the Fourth District which is the home of both St. Joes and Philadelphia University. It is this law which designates only three non-related individuals per house, regulates student behavior, and requires that all units rented to college students be registered with the colleges. This was encouraging to us as we discussed the possibility of an overlay applying to the rental district closest to Main Street.

Don was assigned the task of investigating the reality of creating an overlay district.

Ms. Davis also gave us a list of properties renting to students with known violations. It was suggested everyone contact her office with information on units being rented to St. Joe students. As of this date the Councilman's office is following up on properties in violation with a letter to Commissioner Burns. It will include the list and demanding enforcement on those properties that are being used as multi-family units but have zoning for single family.

We also learned that a law is already on the books that a house cannot have more than two cars parked on the street.

Dean Govoni informed us Philadelphia University would initiate a good neighbor campaign for its students. He also suggested the Police need a good enforcement strategy such as patrolling high rental neighborhoods twice a week as school re-opens and enforcing violations such as litter, illegal parking, and excessive noise. The suggestion was greeted with approval and Friday nights were suggested as a target night.

Rob was placed in charge of developing a welcoming brochure for new residents to our area.

Darlene suggested we contact Councilman Jones and ask signs be posted in high rental residential neighborhoods promoting a quiet clean community. Keith was assigned this task.

Hilary was assigned the task of providing examples of what a rental contract with nuisance clauses written into it looks like.

JOIN US FOR PARK(ing) Day 2009 FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 18

Friday, September 18, 2009 is National Park(ing) Day, an event where activists, artists, architects and other citizens will transform metered parking spaces into temporary public parks.

"By turning parking spaces into instant parks, National Park(ing) Day is a creative way to demonstrate the real need to create more parks in our cities. Across America, cities are renewing their investments in parks because our civic leaders have come to recognize that close-to-home parks, gardens, and playgrounds are essential if we are to have cities that aren't just livable, but loveable," says Will Rogers, president of the Trust for Public Land. "The quality of our daily experience is enhanced by places that get us in touch with nature, with each other, and with ourselves."

Manayunk Neighborhood Council is partnering with Ivy Ridge Green to setup our Park(ing) space In front of La Columbe coffee shop at 4360 Main Street. Come out and enjoy our Park!

Kevin called the meeting to order at 7:30

Bike Race - Officer Kline updated the neighbors on Bike Race festivities. He reported the hill climb for amateurs is canceled this year due to the budget crunch. He reported the number of police on sight will be the same as last year. They will begin arriving Saturday night to prevent the midnight downhill. More trash receptacles are expected to be available than in previous years. L&I will be on the lookout for houses charging admission.

St. Josephat's: The development of this former school calling for 30 units was approved by the Zoning Board of Adjustments for only 22 units.

The Foodery - Owners of the Foodery who operate two establishments, in Old City and Center City, are hoping to expand to Manayunk. They are primarily a take out beer establishment featuring over 800 beers from all over the world. They have agreed to deed restrictions, closing early seven nights per week.

Bars are required to apply for a separate license for takeout liquor. The question is do we want take-out beer sales as is happening at Munchies and other places in recent months.

A Main St. retailer suggested that if we allow one take-out beer establishment we will be opening the floodgates for take-out beer to explode. Several members of the business community expressed hesitancy about advocating for take-out beer sales.

Questions were asked about their chances for success if we opposed. It is believed the chances are high. It could not open without our support. The retailer pointed out how there is currently a lack of enforcement on Main St. Several neighbors reported Cactus removes tables at 10 PM in order to become a bar, against the deed restriction previously negotiated with us.

Another retailer suggested an establishment like "The Foodery" would not be good for his or other businesses on Main Street.

A member suggested that right now we need to oppose more alcohol sales. Only when things are under are control can we take advantage of opportunities such as this. Much discussion was held including the big question as to why public intoxication laws are not being enforced. A motioned for a vote against The Foodery was made and seconded. The rules for voting were explained. The vote in opposition to The Foodery passed.

Waterford Apts - Kevin updated the neighbors concerning the proposal. There is not much disgruntled members can do now to fight this development as it is the appeals process. MDC members joined MNC members in supporting a hotel as opposed to more apartments.

New Business - A member spoke about forming a joint committee to fight the alcohol problem in Manayunk. Members present of both MNC and MDC supported this call. Discussion followed about how to create this joint venture. This discussion boiled down to what to do about Munchies. Someone suggested we call 311. He further suggested we form a Quality of Life Committee to deal with issues such as the ones occurring at Munchies and Cactus.

A retailer asked how we can oppose Tonic who is filing for a take-out beer license. Any organization within 500 feet can file a protest. A motion was made to oppose Tonic's take-out. It passed unanimously.

A member asked how we can insure our neighborhoods are not wrecked on busy bar nights. Discussion followed. It was pointed out we now have residents of every civic and the business community united to fight the late night nuisance problem.

A retailer pointed out that bars were expected to hire police and help solve their own problems but it never happened. The MDC apparently lacks the will make positive change in this area.

A resident spoke about parking on Mallory Street, which is illegal. He asked what can be done to develop a safe parking system. He was advised to go through the city councilman's office.

Chris reported the work on lvy Ridge Trail is proceeding very nicely. Work on the Manayunk Bridge is coming along well. Chris asked for a letter for support and it was agreed to unanimously.

Erika reported the farmers market will open on Main Street June 13th.

We will not meet in June and August. The meeting adjourned at 9:22.

MANAYUNK NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP FORM January 1, 2009 to December 31, 2009

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

EVENTS

Sept 2 - MNC meeting, 7:30 pm at the Venice Island Rec Center

Sept 5, 12, 19, 26 - Farmers Market; 10 am to 2 pm, every Saturday, Canal View Park,

Sept 18 - Parking Day - 4360 Main Street (in front of La Columbe Coffee)

Oct 7 - MNC meeting

MNC BOARD

Kevin Smith, President John Hunter, Vice President Susan Shimp, Treasurer Keith Newman, Rec. Secretary Liz Gabor, Trustee Jane Glenn, Corres. Secretary

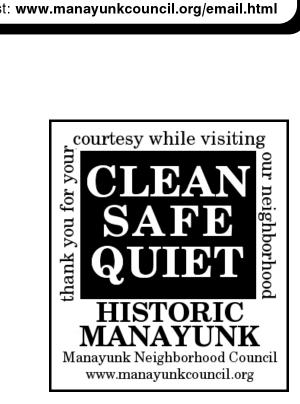
Rob Lamendola, Sgt/Arms Charlie Hewins, Trustee Hilary Langer, Trustee

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

Stay informed of current events by joining the MNC email list: www.manayunkcouncil.org/email.html



Parking Day 2008 on Main Street



Venice Island Rec Center 7:30 PM Wednesday, September 2 Next Meeting:

