



www.italianvillage.org

P.O. Box 8001, Columbus, Ohio 43201

Meeting Minutes – March 8, 2011

Welcome and Introduction of Members and Guests

There were 16 members and 1 guest 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, and thanked attendees for coming to the meeting. He also asked attendees to introduce themselves and mention their favorite part of spring.

Summer Music Series

Music Series information and photos were passed around to the members to view. Past donations have been made from the society to help with costs. Larry motioned to donate \$500 to the series. Steve Hurtt seconded and motion passed. Food vendors at the events were also briefly discussed.

IV Commission Report – Per Jill Clark

The Pizzuti boutique hotel project is having a meeting March 29th at 6 PM at 109 North Front St. Rezoning will be dealt with this summer. A concern of loss of parking during any construction was brought up, the loss of parking for 18 months during construction of the hotel and garage is an issue, and the residents need to be proactive.

21 E Fifth Ave has submitted documents for conceptual review.

Steve Hurtt, announced that the Short North Guidelines first draft is completed. There are no maximum height restrictions. Larry submitted a draft copy for the archives. The draft showed flexibility and structural integrity which allowed for different designs. Randy Black is one of the Stakeholders.

Italian Village Park Update – Steve Hurtt

Steve reported that monies for the Weed and Feed treatments will be needed for the Christopher Columbus Square and the Italian Village Park. Also funds are needed to activate the Park sprinklers.

Ideas for more grants/money for the park were brought to the floor. Columbus Foundation should be contacted and Stephanie mentioned KaBOOM! a national non-profit dedicated to saving play for America's children with donations and grants.

http://kaboom.org/about_kaboom/our_mission_vision

Doug motioned for the \$932 be used from the park fund for the necessary treatments, Jill Clark seconded and motion passed. Emily Noble offered assistance in writing grants for the park.

Graffiti Abatement- Dwain Bryant and Ian MacConnell

Ian from the University district gave an informative presentation of the challenges in dealing with graffiti. Spray paint can not be purchased by minors, with an issue at the Lowe's home improvement store with their specific brand. Homeownership seems to have an influence on the amount of graffiti. The University District has approximately 13 percent home ownership. To combat graffiti residents should be proactive with code enforcement, use the 311 city site to report occurrences, send letters to city council members and president and assist victims with resources. Mr. MacConnell noted that letters and documentation have an influence judges, council and their liaisons. A proposal for increased penalties for offenders will be held at 3pm April 7th, 2011 at City Hall.

Grants for community improvement are due March 31st and May 31st and can be allocated for improvements concerning graffiti. Clear coating on murals and signs is important step in preserving and protecting against the vandals.

Some certain groups 'sign' their handy work with certain initials i.e. PBJ crew, HWC and JDC. Omnimix.com can be a tool in prosecution of perpetrators. Recommendations for contacting Keep Columbus Beautiful were encouraged for neighborhood clean ups.

Dwain from Graffiti Be Gone spoke of his company and his battle with graffiti. He started Graffiti removal services in 2007, and has a Graffiti protection plan. His clients include many businesses and realty companies. His web site is graffitibgone.biz and his phone is 614-774-0280. They offer a \$35 protection program which is billed on a quarterly basis.

His company offers Quick and 100% removal. He recommended neighbors get involved in abatement. The use of cameras operating or not are useful, but vandals need to be caught in the act for prosecution.

Block Watch Report – Nick Wawrzyniak

Nick is stepping down from the Block Watch Coordinator position and they/we are actively seeking a replacement.

Website Committee-Emily Noble

Emily mentioned assistance or volunteers for the website committee would be appreciated.

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

Crime Report – Officer Steve Smith

Officer Smith reported that it has been quiet, but Auto thefts continue to be of concern.

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

**Italian Village Treasurer's
Report – March 2011**

As of Jan. 4,
2011

Checking Opening Balance: \$7,020.93

Income:

Total Income \$ 0.00

Expenses:

Friends of
Goodale
Park \$1,000.00
Web Site
maintenance \$ 239.99

Total Expenses \$1,239.99

Closing Balance \$5,780.94



**Park Fund Opening
Balance: \$1,208.01**

Income:
Interest 0.08

Total Income 0.08

Expenses

Peabody
Landscaping \$ 95.00

Total Expenses \$ 95.00

Closing Balance: \$ 1,113.17

Approval of Minutes

The Minutes from January 2011 meeting were reviewed and approved.

Announcements

- May movie fundraiser is in the works with possible comedy being shown.
- Andy has matched the Italian Village donation to the Friends of Goodale Park fountain fund in the total amount of \$5,000. The donation in the IVS name will be commemorated with other local organizations on donors wall near the fountain.
- Society Member Steve Hurtt is nominated for the Short North Unsung Heroes Award, Event is to be held May 1st.
- Meeting minutes, complete with hyperlinks, can be viewed online at (<http://www.italianvillage.org/MeetingInformation>).

Respectfully Submitted,

Christopher L. Vidoni, Secretary