



The Source

Hawthorne Empowerment Coalition

Your Source for News and Views in YOUR Community

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March / April, 2002

Ready, Willing & Able – Philadelphia Grand Opening Dinner & Ribbon Cutting Ceremony



More photo's inside.

Next HEC General Meeting April 9th

There were issues raised, which remain unresolved, at the Community Zoning Meeting on held on March 6th and at the NAC Services Area Briefing on March 19th. In an effort to address such issues concerning zoning, demolition and redevelopment in our community, HEC has invited Councilman DiCicco, Councilman Goode, Kenny Gamble and an official (name and title to be announced at a later date) from the Department of Licenses and Inspections to the April 9th General Meeting. Councilman DiCicco has confirmed his commitment to attend and agreed to facilitate the attendance of Kenny Gamble of Universal Companies and an official from the Department of L&I.

Representatives of surrounding community groups (Bella Vista Town Watch, Bella Vista United Civic Association, Queen Village Neighbors Association, and Washington Square West Civic Association) have all been invited and are expected to attend this meeting. The other community groups also have questions and concerns which, to date, have not been resolved at any of the prior meetings. As such, these groups continue to network with HEC and lend their continued support, in-

Continued on page 2

Next HEC Meeting

Tuesday, April 9, 2002

at "The Arts Bank", 7:30 P.M.

From the President

We were planning to focus for the next few months on the issue of Committee Development. Due to unforeseen circumstances involving major and growing concerns with regard to zoning, demolition and redevelopment in our community, it may actually take a few months before we can resume the regular, day-to-day business of HEC.

Our very first standing committee, the Zoning and Code Enforcement Committee, busy since its inception about a year ago, really has had to step up to the plate and address pressing zoning issues over the past few weeks. A combined and expedited zoning hearing on February 27th involving 14 parcels of land required and continues to require hands-on processing of important and often complex information related to zoning issues currently taking place in our community. As such, the Zoning & Code Enforcement Committee is no longer a developing committee. It is a fully functioning committee with increased responsibility, serviced by a very dedicated group of community volunteers.

Still in development and looking for members are the following committees:

Beautification

Web-Site Development

Fundraising

I learned during a recent Executive Committee meeting of a recommendation to form a Finance Committee. A committee to make financial recommendations is one that is definitely needed as we go about the business of creating the internal structure of this organization. The most important thing I wish to share with you about committee development is this: as you think about and recommend the committees needed for HEC to grow, please also think about the importance of serving on one or two of these committees. It will be through the committees that your ideas will be cultivated, harvested and translated into the array of programs and services that are needed in our community.

So when you think about committee development as we continue to move forward with building a strong foundation from which to address the many issues and concerns we face in this community, please also think about what you can give in terms of service to make these committees function. It is the collective effort of us all that will allow HEC to be able to continue its important work for years to come.

Although we did not have the opportunity to address the topic of committee development at the March meeting due to a scheduled Service Area Briefing with Queen Village, it will be a major agenda item as soon as we are able to resume a regular general meeting schedule.

In the meantime, I am looking forward to your input and participation.

Raydell Fisher

General Meeting

Continued from page 1

terest and experience to our Zoning Committee, which is greatly appreciated.

Our primary goal is to establish a working relationship with the developer, one that will be on-going and inclusive in terms of planning, information sharing, recognition as a neighborhood association, and timely notification with regard to development in our community. We will be asking, among other things, that the developer be forthcoming, trustworthy and ultimately a good neighbor to us as we continue to take steps toward mending a severely damaged relationship.

HEC has compiled an advanced list of topics and some specific complaints to be addressed at this meeting in order to use the limited amount of time we'll have in an efficient and well-organized manner. If you want to contribute to this list by submitting your questions or concerns in advance, please call the HEC office at 215-468-6270 and either state your issue on the voice mail or leave your name, and number for a call back.



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COMMITTEE DEVELOPMENT

The Purpose of Forming Committees

by Patricia Bullard

A primary purpose of forming committees is: committees reflect our shared vision for Hawthorne. For example, there were people from the community who saw the need to expand oversight of new business and housing. The HEC Zoning and Code Enforcement Committee was formed to meet that need. The Zoning Committee became HEC's first standing committee. Today, there are those who want to beautify. A Beautification Committee is being formed to meet that need. There are others who want to work on a committee to develop the content of the HEC website currently under construction. A Website Committee is being formed for that purpose.

In the past, we had no input from volunteers willing to actively serve on committees to turn our shared vision

into reality. As a result, many important needs of the community remained unmet and residents often wondered why adjacent communities were receiving services that we were not. The short answer to that query is: other communities organized to define what their needs were and civic minded people volunteered to make sure they were met.

Some of us have ideas that are unique and would be beneficial to our community if put into action. Now is the time to put all of our energies into making Hawthorne a place that reflects our shared vision of how we want to live, what we want to live with, how we want our community to look and what kinds of positive ventures we can bring into it. Some of us have skills that can be taught to others or used to move a new committee

forward. If there's a need in the community that you think is not being met, do something about it.

I would like to be a part of committee to work on developing a community computer center that would serve all age groups from seniors to school age. Do we want to serve our youth and elderly and have our entire community become computer literate? How about more services for our tax dollars from a City that has often neglected us in the past?

Let's define our needs and begin to direct our energies toward a better community by becoming active participants on committees being developed to specifically address the needs of Hawthorne.

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Fresh Fields 5% Fundraiser for HEC Coming Soon

HEC's first major fundraising event will take place soon (date to be announced). Fresh Fields has notified us that our application for participation in this generous fundraising opportunity has been processed. We will soon begin our countdown to the date of this important event.

On our end, we need to begin planning for this event in terms of how we will make it attractive, productive, and just plain fun for people from Hawthorne to participate in.

This is how 5% Day works:

Fresh Fields—South Street will donate 5% of its proceeds earned on a specified day to HEC. Since this will be HEC's first major fundraising event, we will need volunteers from our new Fundraising Committee and others to help promote it both prior to and on the day of the event.

Here are some initial ideas the Fundraising Committee could build on:

1. HEC is expected to set up a table during store hours on that day (from 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.) In addition to giving out information about HEC, we could hold a \$1 raffle, making many exciting prizes available for winning.
2. We could offer special discount coupons to seniors.
3. We could look into finding performers to provide musical or other entertainment at differing times throughout the day.
4. We could give-away promotional items for adults and free treats (i.e., balloons) for the kids.
5. We could find ways to involve our business members and community partners – for instance we could ask them to donate prizes for the raffle, promotional items to give-away, or to take our special promotional ads in our newsletter.
6. We could look into finding celebrity baggers to come and help bag groceries on that day (i.e. mascots from sports teams, TV personalities, etc).

Of course, we are open to any ideas you may have to help make this day a success. Let us know your thoughts. If marketing, promotions, or fundraising is your thing...we need your help. Please call 215-468-6270 if you are interested in joining the Fundraising Committee or in volunteering to help plan and execute this important event.



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- A & L Organization Services, Inc.
- Forman's Money Loan Office
- Alvin M. Levin Real Estate
- 4 C's Rentals
- Young's Pharmacy, Inc.
- Dr. Donald Turner

HELP WANTED

Free Lance Writer

Experienced free lance writer needed to write articles for monthly, community-based newsletter. This is a deadline oriented, part-time position. Requirements: writing composition skills, computer savvy and time flexibility as needed to interview, cover community-related events and gather information for monthly publication. Must have working knowledge of Microsoft Word, Quark Xpress or other relevant software programs. Pre-press experience, graphic design/layout experience and digital photography skills are pluses. Salary commensurate with experience and qualifications. Send resumes including salary requirements and writing samples to: HEC Free Lance Writer, P.O. Box 18054, Philadelphia, PA 19147.

Lifeguards Needed

The Philadelphia Department of Recreation is beginning its recruiting drive for the summer outdoor pool season. The department is seeking lifeguards, pool maintenance attendants and night watchmen to work at more than 80 sites across the city. Beginning salary is \$8 an hour, with employees working a minimum of 35 hours per week. Jobs will run from mid-June through Labor Day. Lifeguard classes will run continuously through June 30. Call 215-683-3663.

Volunteer Youth Reporters

Young people, ages 13 to 19, needed to contribute to this newsletter as Youth Reporters. Seeking youth living in the Hawthorne community to write about community issues from a youth perspective. If you have something to say, we are willing to listen. Interested persons should call 215-468-6672.

HEC Community Partners

- Hawthorne Cultural Center
- University of the Arts
- Philadelphia High School for the Creative and Performing Arts (CAPA)
- Hawthorne Family Center of United Communities of Southeast Philadelphia
- Avenue of the Arts, Inc.
- Ready, Willing & Able- Philadelphia

Happenings at Hawthorne Cultural Center

"The Pinochle Club" MALLAEMAKALOU
 Deal yourself in! Teaches Traditional West African Drums
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 Tuesday and Thursday Thursday, 6:00 to 7:00 p.m.
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 Call 215-685-1848 for info.
 \$1.00 donation to the kitty, \$1.00 dues.

Ready, Willing & Able Community Advisory Committee Meetings to Resume in April

Monthly meetings of the RWA Community Advisory Committee will resume this month. Please note that meetings will again be scheduled on the third Monday of the month at 6:30 p.m. and will be held at 1211 Bainbridge Street from now on (instead of at the Municipal Services Building). The dates of future meetings for the year are as follows:

April 15
 May 20
 June 17
 July 15
 August 19
 September 16
 October 21
 November 18
 December 16

Anyone in Hawthorne or the surrounding community interested in joining the committee and attending the meetings is welcome. Mark your calendars. If there are any conflicts or changes in the above meeting schedule you will be notified. Please be sure to put contact info on the sign-in sheet when you come to the meetings so you can be notified in advance of any changes.