



Meeting Minutes

September 8, 2015

PRESENT: Rich Hoffman (RH), HR Benjamin Board
President
Paul Luff (PL), Active Radiator Secy, Treasurer
Joseph Bennett (JB) PTR Baler Vice President
Jennifer Ramos (JR), Grip Flex Corp Vice President
Ed Foy (EF), Wickwire Vice President
Cara Rossi (CR), M&T Bank Vice President
Rolando Sanchez (RS), Impact
Denis Murphy (DM), Commerce City of Philadelphia
Kevin Donnelly (KD), M&T Bank Joseph Douglas (JD), Impact
Bow Lewis (BL), Executive Director Pride District
Matt Mullen (MM), Managing Director of Philadelphia Office
Lee Herman (LH), Lee Herman Esq.
Heather Hanowitz (HH), PIDC
Brad Boone (BB), PIDC
Dan Gannon (DG), Quaker Printing

RH called the general meeting to order, 10:00 am at Port Authority Building. Introductions.

1. June Minutes submitted and distributed. R Hoffman motioned for approval, JR second, motion carried.
2. RS reported 53 incidents in the summer; 9 were in PRIDE area. 21 calls were referred to 311; 19 of them in Kensington and 2 in PRIDE. 257 bags of trash collected and physically taken. 14 short dumps. RS noted that they were able to rent a garage nearby and for the trash cleaning “green machine”. This will help to improve the process and speed of cleaning.
3. MM reported on graffiti cleaning the graffiti on the PRIDE signs. Has been done several times and the signs are getting old but his crew was still able to clean one so it is hoped the rest of the group will be able to be cleaned.
4. PL reviewed the financial status and that all bills were reconciled and paid, all accounts are still tracking the budget. Initial money from the City grant of \$11,756 for assistance in the safety of the PRIDE district was received. 2015 Assessment’s received continue to increase with the summer collections. Total Assets as of September 1 are at \$92,922.26.
5. BL reported that 2015 assessments are at 58% received to date. Good start to get to the goal of 80+%. Cara Rossi has the grant application for PRIDE with M&T Bank. Zoning actions in the PRIDE area were reviewed by the PRIDE RCO and approved for 2221 Allegheny and 2215 E. Tioga. Website has been updated. Discussion on school donations. Active Radiator and PTR Bailer donated 15 computers and \$1000 donated by Grip Flex, Wickwire, HR Benjamin and PTR Bailer. October 2 is national manufacturing day. BL presented a sign availability for businesses for the Ben Franklin H.S. Center for Advanced Manufacturing. Discussion. Anyone who wants to do a sign needs to notify BL by the last week of September.

6. DG from Quaker Printing presented the October 14 6:30 – 9:00PM “Taste of Richmond” will be held at the Richmond Hall at Indiana and Thompson Streets. All you can eat and is presented by the Port Richmond Business Alliance.
7. BB from PIDC discussed money available for businesses. Discussed capital available and the various rates for loan with real estate and several types of loans without real estate. CR noted that M&T needs 2 years of financials. PIDC funding needs financials too and these programs are not for startups, just to help businesses grow. PIDC and bank funding is usually 10% owner, 40% PIDC and 50% bank.
8. KD form M&T talked about commercial lending at M&T and availability of money and help through their organization.
9. HH from PIDC talked of the Goldman Sachs sponsored entrepreneur’s “MBA” program. Companies can be in the program with \$150,000 in revenue and 4 employees. 200 hours of class and 200 hours homework. If the business owner qualifies the class is free.
10. DM talked about Commerce improving the grant program for cleaning for various areas in the City and the applications need to be in in February for a June to June funding. Ok’d the use of SafeCam funding for lighting improvements around the cameras installed.
11. RS noted that there will be the 2nd annual car show at the Lowes on Aramingo on October 3. Requires \$20 for entrant fee.
12. LH reviewed the LandLapper issue. It is tax review with the City and if the City reduces the taxes due to settle, the PRIDE settlement will have to be reduced accordingly.
13. Next Meeting at the LOOM, 10 am, October 13.
14. Adjourn meeting at 10:50.