

# Girard Estate Neighbors Association (GENA)

## MINUTES

### General Membership Meeting

Tuesday, April 15, 2014

Start: 6:30 P.M.

End: 8:30 P.M.

**Attendance:** 69

**Guests:** State Representative Maria Donatucci, State Senator Larry Farnese

#### **Guest Speakers:**

State Representative Donatucci spoke about the need for a unified neighborhood.

State Senator Farnese spoke in opposition State bill 76, a proposal to eliminate state property taxes, because it would be bad for Philadelphia, causing a revenue loss of \$300 million.

The senator also spoke in favor of legislation to restrict SLAPP lawsuits. Strategic Lawsuits Against Public Participation is a strategy by which powerful interests can silence and intimidate Civic Associations and other critics or opponents.

#### **Agenda Items:**

1. Minutes from February meeting and crime report - Paul Rossi

Minutes are posted on the web site, [www.girardestateneighbors.org](http://www.girardestateneighbors.org)

2. Treasurer's report - Tom Janke, acting as treasurer.

3. Zoning Committee and anti-blight initiative - Toki Rehder, John Longacre

a. Shunk Street at 22<sup>nd</sup> street will become one-way westbound.

b. Zoning will undertake an anti-blight initiative.

4. Events committee - AnnaLisa D'Angelo

a. The Easter Egg Hunt was a big success. Many thanks to Mike Fera.

b. Plans are underway for a Sunday Brunch in the Park informal event,

and for a Summer movie event in July, "FROZEN," a cool movie for a hot season

#### **Comments and Questions from the members:**

1. Members reported trash and nuisance problems with the Girard Garages

# Girard Estate Neighbors Association (GENA)

## MINUTES

2. Coffee shop

Q- is there any further action planned on a coffee shop in the park?

A- (Mr. Picirilli) No. The Plan will not go forward

3. Girard Park vagrancy

Q- Problems in the park related as to vagrancy, vandalism and indecent behavior

A-(Mr. Rossi) we will bring it up at the next Police meeting, May 20<sup>th</sup>.

### **Next Board Meeting:**

Wednesday, April 14th.

### **Next Public Meeting:**

TBA. Some time in June. Please watch the GENA Web site for information.

[www.girardestateneighbors.org](http://www.girardestateneighbors.org)

**Prepared by:**

Paul Rossi, Secretary