

South Street Headhouse District
SSHD Board Meeting

December 13, 2023
10:00 AM at 407 South Street and Virtual

Board members in attendance:

Rick Millan, Adam Zaken, Joel Spivak, Nicole Weigand, John Foy, Monica Thompson, Allison Hindman-Harvey, Adam Shapiro, Shannon Maldonado, Taylor Jenkins, Edward Garcia

Quorum achieved

Board Report by Rick Millan:

- Meeting with Officer Drummond at a 6:30 Tuesday 12/19 evening QVNA office (add to calendar and share out later)
- Call to order, Rick Millan
- Motion to approve minutes - seconded by Joel Spivak, minutes approved
- Bearded Ladies update: Rick personally reached out to express apologies and to set up a resolution meeting with all players, including Stobba Associates, and are coordinating a meeting that works for all parties
- Headhouse Shambles update: There are meetings scheduled for the foundation coordination with Councilman Squilla with no other updates as of yet
- Lighting updates are ongoing and may be expanded to more street poles
- Finance operations are also ongoing and will be updated in the new year
- Press Release out announcing the new Executive Director, Eleanor Ingersoll, with a start date of January 2nd

Public Safety Updates by Lt. Steve Ricci:

- Package theft is on the rise during the holidays, be cautious and see if you can have a neighbor to help
- ATM theft is also a risk - have a buddy system during the day and be aware
- Car theft still ongoing especially with Hyundai and Kias
- Don't leave valuables in your vehicles
- PSAs are available from the ministration and will be sent around
- Retail theft initiative to start in the South Division with an assigned investigator, Officer Dallas Drummond. Success with the same position in the Central Division
 - Will utilize GroupMe app for communication for that specifically
 - Working with DEA's office on regular coordinated theft rings as well
- Working on Officer of the Month this month, no announcement yet
- Have not been closing the streets in the winter as discussed
 - Will determine the best timing and locations for the Spring/Summer later
 - Also eased up on no parking at 10PM, only on selective basis depending on conduct of those parked

- 100 Block is only block being closed at this time at request of business owner and is very residential so that priority is high for that reason too
- Toy drive is going on until the 20th and working with Courtyard for toys, etc. and the shelter on Lombard had about 200 coats delivered from the drive
- Also doing Letters to Santa for a little while longer
- Introducing new Sergeant Matt Stahl. He loves the legacy of South Street and very excited to start

Marketing and PR: Sarah Cowell:

- Tree and Menorah lighting - good coverage for both - photos/videos for both
- Exploring how to coordinate these events to make them more district-wide and pitch other initiatives such as the Holiday Haul
- Philly PR Girl is going to be pushing more out this season
- Holiday Haul update: wrapping it up soon and requesting all businesses participated (40+) to submit slips of winners by Christmas, and also submit gift cards for the winners
- Feedback survey is still ongoing for all events and general input and will be sent around again next year as a reminder
- Question about Holiday Haul: if it's not too late to participate - would like to request the flyers for promotion and slips etc to get that going. Not too late - can supply all materials!
- Next Wednesday Monica Thampson will be walking around to collect the winners

Real Estate via Allison:

- Brooklyn Dumpling sign request coming up
- 611 South Street - 3rd Story apartment for visitor accommodations (AirB&B)
- January 16, 6 PM there is a meeting for it if you'd like to join - on our calendar
- Call to join the real estate committee

New Business: Dana Feinberg:

- Year end wrap up of new businesses for 2023, looking good for 2024
- Working with Target Park on parking promotions and validation programs for patrons with a nominal monthly fee to business owners. Businesses joining include Jim's Steaks, Ramiz, etc.
- One more Sisterly Love market next weekend which is free to a SSHD business to vend so we can make room for any businesses interested - reach out for more
- Business promotion at the Headhouse Market - just a reminder that SSHD has a table for ourselves or any business/es which want to set up for Sunday's market
- Recap of new businesses:
 - 31 new businesses in the past year - some expansions to bigger spaces, but mostly new openings
 - 14 new businesses slated to open either between now and the beginning of 2024
 - List of new businesses will be sent out in a newsletter as well

- Aiming to fill in the vacancies - inviting brokers to come down because South Street is back

Strategic Design and Planning:

- Headhouse Plaza design wrap-up is a go - getting renderings from Green City Works for the design changes to be approved
- Off Center exhibit will be delayed due to the new year revision

Staffing updates:

- Katrina will be stepping down January 1st, next move TBD, Rick's thank you for service as volunteer, board member, and staff during challenging time
- Eleanor Ingersoll will be the new Director on January 2nd - this is her home base, lives two blocks off of South Street and experience as the President of QVNA for six years. Plans for an open door policy. Looking forward to future conversations and will have more to present in the new year
- Rick's push for beautification - lighting can stay up to celebrate different events, fill tree pits, and so on. Will also get on collecting outstanding balances for assessments to prevent budget pitfalls.
- Board updates as well:
 - John Foy is ending his second 5-year term serving for 10 years, hope that Bridget may get involved - he was one of the founding board members literally since it was created and we are grateful for his service
 - Some other board seats are open- open to suggestions and applications - please reach out if interested
- Theme this year is change - Rick says we are changing for the better

Official Finance Report : Adam Shapiro:

- Finances are still tight - grateful for those who have stepped up and paid assessments early to assist the organization
- Will be acting more aggressively with regards to negligent ratepayers

New Business:

- Resident Steve Ramm: started a petition to name the corner/street where Gus's hotdog stand once stood on Change.org - also an article on the subject - please consider signing
 - Rick: will let everyone know when we'll do a recognition of Gus at SSHD
- Comment by Sami Aziz: photographer on South Street - wanted to formally introduce himself to people in the neighborhood. Very passionate about what he does and spreading joy and positivity through his work.

Conclusion remarks:

- Thank you by Rick - next meeting January 10th - motion to adjourn - second by Monica Johnson - meeting adjourned