

## **Penn Valley Civic Association Meeting notes – September 23, 2010**

The meeting was called to order by President Steve Selinger at 7:30.

### **Commissioner Mark Taylor – Report**

Commissioner Taylor provided an update on events in Penn Valley. There were a couple of burglaries over the summer and residents are reminded to remain vigilant and lock doors. The City Line rezoning discussions continue and hearings will be held during the upcoming months. Deer culling will resume this fall and the Township hopes this will be more successful than last year's hunt. There was a discussion of the proposed new ordinance to create a new Lower Merion Township Human Relations Commission. Several questions were raised concerning its need and scope. The present proposal is in draft form and is being revised. (Note: The Federation of Civics had requested a vote by the various civics on this matter but, since the document is lengthy and is being redrafted, no vote was taken.)

The remainder of the discussion centered on the 2011 budget review. Commissioner Taylor remarked that staffing costs are up, tax appeals by residents have reduced taxable values and the transfer tax is down from previous years. The CIP will be reviewed by the Board on September 29, 2010.

President Selinger confirmed with Commissioner Taylor that the hearing to add the barn at 362 Sprague Lane to the Historic Resource Inventory have been continued to October 20, 2010. Commissioner Taylor and the entire board were thanked for the Township's contribution of \$500 to maintain the three traffic triangles in Penn Valley.

Finally notice was given that the Forecast Update of the 2011 budget presented on July 14, 2010 is available as is the new update to the Comprehensive Plan. Please contact Steve Selinger if you would like to review either.

### **Treasurer's Report**

The treasurer's report was presented as provided. In the Treasurer's absence the report was read as transmitted. Here is the Treasurer's Report provided by Jeannie Cohen:

So far 101 members responded to annual membership mailing sent to 2000 plus homes during end of August, about 30 days ago. Five percent return is very good as a response to paper mailings. Email addresses are also now being included by members in growing numbers as well. We got two purple mail pieces back for "No longer at address." One

person new to neighborhood (18 months) said she did not get annual notice. How are lists updated?

We did receive \$500.00 from Township towards annual maintenance of three traffic triangles. Thanks to Mark Taylor for securing funds for us. We depend on those funds to offsets our fall cleanup and spring plantings.

We committed to spend \$600 at Fall TreeVitalize promotion. This TreeVitalize promotion is for tree planting on publicly accessible property by trained TreeVitalize tree tenders. TreeVitalize obtains the trees and charges a very reduced rate to expand tree cover in Pennsylvania. The Lower Merion School District's Bob Schultz, Director of Buildings and Grounds has attended the TreeVitalize tree tenders course. Bob and LMSD crew will pick up trees and plant six trees at Penn Valley on Hagys Ford Road to improve the aging tree line. Nine trees will be planted at Welsh Valley; this will happen on or around November 4, 2010. The trees are not in traditional root balls and acclimate quicker into ground. Trees must be planted within in 48 hours due to lack of root ball.

We will keep our eye out for other TreeVitalize promotions which may be used to plant in neighbors' front lawns/right of ways in future. We will need to have some of our PVCA neighbors take a TreeVitalize Tree tender Course to participate in the promotion for neighbors.

Annual rent is due to the Penn Valley Woman's Club. They need our funds.

We will have funds to have party at Evviva in December 2010.

## Treevitalize Program

Part of the treasurer's report referred to the Penn Valley Civic's support of the Treevitalization project at both Penn Valley Elementary and Welsh Valley Middle School. All members are invited to attend. Dates will be posted as soon as they are confirmed.

## Joint Meeting with Gladwyne School Board Budget

There was a brief discussion of holding one or more joint meetings with the Gladwyne Civic Association to discuss major issues such as a report from the School Board as well as a review of the 2011 budget. Steve Selinger was instructed to see what could be coordinated with the Gladwyne Civic.

An invitation was also extended to all Penn Valley members to join the Gladwyne Civic Annual meeting to be held at Waverly the last Tuesday in October. 7:15 p.m. is the start time.

## Federation Notes

Steve Selinger also reported on activity from the Federation of Civics. The Federation asked for comments on an increase in dues from each Civic from \$75.00 to \$85.00 per year. After some discussion, it was decided that the Penn Valley Civic would not approve the increase at this time – pending a fuller explanation as to why the increase is needed.

Community Watch is also asking for volunteers. If you are interested, please contact Steve Selinger for additional information, forms, etc.

Finally, the Lower Merion Conservancy also asked us to announce that their annual member's native plant sale will be held on 9/30 and will be open to the general public on 10/1 and 10/4.

## **New Business**

It was announced that the annual December party will be held at Evviva on December 5, 2010 **Please hold that date!**

There was also discussion about building membership and especially attendance at our meetings (there were 11 present for this meeting). A committee may be formed to pursue this opportunity.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:05