

**WPA General Monthly Meeting Minutes 10/6/14**

Meeting called to order at 7:44 PM

Mission and Code of Conduct read

Trustees in attendance:

* Lisa Blando
* Wendy Paul
* Bob Boudreau
* Vilma Cabrera
* Quorum not present.

Minutes from the WPA General Monthly Meeting on Sept 8th cannot ratify because we don’t have quorum.

No 50/50 tonight because Terri isn’t here.

President’s report – not available. Nick is on vacation.

Vice president’s report from Wendy-

* LIVE! was a successful event.
* The feedback has been very positive.
* The only problems we faced were people who were obviously over 21 wanting to drink despite not having an ID and the woman who came intoxicated to the event.

Office Andrew: By law, people have to have an ID on them at all times.

No treasurer’s report or secretary’s report since they are not present.

Let’s welcome new guests: Tom and Luke—

* They were at LIVE and they use the dog park at WP and have noticed the beautiful plantings.
* Moved to Jersey City about a year ago and want to be a part of the community and the positive things happening.
* From Maryland.

7:50 PM

Lieutenant French: Stats for the North District from 8/24 to 9/20:

* 150 arrests
* 1,117 summonses
* 21 arrests for curfew violations
* no stabbings and no shootings
* 188 city ordinance violations
* 25 burglaries
* Many of the summonses were for smoking marijuana in a park. Ltn French has been sending bike patrols to WP and other parks.
* Of the burglaries, 23 were residential and 2 were commercial.

Officer Andrew (North District Clerk):

* Toured WP today. At Levine and Palisade, the plainclothes police officers made an arrest.
* There are two teams of plainclothes officers and they are trying to out-do each other in number of arrests.
* There are many bike units out at night, and they go to places like WP and Leonard Gordon Park.

Lieutenant French:

* Burglars rob while people are at work.
* They get arrested, but once they are released, they go back to robbing.
* If you see something suspicious, call the police, and plainclothes police officers will go check it out. Try to give the best description of the person that you can.
* Most people don’t call in suspicious activity.

Office Andrew:

* Many people email us but we need them to CALL because emails are not answered in a timely manner.
* If you need to report something, you need to call.
* There is no one person who just answers emails so it’s hard to keep up with the emails, and it’s best to call when you need immediate attention.
* If it’s a quality of life issue, then it’s okay to email about it.

Lisa:

* Maybe an automated email reply should be set up to alert people that the police’s email account isn’t checked frequently and that it’s best to make a call.

Lieutenant French:

* If you email about a crime in progress, officer’s will not be there ASAP.

8:00 PM

* Lisa: How to get markings painted on a parking spot in her condo building?
* Theresa: Condo association will probably do it as it should be covered by the maintenance fees that condo owners pay.

Theresa Haywood:

* JC is offering a new program: The First Annual Community Development Summit on Nov 1st and Nov 2nd from 8:30 AM to 3:30 PM
* It’s for people in block associations and those who want to start one
* Will meet at middle school# 7 at 222 Laidlaw Avenue

8:10 PM

WP’s Wine-Tasting Fundraiser:

* We’re having it on Friday, Nov. 14th  but we don’t have a set location yet
* Gyms in public and private schools can’t be used because they can’t allow alcohol
* Neil from Central Ave Liquors spoke to the archdiocese about doing it at St Nicholas Church on Central and Ferry
* Wendy will be called about the archdiocese’s decision tomorrow (Tuesday)
* The art house off of Journal Square doesn’t work for the wine distributor because the room that is big enough to fit 200 people has white/gray carpet, and the rooms with darker carpets cannot accommodate 200 ppl
* Worst case scenario: We use the Loew’s Theater again
* Wendy called the Golden Door and other places. But most places can fit only 150 to 175 people
* The spaces at HCCC are already booked/unavailable.
* At the corner of Manhattan Ave across from the Stop and Shop there’s a for rent sign on a property. Wendy to call to find out more about the space.
* We can consider an Elk Lounge as a venue
* Old bank building at Thorne and JFK on northwest corner might be a possibility. It’s run by St Anne’s. Wendy to investigate.

Goehrig’s Bakery on Central:

* Has been closed for about a month.
* The original owners sold it and then it was closed down for having rats.

8:30 PM

BIG DIG

* It will be different this year: People will pick up daffodil bulbs and commit to planting them in front of their house. See websites: <http://www.eventbrite.com/e/jersey-city-parks-coalition-big-dig-2014-tickets-13037771325> and [www.JCParks.org](http://www.JCParks.org)

Washington Park LIVE Recap/ LIVE Survey Update from Vilma:

* 124 surveys were conducted on attendees on the day of the event
* The survey asked what people liked least and most, asked what they wanted to see at new year’s event, and asked for demographic data.
* Most feedback praised the event.
* A good number of people asked for more vendors and more children activities.
* A surprising number of people asked for jugglers and fire breathers.
* The survey has been digitized and posted on Facebook so anyone who attended can share his/her opinion.
* So far 3 people have responded via the Facebook link.

8:35 PM

Green Acres Grant Update:

* All the bids we received were way too high
* Peter will talk to Phil Collins tomorrow
* We are figuring out what we can cut out
* Plan was to break ground at the end of this fall, but that won’t happen
* In the next couple of weeks it will probably go out to bid again

Nomination Committee Update from Lisa:

* We have a few officer and trustee openings
* The terms of officers that will be open are: president (Nick is running again), secretary (Terri is running again), and treasurer (and Katherine won’t be running again but she will continue to do the bookkeeping)
* We have two trustees whose terms are up: Mory (running again), Wendy (running again)
* Katherine’s trusteeship isn’t up but she is stepping down
* We thought Bob’s trusteeship was up this year but it isn’t
* We have room for up to 15 trustees and we must have at least 7
* Elections will be at next monthly meeting on Nov 3rd

St. Peter’s University School of Business Students

* We had a number of them volunteer at LIVE
* For some it was their first experience in Washington Park
* Katherine to host Grant Workshop Oct 28th 9:30 AM for the students
* All are welcomed to attend it

LAP Grant Update

* Wendy submitted the application on Oct 4th

Farmers’ Market

* This Wednesday at 6:30 PM at City Hall there will be a Council Meeting
* Ward D (The Heights) Councilman Michael Yun is proposing an ordinance to limit farmers’ markets across the city.
* Go to the meeting on Wednesday and speak out against the ordinance

8:50 PM

* Wendy raises the motion to adjourn the meeting
* Lisa seconds the motion

Meeting adjourned